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INTRODUCING THAMES TALBOT LAND TRUST



Bill Grant

Thames Talbot Land Trust (TTLT) protects and restores nature within Elgin, Middlesex, Oxford, and Perth counties and the City of London, in the current and traditional territories of Indigenous Peoples including Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabeg, Lenapeewak, Attawandaron, and Wendat Peoples.

With a focus on healthy habitats for wildlife, our work also contributes to human well-being and helps address climate change. TTLT safeguards land through purchase, donation or by special agreements, and cares for the land through conservation and restoration initiatives. TTLT also hosts events and programs aimed at nurturing people's connection to nature to inspire wonder, promote well-being, and increase support for these protected areas.

Since 2000, TTLT has protected more than 863 ha (2132 ac) of land across 26 sites and counting. Our reserves include wetlands, forests, meadows, agricultural lands and the homes of more than 60 species at risk. We recognize that these lands have been cared for and remain under the care of Indigenous Peoples from time immemorial. We aim to work in the spirit and practice of reconciliation and we are honoured to take part in sustaining and nurturing nature in this region.

Meet our new partner

WILKINSON ROGERS LLP IS PLEASED TO
ANNOUNCE **KEVIN JOHNSON**, CPA, CA, LPA,
AS OUR NEWEST PARTNER.

Kevin was born and raised in London.
A graduate of Western University,
Kevin obtained his Chartered Accountant
professional designation in 2008.
With over 20 years of accounting experience,
Kevin joined Wilkinson Rogers LLP in 2020,
quickly becoming an integral part of our
team and provides exceptional service
to a wide range of valued clients.

Kevin is a positive influence in the
community promoting youth athletic
development, coaching several teams,
and is dedicated to the contributions and
support of our team of professionals.

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Wilkinson Rogers LLP is a Chartered Professional Accounting Firm specializing in servicing small- to medium-sized, owner-managed businesses and not-for-profit organizations in London and the surrounding area, since 1949. First, and foremost, team members establish a trusting relationship with each client by fully understanding their business.

Visit us at: wilkinsonrogers.com

WELCOME TO TTLT'S PASSPORT TO NATURE

How to Participate

1. Review Events (starting on page 10)

There are many ways to enjoy nature, including walking, birdwatching, taking photos, finding flowers, practicing yoga, or just relaxing. At TTLT, we want to provide opportunities for you to connect with the wonderful world around you.

All Passport to Nature events are free but require registration. Many are outdoors with limited spots, but some are webinars. Registration opens one month before each event.

2. Register

Go to www.ttlc.ca, click on "Upcoming Events," look for Passport to Nature and select the event of your choice. You will receive a confirmation email upon registering. Please check the box to subscribe to our email list. This will ensure that you will receive event-specific details the day before the event.

If you have difficulty with registration, please email info@ttlca.ca or phone 519-858-3442.

3. Attend

Attend the event, enjoy and learn. For in-person events, don't forget to bring water, appropriate clothing, sturdy footwear, and protection against biting insects. **Please leave pets at home.**

4. Share

Share your experience by tagging us in your photos on social media with #TTLTPassport or send them to info@ttlca.ca.

5. Cancellation

If you must cancel, please let us know as soon as possible. Click the cancellation link in your confirmation email, call us at 519-858-3442, or email us at info@ttlca.ca. This will allow someone else to take your place.



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HEALTH AND SAFETY IN THE FIELD

Safety Tips

Please be safe when visiting our nature reserves!

- Cover up! A hat, long sleeves, and long pants are the first line of protection from sun and insects.
- Use sunscreen to protect exposed skin.
- Use an insect repellent that contains “DEET” or “icaridin” on skin and clothing. Always read the directions on the label.
- Wear closed-toed shoes to protect your feet.
- Carry lots of water and snacks.
- Stay on marked trails.



STAY SAFE
IN THE FIELD

Ticks and Lyme Disease

At any TTLT nature reserve, you may encounter ticks that can carry Lyme disease. To stay safe, please use the following precautions recommended by the Ontario government, in addition to those noted above.

