

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### Welcome to the 25<sup>th</sup> Huron Fringe Birding Festival!

Arrive 30 minutes before your first event to complete registration and pick up your Festival Pass package. Gather 15 minutes before each event for instructions. Events leave on time!

**NEW: All Day** events register and depart from the Camper's Beach Parking Lot. All other events start promptly at the Visitor Centre (some exceptions).

★ events indicate a shorter event. 🚗 indicates vehicle transportation is required. ♿ indicates mobility limited events.

At the Visitor Centre daily: Morning coffee & treats. BBQ lunch 11:00 am to 1:00 pm (Friends of MacGregor Point Park).

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### FRIDAY MAY 26

#### All Day

A1 6:30 am **BIRDING NEYAASHIINIGMIING - CAPE CROKER** – Miptoon & Jarmo Jalava  
Anishinaabe culture and the rich ecosystems found in Neyaashiinigiing (Cape Croker) will be featured. Birds will be singing, wildflowers will be blooming and the scenery is spectacular.  
(*moderate*, 🚗, *bring lunch*) (limit 20)

A2 6:45 am **LANDS & LAKES** – Mike Kent  
We'll bird the rich riparian habitats of the inland lakes of the lower Bruce and cruise the surrounding lands for field and forest birds. Mike will share his enthusiasm for all things wild and wonderful.  
(*easy*, 🚗, *bring lunch*) (limit 20)

A3 8:00 am **BIRDING THE BRUCE WITH BENSETTE** – Jeremy Bensette  
Jeremy held Ontario's Big Year record from 2017 to 2022, and is a popular tour guide. Join him in his quest for the abundant birds of the Bruce. (*easy*, 🚗, *bring lunch*) (limit 20)

#### Morning

A4 6:30 am **SEX & THE SINGLE WARBLER** – Mark Wiercinski  
Warblers have two priorities at this time of the year... migration and breeding. Mark is entertaining and informative and will find us warblers and more. (*moderate*, 🚗) (limit 16)

A5 6:45 am **KINCARDINE LAGOONS aka PELEE NORTH** – James Turland  
Bruce County birders affectionately refer to the Kincardine Lagoons as "Pelee North" because of its often-spectacular fallouts of warblers. A popular local leader, this is one of James' favorite birding areas.  
(*easy*, 🚗) (limit 20)

A6 7:30 am **MAGICAL MacGREGOR MORNING** – Tim Arthur  
Tim's fieldwork with Birds Canada includes several sites within MacGregor Point. We'll wander the Park's woods and wetlands looking for later migrants and birds already on territory. (*moderate*, 🚗) (limit 16)

11:00 am **NATURE SHOWCASE** (Visitor Centre)  
Community painting with local artist Sue Allison. Sue will guide you as you add a brushstroke to this interactive painting of a MacGregor landscape. This painting will create a lasting memory celebrating the 25th anniversary of the Birding Festival. Check out the other exciting displays including the new Orchid guidebook, book signings, Plover Lovers and more.

## FRIDAY MAY 26 continued

### Afternoon

A7 1:30 pm **BOTANY & BIRD RAMBLE** – Doug Pedwell

Enjoy the riches of MacGregor Point as seen through the eyes of a nature enthusiast. A retired education, Doug will take you on a leisurely hike through his favorite places in the Park.

*(easy, 🚗)* (limit 16)

A8 1:30 pm **MAGICAL MacGREGOR** – Tim Arthur

Tim's fieldwork with Birds Canada includes several sites within MacGregor Point. We'll wander the Park's woods and wetlands looking for later migrants and early birds already on territory. *(easy, 🚗)* (limit 16)

A9 1:30 pm **FEN & FRINGE** – David Turner

The abundant avifauna and flora of the Lake Huron shoreline are featured during this walk from the Visitor Centre. David is an avid birder and botanist, and an enthusiastic leader. *(easy)* (limit 16)

### Evening

A10 7:15 pm **A BIG YEAR** – Kiah Jasper 🏠

Kiah birded much of Ontario in 2022 and holds the record for the most birds seen in Ontario in one year. From winter camping on the coast of James Bay to spending a month at Point Pelee, he'll take you through his Big Year adventures. *(indoor presentation)*

A11 9:00 pm **AFTER DARK IN THE PARK WITH MARK** – Mark Wiercinski

Nocturnal adaptations are required to rule the night. From owls to crickets to fireflies, we'll learn how these creatures thrive when darkness descends. *(easy, 🚗)* (limit 20)

## SATURDAY MAY 27

### Free event!

6:15 am - 10:15 am **BIRD BANDING** – Alessandra Wilcox 🏠

A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush. This drop-by event is a great opportunity to see birds up close. Watch as Alessandra collects birds from mist nets, records data and explains the benefits of bird banding.

