

GENERAL INFORMATION

Welcome to the Huron Fringe Birding Festival!

Events start promptly at the Visitor Centre in MacGregor Point Provincial Park. Please arrive **15 minutes early** so your group can depart on time.

Generally, morning events return to the Visitor Centre by 11:30 am; afternoon and all-day events return by 4:30 pm; shorter all-day events by 3:00 pm.

We are offering some **shorter all day** ☆ and **mobility limited**  events.

Coffee and pastries are available in the Visitor Centre every morning.

BBQ lunches hosted by Friends of MacGregor Point Park from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm daily.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY MAY 24

All Day

A1 6:00 am **BIRDING MID PENINSULA** – Michael Carlson

Travel with veteran leader Michael from Lake Huron to Georgian Bay. We will visit some of his favorite spots including Stokes Bay, Greenough Point and Hopeness. (*easy, car-pool, bring lunch*) (limit 20)

A2 6:15 am **JARMO'S BIG BACKYARD** – Jarmo Jalava

Mar, Sky Lake and Red Bay host rich bird and botanical habitats. The outing will include a 3.5 km hike through a coastal migration hotspot, and will finish off with a "Little Big Sit" lunch picnic on the deck of Jarmo's home, which should yield great views of some Bruce Peninsula avian specialties. (*moderate, car-pool, bring lunch*) (limit 15)

A3 6:30 am **MALCOLM BLUFF & CAPE CROKER** – Alfred Raab

Bird in the rich habitats within Malcolm Bluff Shores Nature Reserve and Neyaashiinigiing territory on the Cape Croker peninsula. These areas have yielded some special finds in past years and the bluffs provide spectacular vistas. (*moderate, car-pool, bring lunch*) (limit 20)

A4 6:45 am **BIRDING THE BRUCE WITH BENSETTE** – Jeremy Bensette

Jeremy is Ontario's Big Year record holder and a popular tour guide in the Point Pelee area. Join him as he follows the birds migrating or on territory along a number of sites on the Bruce Peninsula. Locations may include Isaac Lake, Oliphant wetlands, Red Bay, Sauble Beach and the Ferndale Flats. (*easy, car-pool, bring lunch*) (limit 20)

A5 7:30 am **BIRDING & BOTANIZING BRUCE'S CAVES** – Doug Pedwell

Doug will show us ferns, wildflowers, forest birds and geological features as we explore this scenic section of the Niagara Escarpment. This road trip will feature Bruce's Caves and Skinner's Bluff conservation areas and other unique spots nearby. (*difficult, car-pool, bring lunch*) (limit 20)

Morning

A6 6:00 am **A WALK IN THE PARK WITH MARK** – Mark Wiercinski

Mark is always entertaining and informative. Mark's birding and interpretive skills will keep you looking and listening as you explore MacGregor Point, one of his most productive stops during his annual Big Day. (*easy, car-pool*) (limit 20)

A7 6:15 am **DISCOVER PAISLEY BIRDING** – Judith King 

Judith, a popular local leader, will take us birding through the rural landscapes of the Paisley area. Birds of the farm, forest and field will be featured. (*easy, car-pool*) (limit 20)

A8 6:30 am **KINCARDINE LAGOONS aka “PELEE NORTH”** – James Turland

Hike the trails of this premier birding location, one of James’s favorite local hotspots. If you missed seeing birds at Point Pelee, chances are you’ll find them here. (*easy, car-pool*) (limit 20)

Afternoon

A9 1:30 pm **BIRD & BOTANY RAMBLE** – Terry Crabe

Terry will guide a leisurely walk along the Tower Trail to the Ducks Unlimited wetland. Botanists and birders will enjoy the riches of the MacGregor Point landscape as seen through the eyes of an experienced Park Ecologist. (*easy, car-pool*) (limit 20)

A10 1:30 pm **MÉTIS INTERPRETIVE CENTRE & AUNT ANNIE’S HOUSE** – Jenna McGuire 

The history and culture of the Historic Saugeen Métis will begin with a presentation at the Historic Saugeen Métis interpretive centre and finish with a tour of Aunt Annie’s 170-year-old Métis home. We will have a close look at medicinal gardens, Métis artforms and try some traditional foods!