- Wear light-coloured clothing, so it's easier to see ticks; wear long pants, tucked into your socks.
- Consider wearing special clothing designed to repel ticks.
- Check your body thoroughly for ticks after being outdoors, as promptly removing ticks can help prevent infection.
- When you get home, put your clothes in the dryer on high heat for 10 minutes to kill any ticks that might be in your clothing.

For more information, visit:

www.ontario.ca/page/lyme-disease

You should consult a health care professional right away if you have been somewhere that ticks might live and experience any of the following symptoms: rash, fever, chills, headache, stiff neck, muscle aches and joint pains, fatigue (more tired than usual), swollen lymph nodes, spasms, numbness or tingling, facial paralysis.



AVOID BITES
FROM TICKS
WHICH MAY
CARRY LYME
DISEASE

WHAT IS A LAND TRUST

Land Trusts in Ontario

Thames Talbot Land Trust (TTLT) is one of 35 conservation land trusts in Ontario. Together, these organizations protect more than 47,000 hectares (117,000 acres) of land. As not-for-profit, charitable organizations, they act to conserve lands of significant natural, scenic, agricultural or cultural value.

Being private entities, with no government authority or power, land trusts offer an appealing alternative for land protection, and attract a wide range of donors and volunteers. Land trusts secure land by purchase or donation or through conservation easement agreements. Land trusts care for the land in ways that protect its natural values.

More About Thames Talbot Land Trust

We Protect Lands, Habitat and Natural Heritage

With the help of passionate volunteers and supporters, we have created a growing network of nature reserves, protecting and conserving our natural heritage. We work with landowners, donors and other organizations to permanently protect significant habitats, ecosystems, agricultural lands, and places for species at risk. In 2022, TTLT protected three new nature reserves – Boview Farm, Auzins Nature Sanctuary, and Deer Haven.

We Restore Ecosystems

We create healthy habitats for all species, including some of Canada's rarest, by planting native plants, managing non-native species, and creating and restoring wetland and meadow habitats. In this way, and through species surveys, mapping and monitoring, we provide native plants and wildlife with opportunities to survive and thrive. Restoration activities provide many opportunities for volunteers to roll up their sleeves and help.

We Nurture a Love of Nature

We love sharing our love of nature. TTLT offers a variety of events and programs to encourage natural connections, to enhance understanding and to stimulate curiosity about the natural world. Through guided nature hikes, interpretive signage, webinars and skill-building workshops, we strive to share our knowledge, experience and love of nature with everyone. Volunteers play important roles in carrying our message into the community.

Explore and connect with nature by visiting TTLT nature reserves that are open to the public

- Meadowlily Nature Preserve
- Joany's Woods
- Five Points Forest - Driedger Tract
- Wardsville Woods
- Sittler Woods
- Hawk Cliff Woods
- Tiedje Woods

There is Much More to be Done

While TTLT has achieved a great deal in its first 22 years, pressures on natural lands are greater than ever. Decisions we make today will greatly impact our planet's future. To ensure a livable planet for us and future generations we need to protect the nature we still have, restore what we have lost and ensure everyone in our communities has a chance to fall in love with nature. Working together we can build greener and healthier landscapes so all living beings can thrive.

For more information on how you can help, please speak to our staff or visit our website at www.ttl.ca.

Get Out, Get Active, Be Healthy in Woodstock!

The City of Woodstock has many different trails to explore. Please come, visit, and enjoy!

www.cityofwoodstock.ca/trails



PASSPORT TO JOANY'S WOODS

Wildflower Walk

**With David Wake and
Winifred Wake at Joany's Woods**

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Spring wildflower season is an exciting time to explore TTLT's largest nature reserve, Joany's Woods near Parkhill. The display of native wildflowers features many sizes, colours and forms. Varied topography creates numerous microhabitats. These range from ridges and slopes in upland hardwoods to hummocks and flowing water in forested wetlands. Naturalists David and Winifred Wake will introduce you to the rich biodiversity of this section of the Ausable River corridor. Be prepared for muddy conditions.



