



ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

THURSDAY, JULY 12TH, 2:00 P.M.

Room #304, City Hall

AGENDA

1. Disclosures of Interest
2. Confirmation of Minutes : May 10, 2018
3. Overview of KCCA Environmental Policies / Interests – B. McClure
4. Overview – Legal Status of City Lands – John Sanders, City Solicitor
5. Discussion of Lake Margaret tour observations
6. New Business
7. Correspondence
 - a) Promotion Activities in and around Lake Margaret – David Collins **Pages 2-6**
8. Adjournment
9. Next Meeting : August 9, 2018 at 2:00 p.m. in Room #304

City of St. Thomas
Received

JUL 03 2018

City Clerks Dept.

Mayor Heather Jackson
Chair
Environmental Stewardship Committee

The following are submitted for inclusion in the Petitions and Communications section of the agenda for the meeting of July 12, 2018

The following four ideas are presented to the Environmental Stewardship Committee for their consideration for activities to promote in and around Lake Margaret. They are worthy of consideration as they promote the natural conservation of this truly remarkable gem in our city and foster educational activities.

I wish to thank the editorial staff at AE Media for their latest edition of "Summer in ELGIN" where these four ideas were initially published.

Thank you
David Collins

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Collins', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

2017 WINNER Chasing Sunrise by Cheryl DeSutter

summer photography contest

1st Prize \$50
2nd Prize \$30 | **3rd Prize \$20**

Photos to be taken and submitted
between July 1 - Sept. 30, 2018

*WHAT TO ENTER: Scenes or subjects of the region (eastern Elgin, southern Oxford, western Norfolk) produced by people (photographers) of the region.
No restrictions as to camera type • Colour or black & white • Limited editing.*


bayhampov@yahoo.ca • Facebook: Photographers of the Otter Valley

Photographers of the Otter Valley Elgin County Library
AYLMER EXPRESS

Winners will be announced in the Aylmer Express and displayed at Stratford City Library

Summer 2018 | inELGIN 53

What a great idea to promote in St. Thomas. Encourage adults and children to take photos of the natural surroundings at Lake Margaret. Partner with the St. Thomas Elgin Art Centre to host a display of the photographs and ask Laura Woermke to act as the judge. We will be very happy to donate the equivalent prize money as above for adult and 18 and under categories.



Why not walk?

Discover a trail near you!

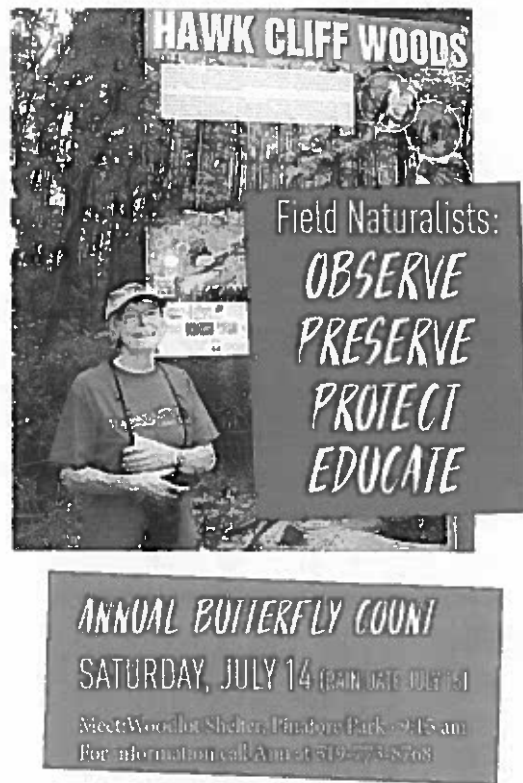
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ST. THOMAS
and Elgin County
dt
DRYDEN TARRY
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HOMES
Elgin
Public Health

This project was made possible in part through funding from the Public Health Agency of Canada.

18 inELGIN | Summer 2018

Please note the sponsors at the bottom of the picture.



HAWK CLIFF WOODS

Field Naturalists:
**OBSERVE
PRESERVE
PROTECT
EDUCATE**

ANNUAL BUTTERFLY COUNT
SATURDAY, JULY 14 (RAIN DATE JULY 15)
Meet: Woodlot Shelter, Pinetown Park - 9:15 am
For information call Ann at 519-273-8768

SUMMER FUN

The St. Thomas Field Naturalist Club, a local institution, was formed in 1950 with the objectives: To acquire and disseminate knowledge of Natural History; To protect and preserve wildlife; To stimulate public interest in nature; To preserve and protect the environment.

They continue to meet regularly and further these objectives. Throughout the year the club organizes winter and spring walks, informative sessions, a duck rally, bird, raptor and butterfly counts and several social events.

In September the club hosts "Hawk Cliff Woods Weekends", which draw in hundreds of visitors each year, eager to learn about the amazing raptor migration, raptor bird banding, Monarch butterfly tagging and snakes and turtles.

The weekends this year take place Sept. 15 & 16 and Sept. 22 & 23 and will include: Hawk Cliff Raptor Banders presenting with live raptors for viewing and picture taking; information sessions on the amazing Monarch butterfly; displays of both native and exotic species of turtles and snakes; and hikes through the newly acquired Hawk Cliff Woods will also be encouraged.

*Contributed by: Bob Johnstone,
President of STFN Club*

ST. THOMAS FIELD NATURALISTS CLUB, INC.

For more information regarding the club and membership contact Brenda L. O'neil at 519-631-3575



Here is perfect opportunity to ask members of the naturalist club to lead identification tours around Lake Margaret. Have tours for adults, children and families from all of St. Thomas. Do an annual butterfly count. Do an annual bird species count. This group of members are dedicated to protecting and preserving wildlife. You could not ask for a better group of volunteers to help develop an environmental plan for the lake.

SUMMER FUN



▲ Common five-lined skink - *Plestidon fasciatus*
• Ontario's only lizard!



▲ Smooth Greensnake - *Opheodrys vernalis*

▲ Snapping turtle - *Chelydra serpentina*

GO ON A LOCAL SPECIES SCAVENGER HUNT



▲ Monarch caterpillar - *Danaus plexippus*
Keep an eye out around milkweed



▲ Question Mark Butterfly - *Polygonia interrogationis*
• Look for the "question mark" marking in silver on hindwing



▲ Northern Leopard Frog - *Lithobates pipiens*

All common to this area of the province, here are several species to keep an eye out for while stepping into Elgin County nature this summer. Of course, hunt only with binoculars and follow the golden rule of nature walks: take only pictures, leave only footprints.

Images and Information on local species reproduced with permission from STFNC Club, from their Field Guides.

The St. Thomas Field Naturalist Club publish a number of quality "Field Guides" which are printed by Aylmer Express. Several colleges and universities both in Canada and the United States purchase these guides as text books for courses offered to their respective students.

Field Guides currently available are:

- Bats of Ontario
- Butterflies of Southern Ontario
- Some Caterpillars of Southern Ontario
- Dragonflies and Damselflies of Southern Ontario
- Freshwater Mussels of Ontario
- Migrating Raptors of Hawk Cliff
- Reptiles and Amphibians of Ontario
- Some Wildflowers of Southern Ontario

These guides cost between \$10 and \$15 and are available to order at stfnfieldguides@gmail.com or directly through Ann Vance at 519-773-8768.

This is another opportunity for the naturalist club to work with children, parents, teachers and schools and take these groups on nature scavenger hunts around Lake Margaret

Why not invite the local horticultural society to lead similar hunts to identify native plant species?