(*easy, car-pool*) (limit 20)

A11 1:30 pm **MAGICAL MacGREGOR** – Tim Arthur

Tim’s fieldwork with Bird Studies Canada includes several sites within MacGregor Point. We’ll visit the wetlands and forests of the park looking for migrant and breeding birds. The trip will end with a visit to the scenic Ducks Unlimited Pond. (*easy, car-pool*) (limit 20)

Evening

A12 7:15 pm **SPARROWS & FINCHES OF ONTARIO** – John Reaume

In Ontario we have 43 species of finches and sparrows (LBJs) of which 23 have been seen during the Festival. With John’s tips and phenomenal photography, you’ll learn interesting facts about their natural history and how to identify these species. You’ll never again refer to them as LBJs! (*indoors*) (limit 60)

A13 9:00 pm **DENIZENS OF THE DARK** – Mark Wiercinski

Nocturnal adaptations are required to rule the night. From owls to crickets to fireflies, learn how these creatures are able to thrive when the lights go out. (*easy, car-pool*) (limit 20)

Saturday MAY 25

All Day

A14 6:00 am **MARK’S MYSTERY TOUR** – Mark Wiercinski

A tour with Mark is always an adventure. Along the way, Mark’s tips about birds, their habitats and songs will help you sort them out. (*easy, car-pool, bring lunch*) (limit 20)

A15 6:15 am **MALCOLM BLUFF TO HURON SHORES** – Mike Burrell

You’ll be amazed at Mike’s birding skills and the diversity of birds found in this area. There may be a Cerulean or Hooded Warbler on territory. If it’s there, Mike will find it!

(*easy, car-pool, bring lunch*) (limit 20)

A16 6:30 am **HURON SHORES TO MALCOLM BLUFFS** – Ken Burrell

You'll be amazed at Ken's birding skills and the diversity of birds found in this area. There may be a Cerulean or Hooded Warbler on territory. If Mike doesn't find it, Ken will!

(easy, car-pool, bring lunch) (limit 20)

A17 6:45 am **THE BOUNTIFUL BRUCE** – Jeremy Bensette

Jeremy birded the entire province during his 2017 Big Year and is ready to revisit his favorite birding areas of Bruce County. Join Jere in his never-ending pursuit of birds.

(easy, car-pool, bring lunch) (limit 20)

Morning

A18 6:00 am **THERE'S A SONG IN THE AIR** – Michael Carlson

Do you have difficulty remembering bird songs and calls no matter how often you hear them? Michael is a natural at birding by ear using mnemonics. This field workshop will give you tips to sort out bird songs.

(easy, car-pool) (limit 20)

A19 6:15 am **BIRDING ON THE EDGE** – Henrique Pacheco

Henrique is one of the new generation of outstanding birders. Come and see what youthful eyes, ears and the latest birding techniques can find. *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 20)

A20 6:30 am **BIRDING BACKROADS** – James Turland

Join local expert James for a day in the country. We will travel along scenic rural roads searching for grassland birds amongst a range of other species. *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 20)

A21 6:45 am **GRASSLANDS & MORE** – Todd Pepper

Todd is a global birder and loves to share his interest and knowledge of birds with one and all. We'll explore grasslands and other habitats outside the Park. *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 20)

A22 7:00 am **MAGICAL MacGREGOR** – Tim Arthur

Tim's fieldwork with Bird Studies Canada includes several sites within MacGregor Point. We'll visit the wetlands and forests of the park looking for migrant and breeding birds. The trip will end with a visit to the scenic Ducks Unlimited Pond. *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 20)

A23 7:15 am **OVER HILL & DALE** – Marshall Byle

Over the river and through the woods searching for birds we'll go. Field edge habitat will complete our tour to add to our species list. Marshall is a local lifelong birder who loves to share the wonder of birds with others. *(moderate, car-pool)* (limit 20)

11:00 am **VORTEX OPTICS, ARMSTRONG MILLING, ADVENTURE CANADA**

During the lunch break check out their displays.

Afternoon

A24 1:30 pm **BIRDS & BOTANY IN MacGREGOR** – Terry Crabe

This outing will explore habitat niches along the Rotary Way and Deer Run trails through the eyes of an experienced Park Ecologist. Edges, old fields, hedge rows and woodlands provide good species variety.