**Saturday,
May 6, 2023
10am-12pm**

Registration is required and spaces are limited. Event may be subject to change or postponement due to unforeseen circumstances. Directions and additional information will be provided at time of registration, which opens April 6, 2023 at www.ttl.t.ca.



St. Clair Region
Conservation Authority

205 Mild Pond Crescent
Strathroy, ON
N7G 3P9

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F: 519-245-3348

www.scrca.on.ca

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PASSPORT TO SITLER WOODS

Catching Warbler Neck – Watching Spring Migrants With Mhairi McFarlane at Sitler Woods

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Join Dr. Mhairi McFarlane to search for spring birds in Sitler Woods and the adjacent county forest near Newbury in Southwest Middlesex. She will share some tips and tricks about identification, ethical fieldcraft and documenting and sharing your observations. Be prepared for a short roadside hike, and/or a short in-forest hike. Some sections of the trail may be wet and muddy. This event is intended for intermediate and advanced birders.

Registration is required and spaces are limited. Event may be subject to change or postponement due to unforeseen circumstances. Directions and additional information will be provided at time of registration, which opens April 7, 2023 at www.ttlit.ca.



Help London compete in the City Nature Challenge!

From April 28 to May 1,
make observations of wild plants,
animals and fungi and upload
the information into iNaturalist.

Check out CNCLdnOnt.ca and follow
[@CNCLdnOnt](https://twitter.com/CNCLdnOnt) on social media for
more details and a schedule of events!

**Friday, April 28 to
Monday, May 1, 2023**



Erik Vasseur

GARLIC MUSTARD PULL & THAMES RIVER CLEAN UP AT MEADOWLILY NATURE PRESERVE AND URBAN ROOTS

Saturday, May 27, 2023

DROP-IN, NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED

See the immediate impacts your actions can make by helping us remove Garlic Mustard and clean up garbage! Help us to pull Garlic Mustard from the forest at Meadowlily Nature Preserve and Urban Roots to allow native plants room to grow, and clean up garbage along the river between the Meadowlily and Highbury bridges to keep our waterways clean. Enjoy a lovely spring hike while you are there. This event is hosted in partnership with Urban Roots and Antler River Rally.



TTLT Staff

GARLIC MUSTARD PULL AT FIVE POINTS FOREST – DRIEDGER TRACT

**Saturday, June 3, 2023
10am–1pm**

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Help clear Garlic Mustard from the forest and allow native plants room to grow. Enjoy a lovely spring hike while you are there.



David Wake

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AT THE UTRCA WATERSHED CONSERVATION CENTRE

**Wednesday, June 7, 2023,
6:30pm–8:30pm**

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Join members and supporters for TTLT's annual meeting, social time and light refreshments. This will be a hybrid meeting, meaning you can join in-person or via Zoom. All are welcome to attend, but only members may vote and put forth motions.

PASSPORT TO MEADOWLILY NATURE PRESERVE

Yoga in Nature

**With Leigh Shand at
Meadowlily Nature Preserve**

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Nature and yoga have many benefits for the mind, body and soul, so it makes sense to combine the two.

Join Leigh Shand, Certified Holistic Practitioner and nature lover, for a 45-minute yoga practice at either of two sessions, starting at 9 am or at 10 am. We will meet in a quiet meadow next to the Thames River in the Meadowlily Nature Preserve in southeast London.

Please bring your own mat, comfortable exercise clothing and a reusable water bottle. No experience required. Namaste.

Registration is required and spaces are limited. Event may be subject to change or postponement due to unforeseen circumstances. Directions and additional information will be provided at time of registration, which opens May 11, 2023 at www.ttlf.ca.



