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Macnamara
FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB

Promoting the appreciation, understanding, and preservation of nature in the Ottawa Valley since 1984

January 2025 Bulletin

JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING
✨ Members' Night ✨

NOTE: THE JANUARY MONTHLY MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THE SECOND WEDNESDAY IN JANUARY

Date: Wednesday January 8 @ 7 p.m.
Location: Arnprior Curling Club, 5 Galvin St., Arnprior

Call for Presenters: Share Your Passion for Nature!

Are you passionate about nature and eager to share your knowledge with others? Have you seen something interesting over the last year and would like to share it with other club members?

We invite you to present a short, 5-minute talk at our next Members' Night happening on January 8, 2025! Whether it's interesting animal behavior, a fascinating plant species, a recent field experience, or a conservation issue close to your heart – your insights can inspire and educate fellow nature enthusiasts!

This is a great opportunity to:

- Showcase your favorite nature topic
- Practice public speaking in a friendly and supportive environment
- Connect with like-minded individuals

Presentations are brief and informal, designed to spark curiosity and conversation. No experience needed – just bring your enthusiasm and love for the natural world! If you're not comfortable presenting in front of others, a board member will be pleased to speak on your behalf!

Interested? Respond to this email with your name and your topic. Hurry, because spots are filling up fast!

Let's celebrate the wonders of nature together! 🌿🦋🌲

If you can't make it in person - it's better in person, trust us, we have snacks 🍪 - you can join us via Zoom at https://zoom.us/j/4908487254.

FUTURE MEETINGS

February 5 - Michael’s Quiz Night
March 5 - Jillian Taylor, Puffins - Research from Witless Bay Ecological Reserve
April 2 - Marc Avramov, Mosquitoes
May 7 - Ken Allison, Butterflies of the Ottawa Valley

STROMATOLITE RESOURCES

At our last monthly meeting, Dr. Allyson Brady, highlighted the significance of stromatolites in understanding early Earth and the origins of life. She explained how stromatolites, formed by the activity of cyanobacteria, offer a unique window into the past, providing evidence of microbial life dating back billions of years. The talk emphasized the ongoing relevance of studying stromatolites in modern environments, as they continue to offer insights into microbial processes and the role of life in shaping Earth's ecosystems.

If you’re interested in learning more about this interesting topic, Dr. Brady shared the following resources with our members:

- Champlain Bridge Stromatolites
- Pavilion Lake Research Project (NASA)

JANUARY FIELD TRIPS

Macnamara Nature Trail Walk

When: Sunday January 19, 2025
Where: Macnamara Nature Trail

More details to come. Look out for an email from MFNC Field Trips!

MACNAMARA NATURE TRAIL UPDATES

➡️ The trail is in great condition and is ready for cross-country skiing or snowshoeing! 🏂

⚠️ Trail users are advised to stay on the trail to avoid snow-covered hazards such as fallen trees and large rocks.

🐓 Finally, you are more than welcome to bring some birdseed to feed the birds.

📸 SIGHTINGS 📸

If you'd like to submit a sighting, please email John Lawrence at johndrlawrence8@gmail.com and Roger Magoon at memberships@mfnc.ca with a photo and/or details of your sighting, including date and species information.
Note: Sightings may be posted on our website unless you indicate otherwise.

✅ Do you use iNaturalist? Any observation within 30km of Arnprior will automatically link to the club.
✅ Do you use eBird? Share any checklist completed within 30km of Arnprior with **mfncbirds** and we will automatically get your sightings!

⚠️ HELP WANTED! ⚠️

Join Our Board of Directors and Help Shape the Future of MFNC!

We're looking for passionate members to help guide our club into the future! If you're interested in supporting our mission and helping organize exciting events, we invite you to consider joining our Board of Directors. Your involvement will help us continue to grow and offer enriching experiences for our members.

We also need your help with:

- **Finding Monthly Speakers**: Do you know someone who could give an engaging talk on a nature-related topic? Or perhaps you'd like to share your own knowledge? We're always looking for fresh, inspiring speakers for our monthly meetings.

- **Ideas for Field Trips**: Help us organize memorable outdoor experiences! Whether it's a birdwatching outing, a hike, or a visit to a local conservation area,

your ideas will help us create more opportunities for members to connect with nature.

If you're interested in contributing to any of these areas or would like more information about joining the Board, please respond to this email with your information and how you would like to contribute to the club. We'd love to have your help in making our group even better!

DID YOU FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

Every membership counts! Memberships are due January 1.

✨As a member you have special access to presentations and field trips by experts in a wide range of natural history topics ✨

COST
Individual: $25
Family: $30

Renew your membership by clicking here

Not sure if your membership is current? Check with Roger Magoon at memberships@mfnc.ca

Prefer to pay by cheque? Download this form, fill it out, and mail it in to Macnamara Field Naturalists' Club P.O. Box 391 Arnprior, ON K7S 3L9

Check out our website and social media pages!

Noteworthy Dates in January

- January 5: National Bird Day

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