(easy, car-pool) (limit 20)

A25 1:30 pm **BIRDING THE FRINGE** – Henrique Pacheco

Woodland and shoreline habitats are featured as you follow Henrique down Kempf's Trail to Watersnake Pond. Henrique is a world birder and a senior naturalist at Algonquin Park. *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 20)

A26 1:30 pm **SPIDERMAN** – John Reaume

Spiders lead fascinating lives! With over 830 species in Ontario we'll find a few jumpers, wolfs, crabs, fishing and orb weavers and learn about their life history, feeding techniques and mating rituals. Bring binoculars, cameras and a keen eye as "Spiderman" introduces you to the amazing world of arachnids. *(easy)* (limit 20)

A27 1:30 pm **WILDFLOWER PHOTOGRAPHY** – Doug Pedwell

Through the eye of your camera lens, participants will explore wildflowers along the Old Shore Road Trail. All types of cameras welcome. Be prepared to get down and dirty. *(easy)* (limit 12)

Evening

A28 4:30 pm **BANQUET SOCIAL & SILENT AUCTION**

5:30 pm **DINNER & PRESENTATION - BEST PLACES TO BIRD IN ONTARIO** – Mike & Ken Burrell
Since kids, Mike and Ken have been obsessed with birds and traveled across the province in search of them. They'll share their favorite spots, strategies, and stories and how they decided which would make the cut for their new book, *Best Places to Bird in Ontario*. Book signing to follow. *(St. Joseph's Parish Hall, Port Elgin, Green Door Catering, Chicken Buffet, Early bird price - \$45 extra per person. For banquet/presentation as a single event or after April 15 - \$55 extra per person. Cash bar. Contact Registrar by May 1 with dietary restrictions - gluten-free, vegetarian, etc.)* (limit 110)

SUNDAY MAY 26

All Day

A29 6:00 am **BIRD 'TIL YOU DROP** – Michael Carlson

Are you ready for a big day of birding? If so, this dawn to dusk birding marathon on the Bruce Peninsula is for you. Your day's list could be over 100 species!

(moderate, car-pool, bring lunch & walking supper, possible return after 9 pm) (limit 20)

A30 6:15 am **BIRDING THE BACKROADS** – Henrique Pacheco *

Join Henrique for a day in the country. Traveling along scenic rural roads we will find grassland specialties and species from other habitats found in the countryside. We've had a few surprise finds in the past. *(easy, car-pool, bring lunch)* (limit 20)

A31 6:30 am **BIRDING BLITZ** – Todd Pepper

This veteran world birder knows how to ensure that we all have a great birding experience. Todd will take us through a number of habitats on this birding blitz of southern Bruce.

(easy, car-pool, bring lunch) (limit 20)

Morning

A32 6:00 am **SEX & THE SINGLE WARBLER** – Mark Wiercinski

Warblers are the jewels of the forest. They sing because love is in the air. Mark will point out their eye-catching colours and sweet (ok, maybe a tad confusing) songs. *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 20)

A33 6:15 am **BIRDING ON THE EDGE** – Ken Burrell

The habitat mixes around the edge of the Park provide lots of avian action and an eclectic mix of birds for the list. Look, listen and learn about the birds and their habitats with Ken. *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 20)

A34 6:30 am **BIRDING IN THE PARK** – Mike Burrell

MacGregor Point is bursting with late migrants and birds in full song marking out their territory. Mike's birding skills will ensure you get in on all this avian action. *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 20)

A35 6:45 am **POWER BIRDING AT THE BRUCE** – Jeremy Bensette

Jeremy has spent five breeding seasons conducting Marsh Monitoring survey work with Bird Studies Canada and is very familiar with the wetlands of Bruce Peninsula. Join him for a visit to the marshes of Baie du Dore near Bruce Power, paired with a few other fruitful birding stops along the way.

(easy, car-pool) (limit 20)

A36 7:15 am **BIRDING THE PARK PERIMETER** – Marshall Byle

Join our local lifelong birder Marshall as he leads us through habitats around the Park. The perimeter is a mecca for an eclectic mix of birds. *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 20)

A37 7:30 am **BIRDING THE BYWAYS** – James Turland 

Rural landscapes are a peaceful backdrop for grassland and woodland birds. This is James's backyard and he is a popular local leader. *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 20)

A38 8:00 am **UP WITH THE BIRDS** – Doug Martin

Continue the tradition that pre-dates the Festival – a not-so-early morning walk along the Tower Trail to the Viewing Tower. The species list has rivalled many other events. *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 20)

11:00 am **ADVENTURE CANADA**

During the lunch break, check out their display.

