



Newsletter

1 May 2021 | Issue 1

Upcoming Events

Check our [Events Calendar](#) often as it's continuously updated with local or online events relating to nature.

Let's Stay Social

Keep in touch during this unique time.



Newsletter contributions

Do you have nature-related stories, news, event details, or photographs you'd like to share with us as we assemble our new club newsletters?

Please send them to naturenanaimo@gmail.com with the subject "Newsletter" and we'll be in touch!

Club Events

Monthly Meeting



Nature Nanaimo's next regular meeting will be held on Thursday, **May 20th at 7pm via Zoom:**

Keeping BC Gypsy Moth Free with Tim Ebata and Jennifer Heron

(BC Ministry of Forests)

Tim will describe the ongoing efforts to keep the highly destructive gypsy moth (both European and Asian) from establishing in B.C. He will discuss the biology, the known ecological and economic impacts, the integrated pest management options...

[Read more](#)

A link to the Zoom meeting will be sent out to club members in advance. If you are not a club member, you can easily [join!](#)

Nature Nanaimo

Presents:

Keeping BC gypsy moth free!

with

Tim Ebata & Jennifer Heron

Thursday May 20th
By Zoom - 7:00 PM



Broom Busting at Buttertubs

Hi Nature Enthusiasts,

It is now an ideal time to tackle invasive scotch broom at buttertubs so we are looking for volunteers for the following two times:

- **Wednesday May 5th from 10AM - noon**
- **Thursday May 6th from 10AM - noon**

You will need a mask, gloves, sequiturs or some other pruning device, and (hopefully) sunscreen. The work is not too difficult- you can work as energetically as you like :-). We will be putting the broom in a pile(s) that the city will pick up later.

We can quite easily maintain physical distancing so everyone can be very safe.

If you are available please let us know - don't forget to indicate which day (or both).

We will be meeting at two different locations so we will send directions to each group.

PLEASE let us know soon if you might be able to join us by emailing naturenanaimo@gmail.com. We need to submit a list of names ahead of time. If you find out later that you can't make it, that is ok - just let us know.

Thanks!!!! -Doug



Nature Nuggets

Identifying Bumble Bees

Bzzzz!

We thought you might enjoy this primer on identifying bumble bees in the Pacific Northwest:

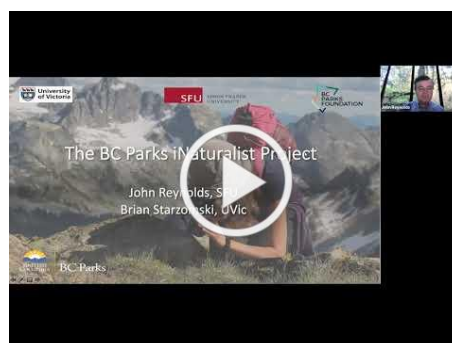


BC Parks iNaturalist Project

This informative video describes **iNaturalist**, and specifically how it is being used to inventory BC Parks.

[VNHS Natural History Night: a recording from April 19, 2021](#)

Thanks to Staffan for sharing!



Monthly Roundup of Nature Events

2021 Invasive Plants Work Parties in Nanaimo

Visit nanaimo.ca/goto/invasives for more information about City of Nanaimo Invasive Plants Work Parties. Note that Nature Nanaimo is also planning a Buttertubs broom busting day in the very near future when the weather looks promising.

2021 INVASIVE PLANTS WORK PARTIES

Let's Pull Together!

Our focus this year is on **English Ivy (Hedera helix)** and **Broom (Cytisus scoparius)**. Attend our upcoming events to learn about these plants and what you can do to fight back!

(Please register for the work parties and drop zones in advance through recreation.nanaimo.ca using the barcodes included below.)

INVASIVE PLANTS WORK PARTIES

- SAT, MAR 13 Broom Removal at **Pipers Lagoon Park**, 10 am-12 pm (#51286)
- THU, APR 15 Broom & Ivy Removal at **Pipers Lagoon Park**, 2:30-4:30 pm (#56231)
- TUE, APR 20 Daphne Removal at **Neck Point Park**, 10 am-12 pm (#56951)
- SAT, MAY 1 **DROP ZONE** at **Linley Gyro** (Linley Valley Dr) & Broom Removal 10 am-2 pm (#56299)
- SAT, MAY 8 Broom & Ivy Removal at **Pipers Lagoon Park**, 10 am-12 pm (#56233)
- THU, MAY 13 Broom & Ivy Removal at **Lotus Pinatus Park**, 10 am-12 pm (#56754)
- SAT, MAY 15 Broom Removal at **Sugarloaf Mountain**, 10 am-12 pm (#56753)
- WED, MAY 26 Broom & Ivy Removal at **Pipers Lagoon Park**, 10 am-12 pm (#56234)
- SAT, MAY 29 **DROP ZONE** at **Bowen Park** (Wall St) & Broom Removal 10 am-2 pm (#56300)

*For more information on work parties in your neighbourhood,
please visit www.broombusters.org*

Got ivy, broom, blackberry or daphne?

