



Calgary Area Outdoor Council

December 2010

Volume 4, Number 53

Outdoor Update

In this issue:

Two Wheel View: Green Cyclers 2

Junior Forest Wardens: Christmas 3

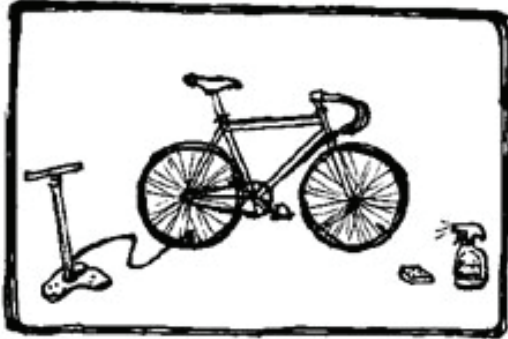
Friends of Fish Creek Provincial Park: Winter Birding Course 4

University of Calgary Outdoor Centre: Presentations and Trips 5

Fish Creek Provincial Park: Presentations 6

Happy Holidays from the Calgary Area Outdoor Council

Two Wheel View



two wheel view presents:

A very special opportunity for youth interested in bikes and the environment

GREEN CYCLERS

In the *Green Cyclers* Program, participants will:

- **CYCLE THROUGH CALGARY'S URBAN PATHWAYS**
- **USE TOOLS, LEARN TO FIX BIKES**
- **PROCTICE SKILLS TO PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT**
- **EARN A BIKE OF YOUR OWN!**

WHO: YOUTH AGES 11 - 16

WHERE: THE GOOD LIFE BIKE SHOP (Eau Claire Market)

WHEN: THURSDAYS 4:00—6:00PM

COST: FREE

TO REGISTER, PRINT AND FILL OUT FORMS FROM OUR WEBSITE AND EMAIL OR CALL US TO LET US KNOW YOU ARE COMING, OR FOR ANY QUESTIONS:

www.twowheelview.org info@twowheelview.org 403-710-3567

Alberta Junior Forest Warden Association

**2010 JUNIOR FOREST WARDENS
CHRISTMAS TREE CUTTING LOT**

**SATURDAYS and SUNDAYS
NOVEMBER 27 - DECEMBER 19
9:00 am to 3:30 pm**

**COST: \$5.00 / Tree (Lodgepole Pine Only)
Maximum 3 trees per person**

With Christmas just around the corner, many families are looking forward to a traditional outing into the forest to find and cut their own very special Christmas tree.

Directions:

From Calgary Olympic Park, travel West on the TransCanada Hwy1 for approx 35km. Take the Hwy 68 exit (Sibbald Creek Trail) heading south for approx 26 km to the PowderFace Trail turnoff. At the junction with Powder Face Trail turn south (left) on PowderFace Trail and continue for 2 km. Turn at the entrance to the Christmas Tree Cutting Lot. Watch for JFW signs along the route.

Off-Hour Permits:

If you can't make it out on the above dates, you are welcome to visit at any other time. Just enclose your payment in the envelopes provided on site and drop it into the mail slot at the shack. Checks are payable to 'Calgary Junior Forest Warden Christmas Tree Lot.'

Permits can also be purchased at:

Alberta Sustainable Resource Development Office
8660 Bearspaw Dam Road NW, Calgary
Monday – Friday, 8:15 – 4:30pm (closed 12 – 1pm)



Friends of Fish Creek Provincial Park

Would you like to learn more about the birds of Fish Creek Provincial Park?

With the leaves off the broad-leafed trees, birds are now much easier to see. This makes winter the best time to start learning to identify birds. Because there are fewer species about and often in large flocks, you will soon recognize most of the species. By springtime, you will already know 50 to 60 bird species, thus making the new migrants so much easier to identify.

As a fundraiser for the Friends of Fish Creek Provincial Park Society, these outings will be conducted by lifelong birder and naturalist Gustave J. Yaki. Sessions will take place in Fish Creek Provincial Park, as well as other parks and natural areas within Calgary, to see rare or noteworthy birds.

12-week Winter Birding Course - Tuesdays, Thursdays, or Saturdays beginning January 4, 6, or 8, 2011

Friends Members: \$50.00
Non-Members: \$75.00

Registration Required. Please contact the Friends at 403-238-3841 or chris@friendsoffishcreek.org.