Afternoon

A39 1:00 pm **PIPING PLOVERS OF SAUBLE BEACH** – Stewart Nutt & Don Kennedy 

Stew and Don have been on the front line of the plover recovery program since its beginning. They will make a Plover Lover out of you! You may observe courtship (plovers) as well as other behaviours and learn about the challenges these charismatic birds face. *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 20)

A40 1:30 pm **A FASCINATION OF FROGS** – Kerry Jarvis

This hands-on experience will bring out the kid in you. We will explore several ponds to revel in the sights and sounds of these amazing creatures. Bring binoculars and cameras on this frog frolic.

(easy, car-pool) (limit 20)

A41 1:30 pm **FEEDER PHOTOGRAPHY** – Fran Sanagan 

Fran will provide tips and tricks to capture natural-looking images of the birds and wildlife at your backyard feeders. *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 12)

Evening

A42 7:15 pm **BIRDING TOBAGO** – Newton George

Widely acclaimed as Tobago's premier bird-watching and natural-history guide, Newton is an experienced and knowledgeable ornithologist. Join him as he highlights the birds and culture of Tobago, one of the most southerly Islands in the Caribbean and home to approximately 220 species of birds.

(indoors) (limit 60)

MONDAY MAY 27

All Day

A43 6:00 am **BIRDING THE COUNTRYSIDE** – Judith King & Newton George

Judith and special guest Newton will introduce you to local birding hotspots. Mixed forest, riparian habitat and grassland fields will be visited on this outing. Newton will provide a tropical perspective on Canadian birds. *(easy, car-pool, bring lunch)* (limit 20)

A44 7:30 am **A BIG SIT** – Marshall Byle ★ 

Join Marshall by the scenic ponds at Marwanda Estate. Easy walks and pondside birding will build up our lists. Green Herons nest in the nearby pine plantations. Tea and coffee will be provided.
(easy, car-pool, bring lunch & lawnchair) (limit 20)

A45 8:00 am **LANDFORMS OF GREY COUNTY** – Bob Gray

With Bob, geology rocks! Explore the geomorphology of Grey County. A driving tour with many stops along the way, we'll look at drumlins, eskers, cobble beaches, disappearing streams, moraines and more.
(easy, car-pool, bring lunch) (limit 20)

Morning

A46 6:00 am **WOODS MEET WETLANDS** – Jeremy Bensette

Join Jeremy, Ontario's Big Year record holder, for a walk through the songbird-rich woodlands of MacGregor Point Provincial Park on the way to the wetland habitat of the Ducks Unlimited Pond, where woods meets wetland! *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 20)

A47 6:30 am **MAGICAL MacGREGOR** – Tim Arthur

Tim's fieldwork with Bird Studies Canada includes several sites within MacGregor Provincial Park. Join Tim as we visit the wetlands and forests of the park looking for migrant and breeding birds. We will end the trip with a visit to the spectacular Ducks Unlimited Pond. *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 20)

A48 7:00 am **BIRDING THE FRINGE** – James Turland

This outing will explore habitat niches along the Rotary Way, Gore Drain and Deer Run trails. Edges, old fields, hedge rows and woodlands provide opportunities for good species diversity.
(easy, car-pool) (limit 20)

A49 7:30 am **MÉTIS HISTORY OF THE FISHING ISLANDS** – Jenna McGuire

From fur-trading voyageurs to fishermen, boat-builders and lighthouse keepers the Saugeen Métis have had a strong connection to the waters and islands of Lake Huron. Discover their marine culture and their connections to the Fishing Islands in the best way possible, aboard a boat and on the water!

(easy, weather permitting, weather appropriate clothing) (limit 12)

\$40 extra per person to be paid at the dock Tour Base)

Afternoon

A50 1:30 pm **SMARTPHONE & TABLET PHOTOGRAPHY** – Kerry Jarvis

Kerry will show us cool techniques on how to get the most out of our phone and tablet cameras. Quickly learn how to edit your images in the field to give them that professional look. Come armed with your phones and tablets. *(easy, car pool)* (limit 12)

A51 1:30 pm **A FARM RAMBLE** – Jim Coles

Jim is a retired forester who loves and practices the concept of "forest bathing". On this outing become acquainted with grassland and wetland birds, landforms, species/site relationships and a bit of upland hardwood forest management. *(moderate, uneven footing, car-pool)* (limit 20)

Evening

A52 7:15 pm **SPECIES AT RISK: A WORLD OF CHANGE** – Peter Middleton

An important issue facing the living planet today is mass extinction. Species around the world are encountering the reality of diminishing resources and conditions for their survival. How we can play a part in mediating, if not stopping the problem in our local environment will be presented. *(indoors)* (limit 60)