### All Day

A12 6:45 am **BIRDS OF THE BRUCE** – Kiah Jasper

Kiah birded much of Ontario in 2022 and holds the record for bird species seen in one year! He will take you on a tour of some of his favorite and most productive 'Big Year' birding hotspots on the Bruce.

*(easy, 🚗, bring lunch)* (limit 20)

A13 7:00 am **ATLASSING MALCOLM BLUFF TO HURON SHORES** – Mike Burrell

Join Mike for an always-exciting day of birding on the Bruce. Mike likes to bird with a purpose, and will introduce you to Atlassing and eBirding as you explore favorite hotspots around the lower peninsula.

*(moderate, 🚗, bring lunch)* (limit 20)

A14 7:15 am **THE BOUNTIFUL BRUCE** – Mike Kent

The Bruce is bursting with birds at this time of year - migrants and residents on territory. Mike will introduce you to the wonders of the Saugeen Bruce Peninsula. *(easy, 🚗, bring lunch)* (limit 20)

## **SATURDAY MAY 27 continued**

### **Morning**

A15 6:15 am **JOY OF BIRDING** – Mark Wiercinski

Mark's enthusiasm and his knowledge of habitat and habits are enhanced by his entertaining manner. From FOY joy to lifers, this birding biologist will show you that birds make everything better.

*(moderate, 🚗)* (limit 16)

A16 6:30 am **THERE'S A SONG IN THE AIR** – Tim Arthur

We'll take a ramble 'round MacGregor listening to songs in the air and looking for birds in the trees. Birds will be settling onto territory and proclaiming their domain in full song from the treetops.

*(moderate)* (limit 16)

A17 7:00 am **PELEE NORTH** – Jeremy Bensette

Local birders affectionately refer to the Kincardine Lagoons as "Pelee North" because of the often-spectacular fallouts of warblers that occur there. Surrounding environs provide great birding too.

*(easy, 🚗)* (limit 20)

A18 7:15 am **RURAL ROUTES** – James Turland

We'll discover bountiful birding opportunities with James as we explore forested trails and pasturelands along the byways, and scope out the Lake Huron shoreline. *(easy, 🚗)* (limit 20)

A19 7:30 am **FEN & FRINGE** – David Turner

The abundant flora and avifauna of the Lake Huron shoreline are featured on this outing from the Visitor Centre. David is an avid birder and botanist and an enthusiastic leader. *(moderate)* (limit 16)

A20 9:00 am **SO YOU WANT TO BE A BIRDER?** – Stew Nutt & Fred Jazvac

Perplexing plumages? Baffling bird song? Stew and Fred will introduce you to some birding basics - use of binoculars, bird ID and song, describing a bird's location and birding etiquette. *(easy)* (limit 16)

11:00 am **NATURE SHOWCASE** (Visitor Centre)

Learn all about the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas, from Ontario's expert Provincial Coordinators. Sign up for a Square Bash! Put your own brushstroke on a painting-in-progress guided by artist Sue Allison, check out the new Orchid Guide, book signings, Quest Nature Tours, Vortex Optics, and more.

### **Afternoon**

A21 1:00 pm **BIRDER MURDER MYSTERY TOUR** – Marshall Byle

On theme with our Banquet keynote presentation, bring your binoculars and your sense of humour on this birding hike at Marwanda Estate that may include a few bird murder mysteries to solve.

*(easy, 🚗)* (limit 20)

A22 1:30 pm **AUNT ANNIE'S HOUSE** – Jenna McGuire

Jenna's passion for Métis history and culture shines in her presentation at the Historic Saugeen Métis Interpretive Learning Centre. A tour of her ancestral and historical 'Aunt Annie's' 170-year-old home follows. *(easy, 🚗)* (limit 20)

A23 1:30 pm **BOTANY & BIRD RAMBLE** – Doug Pedwell

Enjoy the riches of MacGregor Point as seen through the eyes of a nature enthusiast. A retired education, Doug will take you on a leisurely hike through his favorite places in the Park.


