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Macnamara
FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB

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

March 2025 Bulletin

MARCH MONTHLY MEETING
Puffins Are Cute but Are They Smart? with Jillian Taylor

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

Jill Taylor is a puffin researcher, underwater videographer and science communicator. She is a bluenoser (born in Nova Scotia), and fell in love with the ocean while building sandcastles for hermit crabs as a child. While she wouldn't call herself a "bird person", she was obsessed with emperor penguins when she was 11, and even had a penguin themed birthday party that year. Jill holds a BSc. (hons) in Biology and Psychology from Saint Mary's University, and is finishing writing her MSc. thesis at Memorial University.

Having researched howler monkeys, snapping turtles, american eels and now Atlantic puffins, she is a fan of nature in any form, but especially anything connected to the ocean. Her current research focuses on the social behaviour of puffins in Witless Bay Ecological Reserve, and what keeps this iconic provincial bird coming back to the same social colony year after year. Jill spends her weekends in the frigid Atlantic Ocean scuba diving, and is also the host of the upcoming science/travel TV show "Dive Newfoundland with Jill Taylor" coming out in 2025. During this presentation you'll learn about puffin social behaviour, the largest puffin colony in North America, taxidermy puffins, puffin fight club, what living on a remote island is like, and if the puffins are doing ok.

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

April 2 - Marc Avramov, Mosquitoes
May 7 - Ken Allison, Butterflies of the Ottawa Valley
June 4 - Alexa Goodman, Environmental Sustainability

MARCH FIELD TRIPS

🦉 Owl Prowl with Michael Runtz 🦉

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

MACNAMARA NATURE TRAIL UPDATES

❄️ The trail is a winter wonderland this time of year. We hope you're able to get out and enjoy the snow while it's still here!

⚠️ Make sure that you stay on the marked trails to avoid any hazards that may be hidden in the deep snow.

🐓 Feel free to bring bird seed to feed the hungry birds on the trail. If you see anything interesting, make sure to snap a photo and send it to John Lawrence at johndrlawrence8@gmail.com!

📸 SIGHTINGS 📸

If you'd like to submit a sighting, please email John Lawrence at johndrlawrence8@gmail.com 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!

A Note from Our President…

Dear MFNC Member,

First, I would like to thank you for being a member of this Club. I hope you are enjoying our exceptional meetings and field trips, and have explored the Macnamara Nature Trail, the crown jewel of the MFNC.

Our Club's success is due to the dedicated Board of Directors who organize field trips, solicit guest speakers, maintain the Trail, write bulletins, and take care of other Club business. Each member serves a two-year term, but many enjoy their role so much they remain longer.

This year has us in an unusual situation. Three long-time Board Members are completing their term, and volunteers to fill their positions are desperately needed.

Being a Board Member is not an onerous task. The Board meets once a month (often by Zoom), with a break over the summer. Many of the positions require only a few hours of time per month. The Board works as a team, sharing ideas and workload.

With the AGM soon upon us, we need to fill all Board positions. Our Club values you as a member but now needs your support in a more formal way. Accounting or computer skills are particularly appreciated but are not a requirement for Board positions. If you are willing to put your name forward for a Board position, please let us know at info@mfnc.ca.

Michael Runtz
President MFNC

✨ WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS! ✨

- Nonie S.
- Sandra S.
- Chris V.
- Anne H.
- Ross H.
- Tiffany F.
- Jayme F.
- Evolette F.
- Joseph F.
- Gabby F.
- Kenny F.
- Dawson F.
- Christina Y.
- Conrad S.

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 on the button below.

Renew Your Membership

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 March

March 3: World Wildlife Day
March 14: International Day of Action for Rivers
March 18: Global Recycling Day
March 19: Taxonomist Appreciation Day
March 20: World Sparrow Day
March 20: World Frog Day
March 21: International Day of Forests
March 21: World Planting Day
March 21: World Wood Day
March 22: World Water Day
March 22, 8:30p.m. - 9:30 p.m.: Earth Hour
March 30: International Day of Zero Waste

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