THURSDAY MAY 30

All Day

B1 6:00 am **CAPE CROKER - BIRDING NEYAASHIINIGMIING** – Jarmo Jalava & Miptoon
Anishinaabe culture and interesting ecosystems found in Neyaashiinigiing (Cape Croker) will be featured on this all-day trip. Birds will be singing, wildflowers will be blooming and the scenery is splendid. *(easy, car-pool, bring lunch)* (limit 20)

B2 6:30 am **MALCOLM BLUFF & CAPE CROKER** – Alfred Raab
Bird in the rich habitats within Malcolm Bluff Shores Nature Reserve and Neyaashiinigiing territory on the Cape Croker peninsula. These areas have yielded some special finds in past years and the bluffs provide spectacular vistas. *(moderate, car-pool, bring lunch)* (limit 20)

B3 6:45 am **KINGHURST NATURE RESERVE** – Nikki May & Angus Inksetter ★
Nikki and Angus will guide us on a discovery trek through the Kinghurst Forest Nature Reserve. This majestic forest, with its century trees, is a rare example of lightly touched woodlands in southern Ontario. History, woodland birds, botany and folklore will be featured. *(moderate, car-pool, bring lunch)* (limit 20)

B4 8:15 am **SILVERWATER - PHOTOGRAPHING WATERFALLS** – Willy Waterton
We are blessed in Bruce-Grey with many waterfalls tumbling over the Niagara Escarpment. Whether you are using your smartphone, tablet, compact or DSLR camera there are tricks and tools to “crafting” images that go beyond the snapshot. Bring tripod and remote shutter release if available. *(difficult, car-pool, bring lunch)* (limit 12)

Morning

B5 7:15 am **BIRDING MacGREGOR** – Ian Shanahan
Ian is another global birding tour leader touching down in MacGregor. A morning walk around the Ducks Unlimited wetland always turns up late migrants and early nesters. Ian has all the tips and techniques for identifying these spring beauties. *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 20)

B6 8:00 am **PIPING PLOVERS OF SAUBLE BEACH** – Stewart Nutt & Don Kennedy 
Stew & Don have been on the front line of the plover recovery program since its beginning. They will make a Plover Lover out of you! You may observe courtship (plovers) as well as other behaviours and learn about the challenges these charismatic birds face. *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 20)

B7 8:15 am **CHANTRY ISLAND 1** – Marine Heritage Society with Margaret Anderton
Chantry Island, an international Important Bird Area, offers protection of colonial nesting species. This boat trip includes a tour of the lighthouse and historic keeper's cottage. View active nests from all levels as you ascend the lighthouse! *(moderate, car-pool, sturdy footwear (no flip-flops), weather permitting. Children must be 4' tall and accompanied by a registered chaperone)* (limit 9)
\$25 per person to be paid at the dock Tour Base. Participants are to go directly to the dock.

Afternoon

B8 12:15 pm **CHANTRY ISLAND 2** – Marine Heritage Society with Margaret Anderton
Chantry Island, an international Important Bird Area, offers protection of colonial nesting species. This boat trip includes a tour of the lighthouse and historic keeper's cottage. View active nests from all levels as you ascend the lighthouse! *(moderate, car-pool, sturdy footwear (no flip-flops), weather permitting. Children must be 4' tall and accompanied by a registered chaperone)* (limit 9)
\$25 extra per person to be paid at the dock Tour Base. Participants are to go directly to the dock.

B9 1:30 pm **INSECT PHOTOGRAPHY** – Bob Noble

Join Bob for an introduction to close-up (macro) photography of the big world of insects and other small things. Bring your digital camera with a macro setting or macro lens and flash and learn how you can capture the beauty and diversity of this hidden world. *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 12)

B10 1:30 pm **BOTANY IN THE PARK** – Barbara Palmer

The Huron Fringe is made up of former cobble beach ridges, swales and ancient miniature dunes. Barbara will help you identify the unique plants found amidst these features. *(easy)* (limit 20)

Evening

B11 7:15 pm **ALGONQUIN WILD** – Michael Runtz

This talk is a celebration of the plants and wildlife of Algonquin Park. From peatlands to coniferous forests, spring peepers to beavers, moose to osprey to yellow toadflax and spotted salamanders, the park teems with life all year round. Book signing to follow. *(indoors)* (limit 60)