*(easy, 🚗)* (limit 16)

## SATURDAY MAY 27 continued

A24 1:30 pm **BIRDING THE TOWER TRAIL** – Dana Latour  
Woodland and wetland birds are featured as Dana leads us along the Tower Trail to the Ducks Unlimited pond. Dana is an avid Atlasser, Marsh Monitor and is currently studying wildlife biology and conservation. *(easy, 🚗)* (limit 16)

A25 1:30 pm **NATURE RAMBLE** – John Reaume  
John will be on the lookout for all that nature has to offer - dragonflies, damselflies, spiders, turtles, frogs, snakes, and will also check out birds along the way. He is an expert on wetland creatures great and small. *(easy)* (limit 16)


### Evening

A26 5:00 pm **BANQUET & KEYNOTE SPEAKER – FROM BIRDER TO BIRDER MURDER: THE MYSTERY DEEPENS** – Steve Burrows   
Steve's light-hearted presentation will trace his journey from an environmental journalist to a novelist of seven popular eco-themed mysteries. *"Burrows intertwines avians with the classic whodunit in a completely original way."* (Audubon US). *St. Joseph's Jubilee Hall, Port Elgin. \$70 per person. Cash Bar. Contact the Registrar by May 1 with dietary restrictions.*

## SUNDAY MAY 28

### All Day

A27 6:00 am **A BIG DAY** – Kiah Jasper & Alessandra Wilcox  
Two obsessed birders will take you birding till you drop. This popular dawn-to-dark birding marathon on the Bruce Peninsula should give you a days' list of over 100 species! *(difficult, 🚗, bring lunch & walking supper, possible return after 9 pm)* (limit 20)

A28 6:15 am **A DAY IN THE PARK** – Mark Wiercinski   
Stump Dump, Pitcher Plant Marl, Ash Swamp, Turtle Pond, Cranberry Bog; birds and botany abound in these hidden nooks and niches of the Park. *(easy, 🚗, bring lunch)* (limit 20)

A29 7:00 am **ROADS LESS TRAVELLED** – Ezra Campanelli  
Ezra, who had a spectacular Big Year in 2022, will take you on roads less travelled and places less visited. The Saugeen Bruce Peninsula offers top birding at several hidden hotspots. *(moderate, 🚗, bring lunch)* (limit 20)

### Morning

A30 6:30 am **BIRDING IN THE PARK** – Tim Arthur  
Tim's fieldwork with Birds Canada includes several sites within MacGregor Point. We'll wander the Park's woods and wetlands looking for late migrants and birds on territory. *(easy)* (limit 16)

A31 6:45 am **GRASSLANDS, WOODLANDS & WETLANDS** – Mike Kent  
Mike loves to share his keen interest in birds with one and all. Explore grasslands and other habitats outside the Park. *(easy, 🚗)* (limit 20)

A32 7:00 am **ATLASSING ON THE EDGE** – Mike Burrell  
The habitat mixes around the edge of the Park provide lots of avian action and an eclectic mix of birds for the list. Learn a little about contributing your observations to the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas. *(easy, 🚗)* (limit 20)

## SUNDAY MAY 28 continued

### A33 7:15 am **'POWER' BIRDING AT THE BRUCE** – Jeremy Bensette

Jeremy has spent several breeding seasons conducting Marsh Monitoring surveys with Birds Canada including at the Bruce Power wetlands. Bruce Power will be on hand to talk about remedial projects for invasive wetland species. Jeremy will have other enticing birding stops along the way.

*(easy, 🚗)* (limit 20)

### A34 7:30 am **PELEE NORTH** – James Turland

Bruce County birders affectionately refer to the Kincardine Lagoons as “Peelee North” because of its often-spectacular fallouts of warblers. A popular local leader, this is one of James’ favorite birding areas.

*(easy, 🚗)* (limit 20)

### A35 7:45 am **BIRDING THE TOWER TRAIL** – Dana Latour

Woodland and wetland birds are featured as Dana leads us along the Tower Trail to the Ducks Unlimited pond. Dana is an avid Atlasser, Marsh Monitor and is currently studying wildlife biology and conservation.

*(moderate, 🚗)* (limit 16)

### 11:00 am **NATURE SHOWCASE**

Learn all about the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas, from Ontario’s expert Provincial Coordinators. Sign up for a Square Bash! Put your own brushstroke on a painting in progress guided by artist Sue Allison, check out the new Orchid Guide, book signings, Quest Nature Tours, and more.