Sarah Hodgkiss

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LEIGH  SHAND

PASSPORT TO MEADOWLILY NATURE PRESERVE

Butterfly Catch and Release With Nusha Keyghobadi at Meadowlily Nature Preserve

DROP-IN, REGISTRATION NOT REQUIRED

Join Dr. Nusha Keyghobadi and students from her Western University lab for a morning drop-in session. Learn about butterflies and how to catch them with a net. After gently observing your catches up close, watch them flutter away as you release them. On your way in/out of the meadow, play some nature bingo and learn about some cool plants. Make some native wildflower seed balls to attract butterflies to your yard at home. All ages are welcome!

This is a DROP-IN event. Registration is not required but is greatly appreciated. Event may be subject to change or postponement due to unforeseen circumstances. Additional information and registration will be available May 24, 2023 at www.ttlit.ca.



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PASSPORT TO MEADOWWOODS

Dragonflies, Butterflies and Other Insects With Stan Caveney at MeadowWoods

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Join entomologist Stan Caveney for a hike through the forests, wetlands, and regenerating meadows of MeadowWoods nature reserve in West Elgin. Encounter an amazing array of dragonflies, butterflies and other insects and learn about their fascinating adaptations. This magnificent reserve is also home to more than 200 species of birds and a diversity of mammals, reptiles, and amphibians. Since MeadowWoods is normally closed to the public, this is a rare opportunity to visit it with the person who knows it best.

Registration is required and spaces are limited. Event may be subject to change or postponement due to unforeseen circumstances. Directions and additional information will be provided at time of registration, which opens June 8, 2023 at www.ttlit.ca.



Saturday,
July 8, 2023
1pm-3pm

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PASSPORT TO HAWK CLIFF WOODS

Meadow Restoration With Will Van Hemessen at Hawk Cliff Woods

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

We will explore a restored meadow and learn some of the native wildflowers that have been established here. Come learn about showy native wildflowers that host a diversity of native pollinators and other insects. We'll also talk about meadow ecology and the importance of open-country habitats for birds, insects and other wildlife. Hawk Cliff Woods is near Port Stanley.



Sunday,
July 30, 2023
10am-12pm

Registration is required and spaces are limited. Event may be subject to change or postponement due to unforeseen circumstances. Directions and additional information will be provided at time of registration, which opens June 30, 2023 at www.ttlf.ca.

Georgia Kortas, J.D.

welcomes
your inquiries at:



Thomson Mahoney Delorey LLP

145 Wharncliffe Rd. S.
London, Ontario N6J 2K4

519-673-1151 ext. 251
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Contact Georgia at Thomson Mahoney
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David Wake

NATIVE WILDFLOWER GARDENING AT HAWK CLIFF WOODS

Thursday, July 13, 2023
10am-1pm

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

The Auzins Community Wildflower Garden at Hawk Cliff Woods is a demonstration site for native plant gardening. It is also a source of seeds for people who want to grow native plants in their own gardens. Join us for some garden maintenance, primarily weeding and keeping the trail clear. We can supply gloves, knee pads, and tools, but we encourage you to bring your own if you are able.



TTLT Staff

TTLT VOLUNTEER ORIENTATION AT WESTMINSTER PONDS CENTRE

Thursday, August 10, 2023
7pm-9pm

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

We're looking for volunteers who want to make a difference by helping us protect, restore, and nurture nature! Learn about the possibilities available through our Stewardship, Outreach, and Office volunteer programs. Simultaneous back-to-back sessions let you explore the options and choose what interests you the most!



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PASSPORT TO HAWK CLIFF WOODS

Forest Therapy Walk

**With Forest Therapy
Guide Katie Jeresky at
Hawk Cliff Woods**

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Relax and reconnect with nature while enjoying a gentle, slow-paced Forest Therapy Walk in beautiful Hawk Cliff Woods nature reserve. This walk provides opportunities to pause, explore and discover new perspectives. A series of sensory-oriented invitations will nourish a deeper appreciation for the natural world. Take time to connect with the season, forest, wildflowers and wildlife at Hawk Cliff Woods near Port Stanley.



