



## FIELD TRIPS – FALL 2018

Val Walker, coordinator

Please contact trip leaders before each outing

### Saturday, Sept 01

**Thessalon River Paddle** – Avoid holiday traffic and do something local! We'll spot cars and then take a lazy one-way paddle down the Thessalon River starting at Centre Line. We'll paddle the river to Gordon Lake. Then pick up the river again to Ottetail Lake. This will be a day trip of approximately 15 km. Each boat is required to have legislated Ontario boat safety gear (pfd, whistle, throw rope, bailer). Bring a lunch, water, hat and sunscreen

**Leader:** Val Walker (H) 705-253-7044; (C) 705-542-5066 [valwalker8@yahoo.ca](mailto:valwalker8@yahoo.ca)

**Meet:** 9 am @ Wellington Square Mall (near Spirit Halloween)

### Saturday, Sept 08

**Birding Big Day (7am to 4pm)** - Take part in a friendly competition to see who can record the most bird species in a single day. The boundaries on this event are Echo Bay to Thessalon, including all of Highway 638 and St. Joseph Island. Participation is by donation, with proceeds going towards a bird conservation project in the Desbarats area. A potluck will follow at the TKC Conservation Centre in Desbarats. More information, a detailed boundary map, and registration form can be found at [kensingtonconservancy.org/birding-big-day](http://kensingtonconservancy.org/birding-big-day).

**Contact:** Carter Dorscht at The Kensington Conservancy at 705-782-2200 or [carterdorscht.tkc@gmail.com](mailto:carterdorscht.tkc@gmail.com)

### Saturday, Sept 15

**Wild Apple Walk** – *“You pass through this little region possessed by the fragrance of ripe apples, and thus enjoy them without price, and without robbing anybody.”*  
Henry David Thoreau, Wild Apples, November 1862

The plan is to check out the wild apple crop by walking along the Plummer and Centre Line Roads Road near Rydal Bank and reflect on the ideas of Henry David Thoreau's November 1862 essay on *Wild Apples* in **The Atlantic** (1862). Appreciate our Central Algoma wild apples. Nine (9) km walk is along rural roads has a few moderate hills.

Bring a lunch, water (or cider) and a pack. We will start at the Plummer Road at Ottetail Lake and hike to the Centre Line Road just north of the Thessalon River. We will set the group up to car shuttle from the finish back to the start.

*If you are looking for inspiration read the 1862 - 25 page (in three parts) - essay " Wild Apples" by Henry David Thoreau in The Atlantic online*  
[www.theatlantic.com/past/docs/issues/1862nov/186211thoreau.htm](http://www.theatlantic.com/past/docs/issues/1862nov/186211thoreau.htm)

**Leader:** Chuck Miller 705-450-1050 [cmlakehuron@gmail.com](mailto:cmlakehuron@gmail.com)

**Meet:** 10:00 @ Wellington Square (near Spirit Halloween) to car pool **OR** 11:00 @ Rydal Bank Park at the Thessalon River

**Saturday, Sept 22**

**Fungal Foray** - Learn some mushroom identification techniques from Bonni Thoresen beginning at the Detour Roadside State Park at 10:30 am. Those planning to car pool can meet @ MWC. Bonni's Detour cottage will be our lunch stop. Lunch is a pot-luck, so bring something to share.

**Contact:** Val Walker 705-253-7044 [valwalker8@yahoo.ca](mailto:valwalker8@yahoo.ca) or  
Bonni Thoresen 906-322-6288

**Meet:** 09:00 @ Michigan Welcome Center

Canucks meet 08:30 @ casino parking lot to carpool to Michigan

**Sunday, Sept 23**

**Bruce Mines Fall Hawk Migration** – Hawk migration is months long, with American Kestrels beginning to move in late August and the larger birds still moving through in late November. Broad-winged Hawks can be viewed in the thousands this time of year and offers a wonderful spectacle. Bring lunch (or eat in Bruce Mines), water, binoculars, folding chair and spotting scope if you have one. Things should wrap up around 2:30 pm. This event is weather dependent, please contact the leader if you plan to attend.

**Leader:** Carter Dorscht 705-297-0677 [carterdorscht@hotmail.com](mailto:carterdorscht@hotmail.com)

**Meet:** 08:30 @ Wellington Square Mall (near South Market St)

**Saturday, September 29**

**Hike to the Achigan Forest** – The Achigan Forest is an “Enhanced Management Area” created during the “Lands for Life” program developed by the Provincial Government in the early 1990's. Although logging activity was approaching this area from all sides, a coalition of environmentalists suggested that logging stop before it reached this area. The result is an area of old-growth forests representative of the land before intense logging started in the 1880s.

We will meet at Pennington's at 0800 and drive past Searchmont to the start of a 5 kilometer walk into the forest. The last 15 kilometers is on rough logging roads. If you have a Mountain or Fat Tire bike this would be a challenging and fun ride. If you plan on coming please call Dave Euler because we will have to insure that we have enough high clearance vehicles to navigate the logging road, and you will need directions if you bike.

Dress for the weather, bring lunch and water, and prepare for an interesting foray into this unique area. Jeff Hinich, one of the people who suggested that this area be designated an Enhanced Management Area, will accompany us.

**Leader** Dave Euler cell 705-254-8796, home 705 254 1494 [davideuler838@gmail.com](mailto:davideuler838@gmail.com)

**Meet:** 08:00 @ Pennington's

**Saturday, Oct 06**

**Orphan Lake Hike** – Join Ron for a hike around the 8 km (5 mile) loop and out to the isolated pebble beach on this, one of the most diverse trails in beautiful Lake Superior Park. Fall colours hopefully are at their peak. Bring a lunch, water & sturdy footwear. The trailhead begins about 160 km (100 miles) north of the Sault.