FRIDAY MAY 31

All Day

B12 6:30 am **THE BOUNTIFUL BRUCE PENINSULA** – Justin Peter

India, Galapagos and now Bruce County! Justin is a global tour leader. This driving 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, car-pool, bring lunch)* (limit 20)

B13 7:00 am **BIRDING SOUTH BRUCE** – Marshall Byle

This is car birding at its best using Marshall's local knowledge. We will follow a scenic route in southern Bruce County, birding hotspots along the way. *(easy, car-pool, bring lunch)* (limit 20)

B14 8:00 am **FISHING ISLANDS ARCHIPELAGO** – Bill Crins, Lynne Richardson, Michael Runtz

We'll bird and botanize our way up to Evergreen Resort at Red Bay, lunch at the resort, then embark on a pontoon boat tour of the Fishing Islands. The Islands are remote, scenic and bursting with colonial birds! *(easy, car-pool, \$25 extra per person payable at the Resort includes lunch)* (limit 20)

Morning

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 along river and riparian habitats amongst others throughout the morning. *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 20)

B16 8:00 am **THE WORLD OF MacGREGOR POINT'S BEACHES** – Peter Middleton

Join this accomplished interpreter on a walk along the shoreline of MacGregor Point. Experience the brilliant life that blooms in what appears to be harsh conditions. Peter makes this world come alive. *(easy)* (limit 20)

B17 8:15 am **ADVANCED MACRO PHOTOGRAPHY** – Bob Noble

Macro photographers will be provided with techniques to improve their images of insects and other small subjects. We will address some of the technical and composition issues that must be overcome in order to create amazing macro images. *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 12)

B18 8:30 am **LAWNCHAIR BIRDING AT BONNIE'S** – Sarah Rupert & Bonnie Patterson-Collins 
A casual yet productive approach to birding. Join Sarah and Bonnie to find out what can be seen from the comfort of a sitting position overlooking a pond, a field, a forest and feeders.
(easy, car-pool, bring a lawnchair) (limit 20)

Afternoon

B19 1:30 pm **BIRDING & BOTANY IN MacGREGOR** – Ian Shanahan
This outing will explore niche habitats along the wooded Rotary Way and the open Gore Drain trails through the eyes of an experienced ecologist. Edges, old fields, hedge rows and woodlands provide good species diversity. Vesper Sparrow is almost guaranteed! *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 20)

B20 1:30 pm **THE WORLD OF MacGREGOR POINT'S BEACHES** – Peter Middleton
Join this accomplished interpreter on a walk along the shoreline of MacGregor Point. Experience the brilliant life that blooms in what appears to be harsh conditions. Peter makes this world come alive.
(easy) (limit 20)

B21 1:30 pm **MÉTIS INTERPRETIVE CENTRE & AUNT ANNIE'S HOUSE** – Jenna McGuire 
The history and culture of the Historic Saugeen Métis will begin with a presentation at the Historic Saugeen Métis interpretive centre and finish with a tour of Aunt Annie's 170-year-old Métis home. We will have a close look at medicinal gardens, Métis artforms and try some traditional foods!
(easy, car-pool) (limit 20)

B22 1:30 pm **MONARCH FRIENDLY HABITAT** – Audrey Armstrong 
Learn to nurture monarch butterfly populations by establishing your own monarch waystation. Life cycle, biology, issues and threats to the monarch population and the value of choosing native versus non-native plants will be covered. Free seeds will be distributed to get you started. *(easy, indoor/outdoor)* (limit 20)

Evening

B23 7:15 pm **SOUTHBOUND SHOREBIRDS** – Jean Iron
Jean has spent the past 14 summers surveying shorebirds on the coasts of Hudson and James bays. From the end of June to freeze-up, southbound shorebirds from the Canadian Arctic stop over in Ontario. Jean will give us tips to identify and age these sometimes confusing species in her clear interpretive style.
(indoors) (limit 60)

SATURDAY JUNE 1

All Day

B24 7:00 am **BIRDING THE BRUCE** – Pete Read
New to our festival, Pete a popular Quest leader, has spent his life inspiring awareness about the natural world. Enjoy a great birding experience with this world-class birder. *(easy, car-pool, bring lunch)* (limit 20)

B25 8:00 am **GREENOCK SWAMP NATURE RAMBLE** – Doug Pedwell ★
Explore part of southern Ontario's largest forested Class 1 wetland. The new boardwalk and trails have opened this wooded wetland environment to us. Bring your binoculars and cameras. Rubber boots recommended. *(moderate, car-pool, bring lunch)* (limit 20)