## Afternoon

### A36 1:30 pm **FOREST BATHING** – Rob Klea

Learn about the vast array of health benefits nature provides through experiencing sensory connections in the forest. You’ll bask in the restorative powers of nature.

*(easy, 🚗, sit on ground or bring a lawnchair)* (limit 20)

### A37 1:30 pm **BIRDING MacGREGOR’S INTERIOR & SHORE** – Tim Arthur

Join Tim on a ramble through MacGregor to discover what birds abound in open forest habitats and along the Lake Huron shore. *(easy, 🚗)* (limit 16)

### A38 1:30 pm **WETLANDS WALK** – John Reaume

Discover flora and fauna that make their home in swamps, marshes and ponds - from carnivorous plants to insects, spiders, frogs, snakes and turtles, and of course the birds that specialize in these wetlands.

*(easy)* (limit 16)

### A39 1:30 pm **ONTARIO’S BREEDING BIRD ATLAS** – Mike Burrell & Kaelyn Bumelis

Learn all about the Atlassing project currently underway across the province from the Provincial Coordinator experts. This event is *free*, but registration is required. *(Visitor Centre indoor presentation)*

## Evening

### A40 7:15 pm **PLASTIC POLLUTION IN THE GREAT LAKES** – Kelly Jazvac 🇮🇪

Kelly will talk about the serious threat of industrial plastic pollution in the Great Lakes. The talk will highlight recent research findings and strategies for how concerned citizens can get involved and help protect these precious bodies of water. *(indoor presentation)*

## MONDAY MAY 29

### All Day

A41 6:15 am **JARMO'S BIG BACKYARD** – Jarmo Jalava ★

Isaac Lake, Sky Lake and Red Bay areas host rich bird and botanical habitats. The outing will involve birding on foot as well as a little "Big Sit" on the deck of Jarmo's home, overlooking great views of some characteristic Saugeen Bruce Peninsula habitats. (*moderate, 🚗, bring lunch*) (limit 16)

A42 6:30 am **BIRDS & BOTANY FROM THE BOARDWALKS** – David Turner

From the Park's boardwalks to boardwalks at the Oliphant Fen and Petrel Point we'll explore the rich flora and fauna of the Bruce. A stop at Earthbound Gardens features native plants.

(*easy, 🚗, bring lunch*) (limit 20)

A43 7:30 am **A BIG SIT AT MARWANDA ESTATE** – Marshall Byle ★ ♿

Wide covered porches offer viewing in all directions. Check out the ponds or wander the groomed trails. Over 100 species of birds can be viewed here during May. Coffee & tea provided.

(*easy, 🚗, bring lunch & lawnchair*) (limit 20)

A44 8:00 am **INTERPRETING NATURAL LANDSCAPES** – Bob Gray

A variety of landforms occur in Bruce and Grey Counties that contribute greatly to the natural beauty of this area. We'll explore features such as eskers, drumlins, moraines, crevice caves and waterfalls.

(*difficult, 🚗, bring lunch*) (limit 20)

### Morning

A45 8:00 am **PHOTOGRAPHY: GOING BEYOND AUTOMATIC** – Arni Stinnissen

Learn secrets for improving your nature-themed photography using easy-to-understand techniques from an experienced photographer. Bring a camera that has manual controls. A tripod would be handy.

(*easy, 🚗*) (limit 12)

A46 8:00 am **WHERE WOODS MEET WETLANDS** – Jeremy Bensette

Join Jere on a trek through the songbird-rich Park woodlands to the wetlands of the Ducks Unlimited pond. This area of the Park has lots to offer. (*easy, 🚗*) (limit 16)

### Afternoon

A47 1:30 pm **FAIRY LAKE** – Adrienne Mason

Join Adrienne for a short hike around Fairy Lake and learn about the diversity of life, history and some of the pollution that inhabits and affects this four hectare lake in Southampton, as well as plans for restoring its health. (*easy, 🚗*) (limit 20)

A48 1:30 pm **PHOTOGRAPHY: GOING BEYOND AUTOMATIC** – Arni Stinnissen

Learn secrets for improving your nature-themed photography using easy-to-understand techniques from an experienced photographer. Bring a camera that has manual controls. A tripod would be handy.

