



OUTINGS – Fall 2009

Val Walker, coordinator

Please contact trip leaders before each outing

DATE	LEADER	MEET	OUTING DESCRIPTION
Sat Sept 12	Dave Euler (705) 248-1494	10 am Market Mall	Fall Flowers - Join Dave Euler for a botany hike to study the Fall Flowers of Waste Places. We'll drive west of town to some roadside and open fields to look for the 10 species of <i>Aster</i> and the 7 species of <i>Solidago</i> (golden rod) that have been recorded in the Sault Ste Marie area. Along the way we will look for fall birds (of course) and see how many other species of plants we can find. We will use "A Checklist of Vascular Plants of the Sault Ste. Marie Area" prepared by Gary Rahn, Dieter Ropke, Neil Taylor and Gladys Wallwork in 1996, as well as a variety of other books.
Sat Sept 19	Mark Crofts (705) 254-2356	10:30 am GoodLife Fitness Centre (2 nd Line)	Robertson Cliffs Hike – Join the Voyageur Trail Association for a joint hike to this favourite destination. Fall colours should be close to prime. About 6 km round trip over hilly terrain. Bring lunch & water.
Sun Sept 20	Bonni Mackintosh (906) 322-6288 cell	9 am Michigan Welcome Center	Fungal Foray - Learn some mushroom identification techniques with mycologists Jerry & Sandy Sheine. Bonni Mackintosh will lead the mushroom walk beginning at the Detour Roadside State Park 10:30 am. Those planning to car pool meet @ MWC. Bonni's Detour cottage will be our lunch stop. Bring a lunch and maybe something to share. For more information call Val Walker (705) 253-7044.
Sat Sept 26	Ron Prickett (705) 254-1533	10 am Zellers Plaza North	Orphan Lake Hike – Join Ron for an aerobic workout around the 8 km loop and out to the isolated pebble beach on this, one of the most diverse trails in beautiful Lake Superior Park. Bring a lunch, water & study footwear. The trail begins about 1.5 hours north of the Sault.

Sun Oct 4	Val Walker (705) 253-7044	10 am Wellington Sq. Mall	Bat Cave Hike - Hike the 5 km trail into the Desbarats Bat Cave and view the autumn splendour from atop the cave. Venture into the dark, dank cave and sneak a peak at any bats that may be there. Bring flashlight/headlight & lunch. Approximately 45 minute drive from the Soo.
Sat Oct 10	Dave Euler (705) 248-1494	10 am Wellington Square Mall	Fall Foray- Seems like a good time for a hike to check out Fall colours and watch for birds and plants as they prepare for winter. We'll drive out east of Sault Ste Marie on the Ontario side. We'll stop at the Ropke's cabin and talk about nature. The Gordon Lake area is usually good, as is St Joseph Island. This will be a gentle hike of 4 or 5 kilometres with time to study the forests and pastures as they get ready for winter. Bring a lunch and clothing for the weather and we'll have a good time.
Sat Oct 17	Lucie Gagnon & Robert Yankus (705) 649-4163	10 am Zellers Plaza North	Behind King Mountain Hike – Revel in autumn along the trail to the hidden waterfalls, beaver dams and a breathtaking lookout in this little travelled area. The Algoma Highlands Conservancy (AHC) created the King Mountain Legacy Lands Campaign in order to raise funds to purchase 2600 acres to ensure the long-term protection of this scenic wilderness area. Bring lunch & water, camera. A moderate pace on an undulating trail is expected. Check out the AHC 2008 annual report: http://www.algomahighlandsconservancy.org/pdfs/2008annualreport.pdf
Sat Oct 24	Ev Simon (705) 949-8206	10 am Michigan Welcome Center	North Country Trail Hike – Join Ev & Chuck (maybe) for a casual fall hike along this scenic Michigan trail system. Bring a lunch.
Sat Oct 31	Val Walker (705) 253-7044	9 am Michigan Welcome Center	Purple Coneflower Work Party – The Michigan Nature Association Purple Coneflower Plant Preserve is the only area where the coneflower (<i>Echinacea pallida</i>) grows in the state of Michigan. The flower requires maintenance as encroaching trees and spotted knapweed must be periodically removed to ensure its survival. Club members will be cutting down competing vegetation in the preserve. Please bring appropriate footwear & work gloves; swede saws, sandviks, loppers or pruners suitable to remove up to 3" diameter trees. Hot dogs, water & soft drinks will be provided. The preserve is located approximately 45 minutes south of the Sault off M-123. Please call Val if you plan to attend so we can count out the hot dogs.

Sat Nov 7	Ron Prickett (705) 254-1533	10 am Zellers Plaza North	Crystal Lake Hike – Come out for a hike along the rolling Voyageur Trail system between Thayer’s Acres and Crystal Lake just north of the Soo. The trip will be approximately 8 km in length and begins about 15 minutes north of town. Bring a lunch and dress for changing weather.
Sat Nov 21	Val Walker (705) 253-7044	10 am Market Mall	Prince Township Hike – Check out the trails overlooking the Gros Cap bluffs and maybe we’ll tour down to the Lake Superior shoreline near Betty’s Cove. The hike begins about 20 minutes west of town. The trail can be challenging and we’ll go about 8 km total. Don’t forget your lunch.
Sat Dec 12	Val Walker (705) 253-7044 Coordinator	9:00 am Michigan Welcome Centre	East Lake Hike / Potluck – Join our sister organization the Hiawatha Shore to Shore (HSS) Chapter of the North Country Trail Association for a joint hike near East Lake. Bring a snack for the trail and then join Kay and Stan Kujawa at their home for a potluck holiday get together. Call for more details as the date approaches

For those weekends where no outing is scheduled, please call
 Ron Prickett (705) 254-1533, Ev Simon (705) 949-8206, Chuck (906) 553-6216,
 Carl Linhart(906) 635-9891 or Valerie Walker (705) 253-7044
 and check if an impromptu outing may be planned.

Birding at Point Pelee - annual 4-day birding/camping trip to Point Pelee early in May. Limited number of spaces available. Dates will be finalized in early January 2010. If you are interested please contact Don or Vivian Hall (705) 248-1834.

Outing Guidelines: Sault Naturalist Club

- Please register for all outings by calling the trip leader or an outing committee member. Non-registrants are welcome, but risk being uninformed of the last minute outing changes.
- Dress for the weather and terrain with appropriate clothing and foot wear. Bring snack, water, binoculars, field guides, etc. For daylong excursions, bring lunch and extra water.
- Refer all questions and requests for transportation to the trip leader or a member of the committee.
- If carpooling, please consider assisting the driver with gas costs.
- Inform your leader if you have to leave early, or make any changes to the plan or schedule while on the trip.
- Be aware of those in front and behind. Keep the group together.
- Follow the leader.
- Take out all garbage.
- Do not trespass.
- When carpooling, please consider assisting the driver with gas costs