Morning

B26 6:15 am **THE BIRD WHISPERER** – Dave Brewer 

A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush. Banders have a special way with birds. Watch (and maybe even 'help') Dave as birds are collected from mist nests, banded and released. This is a great opportunity to see birds up close and personal. *(easy)* (limit 20)

B27 6:30 am **BIRDING THE BACKROADS** – Justin Peter

Justin will focus his extensive birding tour leadership skills on the birds of the rural countryside including threatened and declining grassland species. *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 20)

B28 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, car-pool)* (limit 20)

B29 7:45 am **BIRDING FUNDAMENTALS** – Ian Shanahan

Perplexing plumages? Baffling bird song? On this short walk from the Visitor Centre, Ian will introduce you to some birding basics - use of binoculars, bird ID and song, describing a bird's location and birding etiquette. *(easy)* (limit 20)

B30 8:00 am **SMARTPHONE PHOTOGRAPHY** – Willy Waterton

"The best camera is the one that's with you." Smartphone cameras are much more powerful than most people realize. We will explore the camera's various functions and attachments to expand your photographic horizons. *(easy)* (limit 10)

B31 8:30 am **LAWNCHAIR BIRDING** – Sarah Rupert 

We often rush around looking for birds, but sometimes when you just sit and stay in one place you'll discover birds you didn't realize were there. We will be overlooking the lake, as we learn to make notes about birds and their behaviours. *(easy, car-pool, bring a lawnchair)* (limit 20)

Afternoon

B32 12:15 pm **ISLAND PHOTOGRAPHY** – Fran Sanagan

There's so much to photograph on Chantry - colonial nesting birds, the lighthouse, and the many artifacts with low light challenges. Fran can help you with it all. *(moderate, car-pool, sturdy footwear (no flip-flops), weather permitting)* (limit 9) **\$25 extra per person to be paid at the dock Tour Base.**

B33 1:00 pm **BLUEBIRD TRAIL LANDLORDS** – Dennis & Gwen Lewington

Bluebirds are cavity nesters and nest boxes give these beautiful birds a helping hand. Dennis and Gwen will take you on their Bluebird Trail which they have been maintaining and monitoring for over 35 years. *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 20)

B34 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 a whole new world on the forest floor, including the world of sedges, his specialty. *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 12)

B35 1:30 pm **THROUGH THE EYES OF A NATURALIST** – Dave Brewer

Dave will guide a leisurely walk along the Tower Trail to the Ducks Unlimited wetland. Enjoy the riches of the MacGregor Point landscapes as seen through the eyes of an experienced naturalist. *(easy, car-pool)* (limit 20)

Evening

B36 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm **CHICKEN DINNER**

(MacGregor Point Provincial Park, Harrigan's Catering. Additional charge of \$19 pre-registration required)
B37 can be combined with B36 as a discounted single event for \$25.

B37 7:15 pm **BIRDS OF THE GAMBIA & SENEGAL** – Justin Peter

Locked together in an eternal grip on Africa's west coast, the unassuming nations of The Gambia and Senegal are located in a transition zone between the dry north and the humid south and host a wonderful array of bird life. Justin will share his insights from his visits to these countries. (*indoors*) (limit 60)

B38 9:15 pm **STARRY STARRY NIGHT** – John Hlynialuk

John will introduce you to the wonders of the night sky, and tell you about dark sky events for 2019. Weather dependent, members of the Bluewater Astronomical Society will have their telescopes available for viewing the evening sky. (*easy, indoors/outdoors*) (limit 30)

SUNDAY JUNE 2

Morning

B39 6:45 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 marsh. (*easy, car-pool*) (limit 20)

B40 7:00 am **NATURE RAMBLE 'ROUND THE PARK** – Ian Shanahan

Birds are nesting, flowers are blooming, and it's a great time to be in the park with a passionate interpretive naturalist. Ian will point out the intricacies of nature. (*easy, car-pool*) (limit 20)

B41 7:15 am **BOTANIZING & BIRDING** – Bill Crins

Bill has an incredible background in both botany and birding. The abundant flora and avifauna of the Lake Huron shoreline, fen and edge habitats are featured during this walk from the Visitor Centre. (*easy*) (limit 20)

B42 7:30 am **BIRDING ON THE EDGE** – Pete Read

This outing will explore niche habitats along the wooded Rotary Way and the open Gore Drain trails with an experienced interpretive naturalist. Edges, old fields, hedge rows and woodlands provide good species diversity. Vesper Sparrow is almost guaranteed! (*easy, car-pool*) (limit 20)