Sarah Hodgkiss

**Saturday
August 19,
2023
9am-11am &
12pm-2pm**

Registration is required and spaces are limited. Event may be subject to change or postponement due to unforeseen circumstances. Directions and additional information will be provided at time of registration, which opens July 19, 2023 at www.ttl.ca.

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PASSPORT TO SITLER WOODS

Tree ID and Forest Health

**With Donald Craig at
Sitler Woods**

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

The Carolinian Zone of southwestern Ontario is home to a great diversity of tree species. Join Donald Craig, a professional forester with over 40 years of experience, for a leisurely walk in the woods. He will help us identify different trees and also explain how diseases, insects, invasive plants and other factors affect our native trees and forests.

Sitler Woods, located in the heart of the Skunk's Misery forest complex near Wardsville, features Carolinian species such as Tuliptree and Sassafras. Trails may be wet or muddy—choose appropriate footwear.

Registration is required and spaces are limited. Event may be subject to change or postponement due to unforeseen circumstances. Directions and additional information will be provided at time of registration, which opens August 9, 2023 at www.ttlf.ca



David Wake

**Saturday,
September 9,
2023
1pm–3pm**

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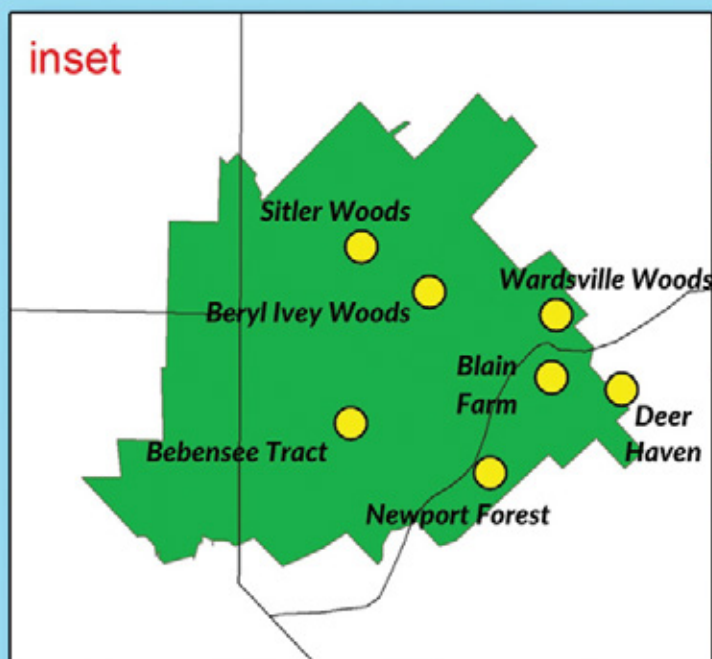
Purchase Online Starting May 1

(Seasons pass valid for one vehicle, or up to four people walking or biking)

TTLT NATURE RESERVES

Lake Huron

inset



402

LAMBTON

CHATHAM-KENT

see inset

401

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PASSPORT TO JOANY'S WOODS

Forest Trail Run

**With Adrienne James
at Joany's Woods**

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

On a fresh September morning, bring your friends and join Adrienne James for a run on the 9 km of forest paths in Joany's Woods nature reserve near Parkhill. To accommodate everyone from beginners to seasoned trail runners, Adrienne and her dad have planned optional routes covering 3, 6, 8 and 16 km. Runners will follow a series of trails and boardwalks through meadow, riverside and upland and lowland forested habitats.



**Saturday,
September 16,
2023
10am-12pm**

Registration is required and spaces are limited. Event may be subject to change or postponement due to unforeseen circumstances. Directions and additional information will be provided at time of registration, which opens August 16, 2023 at www.ttlit.ca.




