

April 2025 - Walk Schedule

	<p>Outings Etiquette</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Please follow our Naturalist's Code of Ethics to minimize our impact on nature.• Photographers, please read our Ethical Nature Photography Best Practices.• Dogs are not allowed on TFN outings, apart from leashed registered service dogs.• Please let the walk leader know if you are leaving a walk early. <p>Cancellation Policy</p> <p>An outing will be cancelled if there is a 70% or higher chance of a thunderstorm or if other hazardous weather arises. See our full cancellation policy here.</p>
Saturday April 5th 10:00 AM	<p>Subway Series: Donlands to Pape, Leslie Creek (Public)</p> <p>Leader: Joanne Doucette</p> <p>Walk Location: Riverdale and Leslieville</p> <p>Meeting Point: Outside Donlands Subway Station</p> <p>Getting There: Pape subway station will be closed due to construction, but it is a short walk back to the Donlands Station or west to the Chester subway station. Parking is available in five public lots between Donlands and Pape, north of Danforth.</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2 hr, 6 km, linear nature and heritage walk on mostly unpaved and uneven surfaces, gentle slopes with some steep slopes. Some stairs.</p> <p>Accessibility: Some areas may be muddy and wet underfoot..</p> <p>Washrooms: At the beginning, along the way, and at the end.</p> <p>Walk Description: We will be walking from the Donlands subway station down through some of the side streets in Riverdale and Kempton Howard Park along the buried Leslie Creek, past the Jones Avenue Cemetery, and then along Riverdale Avenue and south for approximately an hour. Then we will loop back north along Carlaw Avenue and through Withrow Park, ending at the Pape subway station. Our focus will be on street trees and early signs of spring. Note: our route may change because of Metrolinx construction.</p> <p>Walk details (route, joint outing, expected sights, end location, etc.): The walk will begin at Donlands subway station and proceed through some side streets in Riverdale and Kempton Howard Park along the buried Leslie Creek, passing by the Jones Avenue Cemetery. The route will then continue along Riverdale Avenue and head south for approximately an hour before looping back north along Carlaw Avenue and through Withrow Park, ending at Pape subway station. The focus of this walk will be on observing street trees and early signs of spring. Note: The route may change due to Metrolinx construction.</p> <p>Leslie Creek began in springs near Strathcona Avenue and ran through Howard Kempton Park. Two branches merged and crossed the train line east of Marjory Avenue, then crossed Gerrard Street where there's a shallow dip. It flowed through a ravine near Holy Blossom Cemetery, crossed Dundas at Dagmar, and continued south across Jones Avenue. The creek ran behind stores on Queen Street, crossed Leslie Street and Eastern Avenue, and eventually entered Ashbridge's Bay where the Loblaws Superstore is now located</p>

	<p>What to Bring: Magnifying glass (if desired, leader will have some extras), field guide to trees/shrubs and binoculars are always handy, as well as change for coffee/tea if desired.</p> <p>Other information: This is a public walk. No pets please. Service animals are welcome. Wheelchair accessible.</p>
Thursday April 10th 10:00 AM	<p>Springmount Creek</p> <p>Leader: Linda McCafrey</p> <p>Walk Location: Earlscourt to Christie Pits</p> <p>Meeting Point: St Clair West streetcar stop just east of Dufferin Ave</p> <p>Getting There: Line 1 intersects St Clair Ave West at Yonge Street and just east of Bathurst Street</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2.5 hrs, 3 km linear Lost Rivers walk on mostly paved surfaces, flat with some steep slopes. No stairs. Route ends at Christie TTC Station, Line 2.</p> <p>Accessibility: No impediments to individuals using mobility devices.</p> <p>Washrooms: At the end</p> <p>Walk Description: Springmount Creek merged with Garrison Creek on the Iroquois Shoreline which is the escarpment just north of Davenport Road. Glacial Lake Iroquois drained into the Atlantic Ocean over the Niagara escarpment, the Mohawk River and the Hudson River until about 13,000 years ago when a lobe of the Laurentide Glacier melted. Iroquois Lake rushed through the St Lawrence Valley to the Atlantic. A much smaller Admiralty Lake remained. Its shoreline is no longer visible. Slowly the land around the Thousand Islands rose and Lake Ontario stabilized. Aboriginal people travelled between the Don and the Humber Rivers along a trail replaced by Davenport Road.</p> <p>What to Bring: Curiosity</p> <p>Other information: Dress for the weather</p>
Friday April 11th 1:30 PM	<p>Lambton Woods Ramble</p> <p>Leader: Lillian Natalizio</p> <p>Walk Location: Lambton Woods</p> <p>Meeting Point: 99 Edenbridge Dr (benches near the entrance to James Gardens).</p> <p>Getting There: TTC: take the #73 Royal York bus (Romney Rd or Glen Darling stops) or the #79 Scarlett Rd bus (Edenbridge Dr stop), walking along Edenbridge Dr to James Gardens. If driving, there is free parking at James Gardens.</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2 hr, 3.5 km circular spring ramble on mostly unpaved but even surfaces, flat with some steep slopes. Some stairs.</p> <p>Accessibility: Potentially muddy trails.</p> <p>Washrooms: At the beginning.</p>