(*easy, 🚗*) (limit 12)

### Evening

A49 7:15 pm **FAIRY LAKE** – Adrienne Mason ♿

Adrienne presents on the diversity of life, history and pollution that inhabits and affects Fairy Lake, a small lake located right in the middle of the town of Southampton. Adrienne's presentation includes the results of a study for a restoration ecology approach for improving this tiny lake's health. (*indoor presentation*)

## THURSDAY JUNE 1

### All Day

B1 7:30 am **BIRDING THE BRUCE** – Ian Shanahan

The Bruce is bursting with birds at this time of year - migrants and residents on territory. Ian will introduce you to the wonders of the Saugeen Bruce Peninsula. Enjoy a great birding experience with this world-class birder. (*easy*, 🚗, *bring lunch*) (limit 20)

B2 7:45 am **GREENOCK SWAMP NATURE RAMBLE** – Shannon Wood ★

Explore southern Ontario's largest forested Class 1 wetland. We'll ramble 'round in this 20,000 acre complex. History, birds and botany are featured. (*moderate*, 🚗, *bring lunch, rubber boots recommended*) (limit 20)

B3 8:00 am **BIRDS & BLOOMS** – James Turland ★

Bird the Kincardine Lagoons (aka Pelee North), then travel to the Bruce Botanical Food Gardens in Ripley. These beautiful gardens showcase ways to be food self-reliant. (*easy*, 🚗, *bring lunch*) (limit 20)

### Morning

B4 7:15 am **BIRDING THE TOWER TRAIL** – Kiah Jasper

Kiah's sharp eyes and ears will impress you during this walk around the Ducks Unlimited trails and wetlands. This site always turns up late migrants and early nesters. If they're there Kiah will find them. (*easy*, 🚗) (limit 16)

B5 7:30 am **BIRDING MacGREGOR** – Pete Read

Pete, a popular Quest leader, has spent his life inspiring awareness about the natural world. Enjoy birding the riches of MacGregor with this experienced birder. (*easy*, 🚗) (limit 16)

B6 8:30 am **CHANTRY ISLAND 1** – Marine Heritage Society with Margaret Anderton

Chantry Island, an Important Bird Area, protects egrets and several other colonial nesting species. Tour the lighthouse and historic keeper's cottage. Get a birds-eye view as you climb the lighthouse stairs. (*Go directly to the Southampton dock Tour Base. \$30 per person to be paid at the Tour Base. Must be >4' tall. Sturdy footwear (no flip-flops). Weather permitting, moderate*, 🚗) (limit 9)

### Afternoon

B7 12:30 pm **CHANTRY ISLAND 2** – Marine Heritage Society with Margaret Anderton

Chantry Island, an Important Bird Area, protects egrets and several other colonial nesting species. Tour the lighthouse and historic keeper's cottage. Get a birds-eye view as you climb the lighthouse stairs. (*Go directly to the Southampton dock Tour Base. \$30 per person to be paid at the Tour Base. Must be >4' tall. Sturdy footwear (no flip-flops). Weather permitting, moderate*, 🚗) (limit 9)

B8 1:00 pm **BLUEBIRD TRAIL** – Dennis Lewington & Stew Nutt

Dennis and his junior assistant, Stew, will take you on a Bluebird Trail which Dennis has been maintaining and monitoring for 40 years. You'll learn about nesting Bluebirds, and discover several other species who take advantage of the boxes. (*easy*, 🚗) (limit 20)

B9 1:30 pm **BOTANY IN THE PARK** – Tyler Miller

The Huron Fringe is made up of interesting cobble beach ridges, swales and ancient miniature dunes. Tyler, a talented National Park field ecologist, will introduce you to the unique wild botany found amidst these features. (*easy*) (limit 16)

### Evening

B10 7:15 pm **THE HOWLS OF AUGUST** – Michael Runtz 🦊

Encounters with Wolves - Few sounds in nature stir the soul more than the howls of wild wolves. Michael has spent 50 years observing the makers of these sounds in Algonquin Park, and 30 years photographically documenting seldom-seen behaviours of these elusive animals. (*indoor presentation*)

## FRIDAY JUNE 2

### All Day

B11 7:30 am **WHAT MAKES A HOTSPOT?** – Kiah Jasper ★

Join Kiah exploring Isaac Lake Management Area, one of the most productive wetland complexes on the Saugeen Bruce Peninsula. Expect an interesting assortment of marsh specialties and open country bird species. (*easy, 🚗, bring lunch*) (limit 20)

B12 8:00 am **FISHING ISLANDS ARCHIPELAGO 1** – Bill Crins, Lynne Richardson, Michael Runtz, Esme Batten

We'll travel straight to Evergreen Resort at Red Bay to embark on a morning pontoon boat tour of the Fishing Islands with Bill, Lynne and Michael. The islands are bursting with colonial birds! After lunch at the lodge, we will bird and botanize our way back to the Park with Esme.