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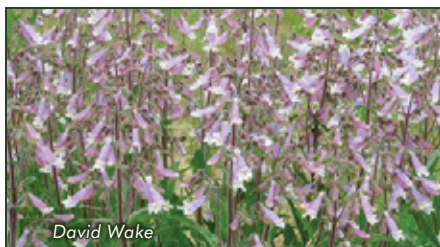
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David Wake

NATIVE WILDFLOWER GARDENING AT HAWK CLIFF WOODS

Friday, September 22, 2023,
1pm–4pm

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

The Auzins Community Wildflower Garden at Hawk Cliff Woods is a demonstration site for native plant gardening. It is also a source of seeds for people who want to grow native plants in their own gardens. Join us for some garden maintenance, primarily weeding and keeping the trail clear. We can supply gloves, knee pads, and tools, but we encourage you to bring your own if you are able.



Rob Paterson

HAWK CLIFF WOODS MIGRATION WEEKEND

Saturday, September 23 and
Sunday, September 24, 2023

DROP-IN,
REGISTRATION NOT REQUIRED

This free outdoor event is hosted in partnership with St. Thomas Field Naturalist Club, Hawk Cliff Raptor Banders, and volunteers of Monarch Watch. Learn about migrating raptors and Monarch butterflies with opportunities to see the birds and butterflies up close!



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PASSPORT TO NEWPORT FOREST

Fungi in the Forest

**With Greg Thorn at
Newport Forest**

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Mushrooms, the fruiting bodies of fungi, come in a variety of forms and play diverse roles in our ecosystems. Most familiar is the process of decay, which recycles nutrients from one generation of plants and other organisms to the next. Some fungi provide nutrients and water to the roots of plants. Others help regulate numbers of insects. Southern Ontario is well-known for its high diversity of fungi. Come on a brief exploration of fungi with mushroom biologist Dr. Greg Thorn. The event will be held in the riparian forest along the Deshkan Ziibi, or Thames River, at Newport Forest, near Wardsville.

Registration is required and spaces are limited. Event may be subject to change or postponement due to unforeseen circumstances. Directions and additional information will be provided at time of registration, which opens September 15, 2023 at www.ttlf.ca.



David Wake

**Sunday
October 15,
2023
1pm–3pm**



David Wake

NATIVE WILDFLOWER GARDENING AT HAWK CLIFF WOODS

Tuesday, October 17, 2023, 1pm–4pm

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

The Auzins Community Wildflower Garden at Hawk Cliff Woods is a demonstration site for native plant gardening. It is also a source of seeds for people who want to grow native plants in their own gardens. Join us for some garden maintenance, primarily weeding and keeping the trail clear. We can supply gloves, knee pads, and tools, but we encourage you to bring your own if you are able.

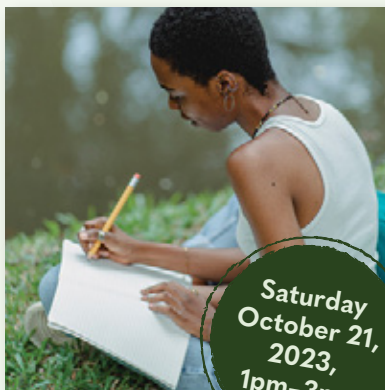
PASSPORT TO HAWK CLIFF WOODS

Nature-inspired Writing With Tom Cull at Hawk Cliff Woods

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Bring your writing tools (pens/pencils/notebook/technology) and creativity to the Auzins Community Wildflower Garden at Hawk Cliff Woods. Tom Cull (author/poet) will guide you through an ecology-inspired writing journey. Discover your writing voice through an immersive experience grounded in geographical place and the flora and fauna that live there. Using the power of the written word, investigate your place in and connection to nature. Writers of all ages and stages are welcome.

Registration is required and spaces are limited. Event may be subject to change or postponement due to unforeseen circumstances. Directions and additional information will be provided at time of registration, which opens September 21, 2023 at www.tlft.ca.



Saturday
October 21,
2023,
1pm–3pm

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A photograph of a man and a woman smiling and embracing each other. The man is wearing a grey jacket and the woman is wearing a dark jacket.