BRING IT TO THE DROP ZONE! (Please pre-register)

Available for homeowners to drop off invasive plants for disposal. Bring your bagged or tarped invasives to our drop zones on Saturday, May 1, 10 am- 2 pm at Linley Gyro Park (#56299) & Saturday, May 29, 10 am- 2 pm at Bowen Park Wall Street (#56300).

www.nanaimo.ca/goto/invasives

recreation.nanaimo.ca
250-756-5200



Tofino Shorebird Festival

April 30 – May 2, 2021

From Raincoast Education Society:

The 2021 festival will proceed with consideration of the ongoing COVID-19

pandemic. Please follow our social media channels and sign up for our newsletter for announcements closer to the festival dates about event schedules. Ultimately, health and safety concerns are at the top of our mind.

The birds will be migrating and there will be spectacular opportunities for birding in early May regardless of the festival. As the situation develops we will entertain the possibility of celebrating the shorebirds with small, informal, educational events. We are committed to creating as many opportunities for locals and visitors alike to learn while prioritizing health and safety. Updates will be available through our newsletter and social media channels.

Read more about the festival [here](#).



Yellow Point Ecological Society BioBlitz

The Yellow Point Ecological Society (YES) BioBlitz involving the whole community is coming up on Saturday May 1st, Sunday 2nd and Monday 3rd, 2021.

[Read more](#)

BioBlitz

MAY 1 - 3, 2021

An intense community engagement to identify as many species as possible in a designated area

*BioBlitz orientation meeting
April 27th 7:00pm via Zoom*

*For event and prize details check the BioBlitz
page at yellowpointecologicalsociety.ca*

*or contact Carrie at
yesbioblitz@gmail.com
ph 250 951-3794*



GLOBAL BIG DAY



Participating is fun, easy, and free. Go birding for at least 5 or 10 minutes and report your observations to eBird—if you have more time, submit checklists of birds throughout the day.

Below are some FREE resources to help you make the most of Global Big Day:

- Use [Merlin Bird ID](#) to discover birds around you on Global Big Day. Merlin can also help you to identify mystery birds from a photograph or short description.
- Explore the remarkable life history details of your favorite species with [Birds of the World](#)—FREE during Global Big Day weekend (May 6-9).
- [Get ready for great birdwatching!](#) In this recorded webinar, staff members from the Lab of Ornithology share tools and tips to find more birds.
- Follow along with sightings in real-time on the [Global Big Day results page](#).

[Learn more about Global Big Day](#). Whether you bird from home or somewhere new, you never know what you'll find. Post your favorite moments and photos from 8 May on social media with #GlobalBigDay.

Gull ID - A Virtual Workshop!



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THURSDAY, 13 MAY 2021 AT 19:00 PDT

Gull ID - a Virtual Workshop (Reprise)

Free · Online event

Rocky Point Bird Observatory

From [Facebook Event description](#):

Back by popular demand! Gulls - often termed 'seagulls' by the wider public - are notoriously difficult to tell apart. These identification challenges make them one of the least favorite groups of birds, and often end up in the ignored category, even with experienced birders. The Pacific Northwest takes that to the next level, as hybrid gulls are almost as common as pure ones in this region, and species concepts fade. Joachim has always had a strong interest in the less explored fields of birds and birding and has made it one of his favorite pastimes to scan flocks of gulls while trying to find unity in the variety. He has managed to get a good feel for the taxa that occur on the Westcoast and is eager to share his knowledge with you, as well as what's still to be explored.

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9190112209>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Finding the Mother Tree: A Conversation with Suzanne Simard

A free webinar hosted by Sierra Club BC and Dr. Suzanne Simard
Wednesday, May 19 at 7 – 8:30 p.m. PT

Did you know below the forest floor is an underground world of fungal networks that allow trees to communicate and act as a single being?

Join us for a webinar with TED Speaker and UBC Professor Suzanne Simard to celebrate the launch of her new book, *Finding the Mother Tree*, a moving account of her scientific quest to discover the tree elders that nurture forests in ways that remind us of human families – by caring for each other, sharing food, and sheltering their young.

Following a reading from the book, SCBC will facilitate a discussion and Q&A with Dr. Simard. We will also hear from Kwakwaka'wakw artist Rande Cook and SCBC's Robin Strong and Flossie Baker, who will update attendees on the current old-growth movement in B.C.

[Read more and register here](#)



FINDING THE MOTHER TREE

Discovering the
Wisdom of the Forest

SUZANNE SIMARD

Beaty Biodiversity Museum: ONLINE Nature Club

Join all of the Beaty@Home: Weekly Tour sessions from anywhere around the world at 1:00pm PDT, each week will feature different stories and museum interpreters, sign up directly for each week on our [calendar](#). All you need is an internet connection. You can also call in over telephone, simply register for the Zoom link and the list of numbers.

Events in May:

- Petal Power ([May 2](#))
- Weekly Museum Tour ([May 5](#))
- Researchers Revealed ([May 19](#))
- Earth's Story ([May 26](#))

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