(*\$36 extra per person, payable at the Resort, includes lunch and boat, easy, 🚗*) (limit 20)

B13 8:15 am **FISHING ISLANDS ARCHIPELAGO 2** – Bill Crins, Lynne Richardson, Michael Runtz, Esme Batten

We'll bird and botanize our way to Evergreen Resort at Red Bay with Esme, have lunch at the lodge, then embark on an afternoon pontoon boat tour of the Fishing Islands with Bill, Lynne and Michael. The islands are bursting with colonial birds!

(*\$36 extra per person, payable at the Resort, includes lunch and boat, easy, 🚗*) (limit 20)

### Morning

B14 7:00 am **FORESTS & FIELDS** – Justin Peter

Join Justin, Quest's Senior Naturalist, accomplished birder and interpreter, on a tour of the bird-rich grasslands and countryside of beautiful Bruce County. (*easy, 🚗*) (limit 20)

B15 7:15 am **A BIRD'S EYE VIEW** – Jean Iron

Look, listen and learn with Jean, an OFO Distinguished Ornithologist and well-known educational leader. We'll bird field, river and riparian habitats throughout the morning. (*easy, 🚗*) (limit 20)

B16 7:30 am **BIRDING ON THE EDGE** – Pete Read

Join Pete as we explore the habitats around the edge of the Park. These areas provide lots of avian action and an eclectic mix of birds. (*easy, 🚗*) (limit 20)

### Afternoon

B17 1:30 pm **WARBLERS & WILDFLOWERS** – Ian Shanahan

This outing will explore rich niche habitats along the Tower Trail. Enjoy the wonders of spring through the eyes of an experienced ecologist. (*easy, 🚗*) (limit 16)

B18 1:30 pm **THE DUNES OF INVERHURON** – Marshall Byle

Explore some of the little-known trails along the river and through the sand dunes of Inverhuron Provincial Park. Groves of tall pines, young woodlands and old cedars round out the diversity of this Park.

(*moderate, with steep sections, 🚗*) (limit 16)

B19 1:30 pm **PIPING PLOVERS OF SAUBLE BEACH** – Stew Nutt & Don Kennedy

Join these entertaining plover enthusiasts and spend time with these endearing and endangered beach-nesting birds. Learn about the plovers' behaviors and be prepared for cuteness overload.

(*moderate, 🚗*) (limit 20)


### Evening

B20 7:15 pm **THE MAGIC OF BIRDS** – David Lamble 🦉

David is no ordinary bird lover. He will talk about bird intelligence and bird vision and his passion, bird banding, and how they all contribute to our understanding of birds. (*indoor presentation*)




## FRIDAY JUNE 2 continued

B21 9:15 pm **STARRY STARRY NIGHT** – Bluewater Astronomical Society   
Following a presentation which will introduce you to the wonders of the night sky, members of the Bluewater Astronomical Society will have their telescopes available for viewing the evening sky.  
*(indoor/outdoor presentation)* (limit 30)


## SATURDAY JUNE 3

### Free Event!

6:15 am - 10:15 am **BIRD BANDING** – David Lamble   
A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush. This drop-by event is a great opportunity to see birds up close. Look on as Master Bander David collects birds from mist nets, records data and explains the benefits of bird banding.