	<p>Walk Description: A quiet walk through the woods, enjoying the sights and sounds of early spring in this ESA woodland along the Humber River. We'll walk downriver through the mature woodlands, looking for significant tree species and spring ephemerals. Conditions permitting, will continue downriver across to Lambton Park before returning along the Humber River Recreational Trail.</p> <p>What to Bring: Water, snack, binoculars</p> <p>Other information: Natural trail surfaces may be muddy. Wear appropriate footwear.</p>
<p>Wednesday April 23rd 10:00 AM</p>	<p>High Park - Old Mill (Public)</p> <p>Leader: Richard Longley</p> <p>Walk Location: High Park-Lakeshore -Humber Valley-Old Mill</p> <p>Meeting Point: High Park Station High Park Avenue entrance (end Old Mill Station)</p> <p>Getting There: TTC Line 2</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2 hr, 8 km linear nature and heritage walk on mostly paved surfaces, gentle slopes, no stairs.</p> <p>Accessibility: some possibly muddy slopes</p> <p>Washrooms: Along the way</p> <p>Walk Description: High Park-Lakeshore -Humber Valley-Old Mill nature and history, much of it tucked away or easily missed.</p> <p>What to Bring: water, munchies, binoculars, camera</p> <p>Other information: Be prepared for mud in off-pavement sections.</p>
<p>Saturday April 26th 1:30 PM</p>	<p>Bestview Woods & East Don Parklands--Signs of Spring Nature and Heritage</p> <p>Leader: Theresa Moore</p> <p>Walk Location: Bestview Woods & East Don Parklands</p> <p>Meeting Point: By the Shoppers Drug Mart at 1515 Steeles Avenue East on the Southeast corner of Steeles and Laureleaf.</p> <p>Getting There: The 53B Steeles East (not the 53E Express!) runs from Finch Station all the way out to Scarborough and has a stop at Laureleaf. There is free parking at the plaza and on the street.</p> <p>Walk Details: A 2 hr, 6 km circular nature and heritage walk on mostly unpaved but even surfaces, flat with some gentle slopes. Some stairs.</p> <p>Accessibility: Tree roots, stairs, and possible mud would be an impediment to those with walkers.</p> <p>Washrooms: At the beginning and at the end.</p> <p>Walk Description: We'll discuss the history of the Cummer family in the area and look for signs of Spring—especially early wildflowers and returning birds. After meeting at the Shoppers Drug Mart, we will walk south on Laureleaf to the Bestview Park entrance. We will</p>

	<p>explore the Bestview Woods trails before joining the main East Don Parkland trail. We will turn back just past the Finch Hydro Corridor and return to our starting point, where there is a coffee shop, pizza place, Subway, and noodle house. Those who wish to do so can drop out early at Cummer Avenue, continue on their own to Finch or Sheppard or head west along the Hydro Recreation trail rather than return to Steeles Avenue.</p> <p>What to Bring: Binoculars.</p> <p>Other information: There are some tree roots on the woodland trails and, if there have been recent heavy rains, these trails can be a bit muddy and/or slippery. Last year this walk coincided with the City's compost giveaway at Bestview Park. Dates are not yet available for 2025, but if interested bring your shovel and containers just in case.</p>
	<p>Tips for cold-weather walks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Layered clothing is a must for winter hiking. • Make sure your head and hands are warm. • Wear warm non-slip boots. • Consider bringing boot grips for icy patches. • A thermos with a hot drink is a good idea!
	<p>If members have any questions about our outings please send an email to walks@torontofieldnaturalists.org.</p> <p>The Outings committee is looking for volunteers to join the committee, lead walks and help support walk leaders on outings. If you are interested in helping please send an email to volunteering@torontofieldnaturalists.org</p>