**Leader:** Ron Prickett 705-254-1533 [ron\\_prickett@yahoo.ca](mailto:ron_prickett@yahoo.ca)

**Meet:** 09:00 @ Pennington's

**Saturday, Oct 13**

**Robertson Cliffs Hike** – Fall colours and spectacular vistas atop the cliffs are the big features for this hike. We'll check out the falls on the way down as well. The hike is a 6 km loop (3.7 miles) with a long uphill grind to the top. Bring a lunch, water and sturdy hiking boots.

**Leader:** Jeff Robinson 705-945-1414 [jeff\\_robinson@hotmail.com](mailto:jeff_robinson@hotmail.com)

**Meet:** 10:00 @ Pennington's

**Saturday, Oct 20**

**Excursion to Marquette Island** - We have a rare opportunity to be the guests of Bob Dunn and travel by boat to Marquette Island, one of the Les Cheneaux Islands in Michigan. There are three Little Traverse Bay nature preserves located on the island, Aldo Leopold (1683 acres), Seiberling Stewart (192 acres) and Sheppard-Hardy (21.4 acres). This will be a great opportunity to see late summer wildflowers, birds and perhaps mushrooms

**NB-** You are required to **register** for this event. Bring your own life jacket (pfd) and warm jacket. More details to follow closer to the date.

**Contact:** Val Walker (H) 705-253-7044; (C) 705-542-5066 [valwalker8@yahoo.ca](mailto:valwalker8@yahoo.ca)

**Saturday, October 27**

**Bar River Flats Birding** – We will search the Echo Bay and Bar River Flats area for some fall birds. Species like Horned Larks, Lapland Longspurs, American Pipits and Snow Buntings should be in the fields. The outing will finish off by looking for migrating Short-eared Owls at dusk. Binoculars are recommended.

**Leader:** Carter Dorscht [carterdorscht@hotmail.com](mailto:carterdorscht@hotmail.com) 705-297-0677

**Meet:** 3:30pm @ Wellington Square Mall (near South Market St.)

**Saturday, November 03**

**Pancake Lookout** – Hike the trail through a mature maple and yellow birch forest to the lookout platforms for spectacular views over Pancake Bay and west to Whitefish Point. About 7 km long round trip with some climbing. We'll be watching for late mushrooms and signs of wildlife preparing for winter.

Bring a lunch. Pancake Park is about 80 km north of the Sault.

PS- There's no hunting in the Park

**Leader:** Ila Aho 705-949-1097 [ilaaho@hotmail.com](mailto:ilaaho@hotmail.com)

**Meet:** 9:00 am @ Pennington's

**Saturday, November 10**

**Hike the North Country Trail** – Join our sister club, the Hiawatha Shore to Shore Chapter of the North Country Trail, and hike the scenic 5 mile section along Trout Brook Pond (only the pond is no longer) and Biscuit Creek (west of Rudyard, Mi). Bring a lunch, water. Dress for changing conditions. We will gather at an establishment suitable for refreshment and refueling after the hike.

**For details contact:** Val Walker 705-253-7044 [valwalker8@yahoo.ca](mailto:valwalker8@yahoo.ca)

**Saturday, November 17**

**Downtown Sault Ste. Marie, ON Birding** – We will explore the St. Marys River waterfront for waterfowl, gulls and whatever other birds we come across. We will start at Bellevue Park, then travel to Whitefish Island, potentially stopping at some of the river's vantage points in between. Binoculars are recommended, but if you own a spotting scope, that will be even better.

**Leader:** Carter Dorscht [carterdorscht@hotmail.com](mailto:carterdorscht@hotmail.com) 705-297-0677

**Meet:** 09:00 @ Bellevue Park (by entrance to Topsail Island)

**Saturday, November 24**

**Hiawatha / Odena Loop Hike** – We'll see how far we get depending on river crossings but it's about 8 km (5 miles) on an undulating and scenic trail just north of town. Bring lunch & water and dress for changing conditions.

**Leader:** Val Walker 705-253-7044 [valwalker8@yahoo.ca](mailto:valwalker8@yahoo.ca)

**Meet:** 10:00 @ Pennington's

**Saturday, Dec 15**

**Sault Ste. Marie Christmas Bird Count** - Take part in observing and recording birds in an assigned area in and around the twin Soos or sign up to be a feeder watcher at your backyard feeder. For further information or to sign up, please contact **Dave Euler**

at [daveeuler838@gmail.com](mailto:daveeuler838@gmail.com) or 705-248-1494 or **Carter Dorscht** at [carterdorscht@hotmail.com](mailto:carterdorscht@hotmail.com) or 705-297-0677.

**Saturday, Dec 29**

**Desbarats Christmas Bird Count** - Take part in the Desbarats Christmas Bird Count, sponsored by The Kensington Conservancy. Participants can either be field observers or feeder watchers. For more information or to sign up, please contact **Carter Dorscht** at [carterdorscht.tkc@gmail.com](mailto:carterdorscht.tkc@gmail.com), 705-782-2200 (office) or 705-257-5199 (cell).

**Outing Guidelines: Sault Naturalist Club**

- Please register for all outings by calling the trip leader.
- Be realistic regarding the nature of the outings and your physical capabilities.
- Dress for the weather and terrain with appropriate clothing and foot wear.
- Bring snacks, lunch and water.
- Insect repellent is recommended for trips in May and June.
- Refer all questions and requests for transportation to the trip leader.
- If carpooling, please assist the driver with gas costs.
- Inform your leader ahead of time 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.
- Unless the outing leader indicates otherwise, picking or otherwise damaging living things is not permitted. Leaders *may* make exceptions in cases like invasive species, small portions of large plants or fungi.
- Please leave pets at home.
- Take out all garbage.
- Do not trespass.