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PASSPORT TO RIDGEVIEW WETLANDS

Maples and Mastodons With Earth Scientist Desmond Moser at Five Points Forest

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

The Ridgeview Wetlands portion of Five Points Forest flanks a ridge of coarse, glacially deposited sediment laid down when mastodons roamed nearby. While learning about today's diverse ecosystem, we will take a walk through time, seeing evidence left by retreating ice lobes, and their rising and falling lakes. Enjoy a cornucopia of fall Carolinian colours on a land conceived of continental changes, stewarded by Indigenous peoples, and still holding its earthly beauty.

Registration is required and spaces are limited. Event may be subject to change or postponement due to unforeseen circumstances. Directions and additional information will be provided at time of registration, which opens September 22, 2023 at www.ttlf.ca.



Cathy Quinlan

Sunday,
October 22,
2023
10am-12pm



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Daria Koscinski

SEED COLLECTING AT WARDSVILLE WOODS

Saturday, October 28, 2023,
1pm–4pm

NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Help us collect seeds from native wildflowers and grasses for use in restoration projects. We'll provide training in seed head identification, so no prior knowledge or experience is needed (although experts are welcome too!). You're also welcome to take seeds home to use in your own garden or restoration project.



Proud to support local conservation efforts



Peggy Sattler
MPP London West

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HABITAT RESTORATION THROUGH REMOVING NON-NATIVE PLANTS AT HAWK CLIFF WOODS

Saturday, November 18, 2023, 1pm–4pm

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Skip the gym and help us remove woody invasive species from Hawk Cliff Woods. We will remove shrubs such as Autumn Olive, Buckthorn, Honeysuckle, and Multiflora Rose to give native species space to thrive and grow. Training, safety equipment, and tools will be provided.

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PASSPORT TO WESTMINSTER PONDS CENTRE

Backyard Birding

**With Jeff Lee, Manager
Wild Birds Unlimited at
Westminster Ponds Centre**

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Grab your hot beverage of choice, your favourite pair of binoculars, and get bundled up for some birdwatching at the Westminster Ponds Centre bird feeders. Suitable for all ages and skill levels, this event will highlight some of the common backyard birds that tough out the winter cold, frequent our bird feeders, and bring life to snowy trees. From the brightly coloured Northern Cardinal to the cute Dark-eyed Junco, sharpen your birding knowledge and enjoy some quality family time birdwatching. Please note, the Bruce Pavilion will be open, so you can warm up inside.

Registration is required and spaces are limited. Event may be subject to change or postponement due to unforeseen circumstances. Directions and additional information will be provided at time of registration, which opens October 19, 2023 at www.ttlf.ca.



Brenda Gallagher

Sunday,
November 19,
2023
10am-12pm



Nature London

Join us as we preserve and enjoy nature



Available from our website:
www.naturelondon.com



PASSPORT TO MEADOWLILY NATURE PRESERVE

Buds and Bark

With Bernie VanDenBelt

REGISTRATION REQUIRED
BRING YOUR OWN SNOWSHOES

While the leaves of trees command our attention much of the year, their absence in winter brings buds and bark into greater prominence. Dust off your snowshoes and join retired educator and tree enthusiast Bernie VanDenBelt for a leisurely mid-winter exploration of TTLT's Meadowlily Nature Preserve in southeast London. The route will include some areas often overlooked by hikers. In addition to using buds and bark for tree identification, we will watch for other wintry wonders of nature. The hike will go ahead even if there is insufficient snow.

Registration is required and spaces are limited. Event may be subject to change or postponement due to unforeseen circumstances. Directions and additional information will be provided at time of registration, which opens December 20, 2023 at www.ttl.t.ca.



Saturday,
January 20,
2024
1pm-3pm



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PASSPORT WEBINAR

Wonders of Our Universe

With Ryan Fraser – online

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

One of the most glorious aspects of nature is revealed as the stars, planets and Milky Way parade across our night skies. Join astrophotographer Ryan Fraser for a view of our solar system, galaxy and the universe beyond. We'll show you how you can enjoy the night sky on any budget and how to take spectacular photos of space from your backyard. We will also talk about the importance of minimizing light pollution, and what we can do as individuals and communities to ensure that the beauty of space is available to all in the future.