Become a Member of the Friends of Fish Creek Provincial Park Society and Save!

Annual Membership
Individual: \$25.00
Family: \$35.00
Senior: \$15.00
Senior Family: \$20.00

**Government
of Alberta** 



University of Calgary Outdoor Centre

Free Presentations

The University of Calgary Outdoor Centre features regular free slide-shows and presentations throughout the winter months.

The presentations can introduce you to a new sport, provide you with valuable safety information, give you a glimpse at some beautiful and exciting natural trips with travel slide-show presentations or show you how to get fit for your favourite winter activities. Presenters are among Canada's most expert guides, activity leaders and safety experts in Canada. Fitness presentations are offered by Faculty of Kinesiology's fitness experts .

These presentations are free and everyone is welcome! For More Information you can phone: 220-5038, or email: outdoor@ucalgary.ca

This month's presentations are:

Backpack The West Coast Trail

Date: Monday, December 6, 2010
 Time: 7:00pm to 9:00pm
 Location: University of Calgary Campus-Kinesiology Building (KNB) 126
 Presenter: Experienced Guide, and leader of the OC's hiking & backpacking programs, Aspen Uzelman.

It's one of the most challenging and beautiful treks in the world - and for many the West Coast Trail is a must on the "bucket list!" This presentation gives you a taste of the beauty of one of Canada's most famous hiking destinations. The presentation includes a slide-show of spectacular photos presented with interesting stories and facts, so you can 'virtually' experience this seven-day trip

filled with sandy beaches, old-growth forests, rugged coastal views, diverse sea life and unique man-made structures.

Explore Canada's West Coast by Kayak Broken Group Islands, Pacific Rim National Park Reserve

Date: Monday, December 20, 2010
 Time: 7:00pm to 9:00pm
 Location: University of Calgary Campus-Kinesiology Building (KNB) 126
 Presenter: Experienced Guide, and water sports Calum MacDonald

There are still places in this world that you can't get to by car – and in some cases you can't even get there by foot.

If you're looking for an adventure that is really off the beaten path – you might want to consider a kayak. Besides being excellent exercise for people with bad knees a kayak allows you to experience some of the most beautiful and exhilarating scenery in the world.

In this presentation on the Broken Group Islands you'll get a glimpse of the beauty of this kayaking and wilderness camping adventure on the west coast. It's a fun, ideal environment for beginning paddlers as it offers many protected channels and caves to explore.

The Pacific Rim National Park off western Vancouver Island is home to a plethora of wildlife, including whales, sea lions, seal rookeries, bald eagles, Sitka deer and a variety of marine creatures. The tranquil Broken Group Islands include lagoons, sandbars, blowholes, arches and secluded anchorages. The adventure takes you into the traditional territory of the Nuu-chah-nulth people where you'll see ancient native village fortifications, stone fish traps and archaeological sites.



Fish Creek Provincial Park

Alberta Parks and Protected Areas

A Five Part Presentation Series

Take an armchair tour to some of Alberta's most spectacular, unique and interesting special places. Stunning visual images and intriguing stories from presenters with strong ties to these areas will provide you a glimpse of what makes them worthy of protection. From the well known to the not so well known, Alberta contains some of the most beautiful parks and protected areas in the world. You'll leave ready to pack up and explore them yourself!

When: October 13th, November 10th, January 12th,
February 9th and March 9th

Time: 7:00pm

Where: Fish Creek Environmental Learning Centre,
13931 Woodpath Rd. S.W. Shannon Terrace
Area, West end of Fish Creek Provincial Park
(Access via 37St. S.W. at 130th Avenue S.W.)

Admission: \$6 per person payable at the door (cash or
cheque only)

Third Presentation:

Big Teeth! Carnivores of the Rockies

(Part three of a five part Parks and Protected Areas
Presentation Series)

Alberta's Northern Rockies are home to large carnivores that captivate our imaginations and our visions of Canadian wilderness. Discover the inside story of cougars, wolves, and bears living in and around our protected areas. Why do we refer to our carnivores as umbrella species, and why are they so important to the ecosystem? Learn about carnivore biology and conservation, as well as how to safely react to encountering carnivores in the wild.