B43 7:45 am **THE BIRD WHISPERER** – Dave Brewer 

A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush! Banders have a special way with birds. Watch (and maybe even 'help') Dave as birds are collected from mist nests, banded and released. This is a great opportunity to see birds up close and personal. (*easy*) (limit 20)

Afternoon

B44 1:30 pm **BIRDING TRIVIA** – Sarah Rupert 

Join Sarah for one of her fun and famous birding quizzes in the outdoor atmosphere of the amphitheatre. Test your skills and learn something new. (*easy*) (limit 20)

B45 1:30 pm **SHRUB & TREE ID** – Jim Coles

If a tree falls in the forest, can anybody identify it? Using leaf and twig characteristics and botanical keys, you'll learn to identify native conifer and deciduous species common to the Huron Fringe and the role site plays in determining species composition. (*easy*) (limit 20)

Evening

B46 8:00 pm **SUNSET WALK** – Doug Pedwell

End your Festival experience with a leisurely stroll along the shore of Lake Huron. Discover the sights, sounds and scents of an early June evening in MacGregor Point Provincial Park. (*easy*) (limit 20)

2019 FESTIVAL FEES

PACKAGE RATES

Adult: 8 Day Festival \$173 4 Day Weekend \$130 Saturday & Sunday \$82

***Youth:** 8 Day Festival \$86 4 Day Weekend \$65 Saturday & Sunday \$41

**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.)

Half Day Event:	Adult \$22	Youth \$11
All Day Event:	Adult \$44	Youth \$22
Evening Event:	Adult \$10	Youth \$5

Additional fees apply as listed. Fees include Park entrance fee.

**The Huron Fringe Birding Festival uses online registration and payment at:
www.huronfringebirdingfestival.ca**

The program is posted online for viewing January 15, 2019.

Registration opens March 1, 2019.

Questions? - Contact the Registrar at huronfringebirdfest@gmail.com or
phone 519-375-1889

Refund information is available on the website.

FIELD TRIP INFORMATION

- Sturdy **footwear** and **water** is recommended for all outings.
- Black-legged Ticks, carrying Lyme Disease, have been found in Bruce County. Be tick savvy.
- To reduce our carbon footprint, we encourage **car-pooling**. If you are a passenger, please consider giving a donation to the driver on away-from-the-Park trips.
- Bring your own **walkie-talkies** if you have them. Walkie-talkie communication between vehicles keeps you aware of stops, directions, traffic safety and birds along the way.

DIFFICULTY LEVELS

Mobility Limited  - Groomed and maintained trails. Walking with difficulty for any distance.

Easy – Walking leisurely on groomed and maintained trails. Participants should be able to walk up to 1.5 kilometres (1 mile) without any problems.

Moderate – Walking on maintained trails some of which may be rough or rocky. Brisk walking may be required to get from one location to another in a timely manner.

Participants should be able to walk up to 4.5 kilometres (3 miles) without any problems.

Difficult – Walking on trails that have uneven terrain. There may be some walking off trail. Participants should be able to negotiate walking on slippery surfaces, where there is unsure footing or where they are climbing over rocks and logs.

MacGREGOR POINT PROVINCIAL PARK

MacGregor Point Provincial Park's location on the shore of the Lake Huron migration flyway sets the stage for our Festival. Festival headquarters are at the Visitor Centre in the Park, which is located approximately five kilometres south of Port Elgin, Ontario.

The Park address is: MacGregor Point Provincial Park, 1593 Bruce Road 33, Port Elgin, Ontario, Canada N0H 2C5

FRIENDS of MacGREGOR POINT

Friends of MacGregor Point present this Festival as one way to ensure the preservation of the natural legacy of MacGregor Point for future generations.

For information about the Friends and events planned for 2019 visit our website www.friendsofmacgregor.org

Park camping reservations - www.ontarioparks.com
Local tourist information - www.VisitSaugeenShores.ca

The Huron Fringe Birding Festival is presented by the Huron Fringe Birding Festival Committee, Friends of MacGregor Point and MacGregor Point Provincial Park.

We thank our sponsors:

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Please support our Community Sponsors.

Huron Fringe Birding Festival Registration: www.huronfringebirdingfestival.ca
Registration inquiries: huronfringebirdfest@gmail.com or 519-375-1889