### All Day

B22 6:45 am **THE BOUNTIFUL BRUCE PENINSULA** – Justin Peter  
India, Galapagos, Bruce County! Justin is a global tour leader. This tour will take you through the bountiful, bird-rich habitats of the Bruce and add a range of species to your Festival bird list.  
*(easy, 🚗, bring lunch)* (limit 20)

B23 7:30 am **KINGHURST FOREST NATURE RESERVE** – Nikki May & Jerry Asling   
This majestic old growth forest with its century trees is a rare example in southern Ontario of lightly touched woodlands. History, woodland birds and botany will be featured.  
*(moderate, 🚗, bring lunch)* (limit 20)

### Morning

B24 7:00 am **BIRDING ON THE EDGE** – Michael Runtz  
The mixed habitat niches around the edge of the Park provide abundant avian action and an eclectic mix of birds for the list. Michael is wildly enthusiastic, entertaining and knowledgeable.  
*(moderate, 🚗)* (limit 20)

B25 7:15 am **THE JI LINE WITH JI** – Jean Iron  
We'll cover the JI Line grasslands and other rural habitats with Jean, an OFO Distinguished Ornithologist and well-known educational leader. *(easy, 🚗)* (limit 20)

B26 7:30 am **NATURE RAMBLE 'ROUND THE PARK** – Ian Shanahan  
Birds are nesting, spring flowers are blooming, and it's a great time to be in the Park with a passionate interpretive naturalist. *(easy, 🚗)* (limit 16)

B27 8:00 am **BIRDING MacGREGOR** – Abby Collins  
A morning walk around the Ducks Unlimited wetland always turns up late migrants and early nesters. An Ontario Master Naturalist, Abby loves to share her keen interest in birds. *(easy, 🚗)* (limit 16)

11:00 am **NATURE SHOWCASE** (Visitor Centre)  
Check out the new Orchid guide, book signings, Quest Nature Tours, Plover Lovers and more.

## SATURDAY JUNE 3 continued

### Afternoon

#### B28 1:30 pm **WILD ONTARIO – Special 25th Festival Event at Inverhuron**

Have close-up encounters with wild birds of prey. Wild Ontario uses rehabilitated birds for a new purpose - education and awareness.

*(1 hour event. Free, but Registration is requested, lawnchair recommended, 🚗)*

#### B29 1:30 pm **IPHONE PHOTOGRAPHY** – Willy Waterton 📷

'The best camera is the one with you'. iPhone cameras are more powerful than people realize. We will explore the camera's various functions and attachments to expand your photographic horizons.

*(easy)* (limit 10)

#### B30 1:30 pm **SEDGES HAVE EDGES** – Bill Crins

*Sedges have edges, rushes are round and grasses are hollow right up from the ground.* Bill will open your eyes to the fascinating world on the forest floor, including the world of sedges, his specialty.

*(easy, 🚗)* (limit 16)

### Evening

#### B31 7:15 pm **ORCHID QUEST** – Willy Waterton & Audrey Armstrong 📷

Did you know that *The Orchids of Bruce & Grey* is a Canadian bestseller!? When the Owen Sound Field Naturalists planned to reprint the guide (5<sup>th</sup> edition), Willy volunteered to update the original analogue photos with digital imagery. Join Audrey and Willy on their two year orchid quest adventure.

*(indoor presentation)*

#### B32 9:00 pm **DENIZENS OF THE DARK** – Michael Runtz

As dusk descends over the Park the denizens of the dark awaken. Michael will help us discover the nightlife in his usual entertaining and informative style. *(easy, 🚗)* (limit 20)

## SUNDAY JUNE 4

### Free Event!

#### 6:15 am - 10:15 am **BIRD BANDING** – David Lamble 📷

A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush. This drop-by event is a great opportunity to see birds up close. Look on as Master Bander David collects birds from mist nets, records data and explains the benefits of bird banding.

### Morning

#### B33 7:15 am **BIRDING THE TOWER TRAIL** – Justin Peter

This popular trail always produces a good mix of species. Justin's superb birding skills will ensure we spot everything that's to be found along the trail and from the observation tower overlooking the wetland.

*(easy, 🚗)* (limit 16)

#### B34 7:30 am **NATURE RAMBLE 'ROUND THE PARK** – Ian Shanahan

Birds are nesting, wild flowers are blooming, and it's a great time to be in the Park with a passionate interpretive naturalist. *(easy, 🚗)* (limit 16)

#### B35 7:45 am **BOTANIZING, BIRDING & BUGS** – Bill Crins

Bill has an incredible background in botany, birding and bugs. The abundant flora and fauna of the Lake Huron shoreline, fen and edge habitats are featured during this walk from the Visitor Centre.