Thursday,
February 8,
2024
7pm

Registration is required for this free online event and opens January 8, 2024 at www.ttl.ca.



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PASSPORT TO WESTMINSTER PONDS CENTRE

The Mysteries of Owl Pellets With Luke King at Westminster Ponds Centre

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Put on your detective hat!
After digesting its meal, an owl
coughs up dry pellets* of compacted
fur, feathers, and bone fragments.
Learn how to dissect an owl pellet to
solve the mystery of what the owl has
been eating. Find out how researchers
use these pellets to collect important information about
owls and their prey. Plus, learn about other aspects
of an owl's life story. All ages are welcome.

**Pellets have been heat treated to remove insects or potentially harmful bacteria.*

Registration is required and spaces are limited. Event may be subject to change
or postponement due to unforeseen circumstances. Directions and additional
information will be provided at time of registration, which opens February 12, 2024
at www.ttlit.ca.



David Wake

Tuesday,
March 12,
2024
10am-12pm



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healthy and pristine:
london.ca/ESA



FEATURED NATURE RESERVE

Five Points Forest – Ridgeview Wetlands

Acquired in early 2023, the 13-ha Ridgeview Wetlands is the latest addition to TTLT's nature reserves in the Five Points Woods wetland complex. When combined with existing TTLT holdings including Driedger Tract (30 ha) and Ross's Woods (23 ha), the area protected now totals 79 ha. This is nearly one-third of the entire Five Points complex, which covers more than 178 ha, straddling the border of Middlesex and Oxford counties near Putnam.



Situated on the Ingersoll Moraine, Ridgeview Wetlands consists of a diverse mix of wooded ridges surrounding lowland habitat. The upland forest features Black Cherry, American Beech, and hickories as well as White Pine and Eastern Hemlock. Lowland areas are dominated by Silver Maple. The woodlands provide habitat for area-sensitive birds, including some at-risk species. The seep-fed wetlands include open ponds and are important for amphibians and turtles.



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TESTIMONIALS

Forest Immersion Walk

“I just wanted to express my gratitude for offering the Forest Immersion Walk. Katie led us through such a peaceful, beautiful experience communing with nature at your property Hawk Cliff Woods.”

— 2022 Event Participant

“I loved the Forest Immersion Walk last Sunday! Just thinking about it relaxes me and puts a smile on my face. I will walk through a forest now with a different mindset and be much more aware of the sights, the sounds, the feel, and the taste. Thank you so much for this opportunity and providing such a wonderful leader — she was amazing and set us all at ease.”

— 2022 Event Participant



Sarah Hodgkiss



David Wake

Geology and Geography of Southwestern Ontario

“Desmond is extremely knowledgeable and passionate about the field of Geology. His enthusiasm is contagious. During our field trip he brought the ancient history below our feet to life.”

— 2022 Event Participant



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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Please consider supporting our sponsors. The 42 individuals, businesses, and organizations identified in this booklet make it possible for Thames Talbot Land Trust (TTLT) to present the free activities in the Passport to Nature program. Their support also helps TTLT to protect, restore and nurture native species and habitats. We extend our thanks for their generosity and hope that you will “Shop Local. Support Local.”

We express special gratitude to the event leaders, presenters, and other volunteers who share their time and expertise with our Passport to Nature participants. These are the people who create the fascinating free events that provide insight into nature in all four seasons. TTLT also extends its sincere appreciation to the photographers who have provided the images that illustrate this Passport booklet.

Throughout the year, TTLT’s dedicated staff supports the Passport program in many ways, including program administration, participant registration, communications, and preparing the sites.

It takes a great deal of creativity, organization, and volunteer effort to plan and deliver the events in this booklet. Special thanks are due to the Passport to Nature working group: André Lachance, Bernie VanDenBelt, Darby Alderson, Daria Koscinski, David Wake, Glenn Berry, Ric Symmes, Terry Grawey, Vicki Hammond, and Zachary Anderson.



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