When: Wednesday, January 12th, 2011

Time: 7:00pm

Presenter: Scott Sunderwald is the Visitor Services Supervisor (a.k.a. Park Naturalist) for the Northern Rockies. Scott has a deep fascination for carnivores and draws his information from current scientific research as well as many personal encounters with wildlife.

Where: Fish Creek Environmental Learning Centre,

13931 Woodpath Rd. S.W. Shannon Terrace
Area, West end of Fish Creek Provincial Park
(Access via 37St. S.W. at 130th Avenue S.W.)

Admission: \$6.00 per person (payable at the door cash or
cheque only)

Taking It Outside – A Public Education Series

"Taking It Outside" is a series of educational workshops designed for adults. Sessions cover a variety of topics each season and are meant to be fun and informal while offering solid background information and hands-on experiences.

Coming in January 2011

Everything You Wanted to Know about Winter, but Were too Cold to Ask

Short days, cold and snow, you listen to the weather forecast, but don't want to believe it. Meteorologists, do they always lie? Or is the weather that unpredictable? How do we and wildlife deal with winter? Our session today will explore answers to these and other wintery questions using examples from the winter environment in Fish Creek.

Presenters: Andrea Barnes, Environmental Education Coordinator, Kananaskis Country and Roland Kirzinger, Environmental Education Coordinator, Fish Creek Provincial Park.

Date: January 22nd, 2011

Time: 9:00am to 12:00pm

Location: Fish Creek Environmental Learning Centre
13931 Woodpath Road SW (Access off 130
Ave. and 37 St. SW)

Fee: \$15 per person, includes coffee, tea and muffins

Registration : Phone (403) 297 - 7927 or email
roland.kirzinger@gov.ab.ca

For more information, please check our website at
www.fish-creek.org or contact:

Roland Kirzinger at (403) 297-7927 or toll-free 310-0000,
then (403) 297-7927.

Meeting Rooms for Rent at the Calgary Area Outdoor Council

When the Calgary Area Outdoor Council is not using its two meeting rooms for our own programs and functions we make them available for rent to other groups.

Groups typically use our meeting rooms for conferences, training sessions and workshops, seminars and forums, media launches, and any number of let's-get-away-from-the-office functions. The rooms are also frequently used for events such as art shows, baby showers, birthdays, yoga, spiritual gatherings and graduation celebrations.

If your group is interested in meeting room space at reasonable rates contact the CAOC office at (403) 270-2262 or caoc@caoc.ab.ca.



Bow River Room (Capacity: 6 - 8 people)

Rental Rates for CAOC Members:
\$25 per hour or \$150 for the day
(plus GST)

Rental Rates for Non-Members:
\$30 per hour or \$180 for the day
(plus GST)



Rocky Mountain Room (Capacity: 36 - 42 people)

Rental Rates for CAOC Members:
\$30 per hour or \$180 for the day
(plus GST)

Rental Rates for Non-Members:
\$35 per hour or \$210 for the day
(plus GST)



Calgary Area Outdoor Council
1111 Memorial Drive NW
Calgary, Alberta, T2N 3E4
Phone: (403) 270-2262
Fax: (403) 270-3654
Email: caoc@caoc.ab.ca
Website: www.caoc.ab.ca
Office Hours: 9:00am—5:00pm, Mon—Fri

The Calgary Area Outdoor Council (CAOC) is a registered non-profit association of 80+ member organizations who share common interests in outdoor recreation and environmental care. Our role is to enhance access to the outdoors through communications, education, representation and leadership.

Outdoor Update Newsletter

The *Outdoor Update* is a free monthly newsletter from the Calgary Area Outdoor Council. It contains articles, events, notices, and other information from, for, and about the outdoor recreation and environmental care community. To subscribe contact our office at (403) 270-2262 or caoc@caoc.ab.ca. To include your own information in the *Outdoor Update* email your material, along with your specific request to have it published, to our office by mid-month. Text should be sent in Microsoft Word format please. Accompanying images and photos should be sent in JPEG format please. If your photos require credit please provide the relevant details. CAOC reserves the right to accept, decline or edit any material received for publication.



The Friends of Fish Creek Provincial Park are offering a Winter Birding Course beginning in January. More details on page 4.