*(easy)* (limit 16)

## SUNDAY JUNE 4 continued

B36 8:00 am **COUNTRYSIDE BIRDING** – Abby Collins  
Abby loves to share her keen interest in birds. Explore grasslands and other rural habitats outside the Park with this Ontario Master Naturalist. *(easy, 🚗)* (limit 20)

11:00 am **NATURE SHOWCASE** (Visitor Centre)  
Check out the new Orchid guide, book signings, Quest Nature Tours, Plover Lovers and more.

### Afternoon

B37 1:30 pm **SHRUB & TREE ID** – Jim Coles  
If a tree falls in the forest, can anybody identify it? Using leaf and twig identification keys we'll learn to identify coniferous and deciduous species. *(easy)* (limit 20)

B38 1:30 pm **BIRD & BOTANY RAMBLE** – Ian Shanahan  
Ian will guide a leisurely walk along the Tower Trail to the Ducks Unlimited wetland. Birders and botanists will enjoy the riches of the MacGregor Point landscape as seen through the eyes of this renaissance man. *(easy, 🚗)* (limit 16)

### Evening

B39 7:00 pm **NATURE SONGS & SING-ALONG** – Margaret Wysman ♪  
Enjoy an evening with professional singer and guitarist Margaret Wysman and warm your hearts with song. Margaret weaves wisdom and humour into her heartfelt performances.  
*(outdoor presentation weather permitting, or indoors)*

B40 8:15 pm **SUNSET WALK** – Chris Tomsett  
Top off your 25th Festival experience with a leisurely stroll along the shore of Lake Huron with MacGregor's former Park Superintendent. He'll share stories of the Park from his over 30 year career. The sights and sounds of an early June evening will make a wonderful backdrop. *(easy)* (limit 20)

## FIELD TRIP INFORMATION

- **Sturdy footwear** and **drinking water** are required for all outings.
- **Black-legged Ticks** carrying Lyme Disease have been found in Bruce County. Be tick aware.
- Bring **walkie-talkies** if you have them, for safety on vehicle 🚗 events.

## DIFFICULTY LEVELS

**Mobility Limited** ♪ – Intended for those who have difficulty walking.

**Easy** – Participants should be able to walk and stand up to 3 hours without any difficulty.

**Moderate** – Participants should be able to walk and stand between 3 - 5 hours without any difficulty.

**Difficult** – Participants should be able to walk where there may be unsure footing, steepness or where obstacles need to be negotiated.

## REGISTRATION

The Festival Program is posted for viewing February 15, 2023

Registration opens March 17, 2023

[www.huronfringebirdingfestival.ca](http://www.huronfringebirdingfestival.ca)

# FESTIVAL FEES

## PACKAGE RATES

**Adult:** 8 Day Festival \$192    4 Day Weekend \$144    Saturday & Sunday \$90  
**\*Youth:** 8 Day Festival \$96    4 Day Weekend \$72    Saturday & Sunday \$45  
\*Youth - 10 to 21 (under 13 must be accompanied by a registered chaperone)

## SINGLE EVENT RATES

(Note: Single Event fees only apply until the total reaches that of a package. Package rates will be applied automatically.)

<b>Morning or Afternoon Event:</b>	Adult \$24	Youth \$12
<b>All Day Event</b>	Adult \$48	Youth \$24
<b>Evening Event:</b>	Adult \$12	Youth \$6

Fees include Park entrance fee. Additional fees may apply on certain events.  
Refund information is available on the website.

**The Huron Fringe Birding Festival uses online registration and payment at:  
[www.huronfringebirdingfestival.ca](http://www.huronfringebirdingfestival.ca)**

The Huron Fringe Birding Festival is presented by the Huron Fringe Birding Festival Committee, Friends of MacGregor Point Park and MacGregor Point Provincial Park. The Festival supports the preservation of the Park's natural legacy.

## PARTNERS

*Ontario Parks  
Friends of MacGregor Point*

## WE THANK OUR SPONSORS

### CORPORATE

Bruce Power  
Ontario Power Generation  
Vortex Optics  
Quest Nature Tours

### COMMUNITY

Bruce Peninsula National Park, Tobermory  
Handy Andy Services, Southampton  
Hills Insurance, Southampton  
Super 8 Hotel, Port Elgin  
Travelodge, Port Elgin

*Please support our Community Sponsors.*

Festival headquarters are at MacGregor Point Provincial Park, located approximately five kilometres south of Port Elgin, Ontario on the shore of Lake Huron.  
MacGregor Point Provincial Park, 1593 Bruce Road 33, Port Elgin, Ontario, Canada N0H 2C5