



## 2017 CALENDER OF FAMILY EVENTS

[www.naturescalling.ca](http://www.naturescalling.ca)

For more information on any of the events listed below,  
contact us at [info@naturescalling.ca](mailto:info@naturescalling.ca) or 519-410-7376

All events by donation (suggested \$10 per family).

**Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 to 9:00 P.M.**

***What a Hoot! - Owl Prowl***

Take a moon lit hike as we play the recorded calls of local owls and entice them to answer us. Listen for the deep hoot of the Great Horned Owl and the horse-like whinny of the Eastern Screech Owl. Bring a flashlight and dress warmly. This is a joint event with Nature's Calling Environmental Education. Location @ Hay Creek Conservation Area (corner of Radical and Ryerse Roads west of Pt. Dover)

**FAMILY DAY, Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 1 to 3 P.M.**

***Winter Survival Skills***

In Canada we have winters that are cold and snowy. So, as Canadians, we adapt! This exciting outdoor adventure will provide families with pointers on how to prepare before going out into winter weather and the four basics of survival: warmth, shelter, food and water. Learn how to make fire bundles, melt snow, build a shelter, and how to make winter survival kits for the home in case of an emergency. At the end of the program we'll enjoy hot chocolate and bannock dogs made over the open fire.

@ Carolinian North, 287 St. John's Road, 5 minutes west of Walsh)

**EARTH DAY, Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1 to 3 P.M.**

***Celebrating the Importance of Pollinators***

Pollinators, including bumblebees, honeybees, flies, moths, and hummingbirds, are critical to our food system and our biodiversity. Many pollinators are in decline! In this hands-on workshop, learn about the importance of pollinators, along with ways you can support them with native flowering gardens and build pollinator habitat. After we'll taste some foods that are brought to us by our local neighbourhood pollinators!

@Wagon Wheel Produce and Corn Maze, 1371 Charlotteville #7 Rd. (just east of Turkey Point Rd.)

**Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 7 to 9 P.M.**

***Amazing Amphibians Hike, Backus Woods.***

Peep, croak, quack and slither! Backus Woods in the spring is a wonderful place to be! Join us for a walk in the woods as we look for salamanders, explore vernal pools and listen for the songs of frogs and toads.

@ Backus Woods entrance on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Concession Road (between East Quarter Line and Hwy #59).

**MOTHER'S DAY, Sunday May 14<sup>th</sup>, 10 A.M. to Noon**

***Gifts from Nature: Mother's Day Hike & Fairy Gardens***

Nature is an extraordinary gift, one that is perennially given to us, and one that we can give and share with others. Spend the day with Mom celebrating all that Spring offers through the delights of early wildflower blooms, a garland of pastel Easter eggs, a floral May basket and a handmade fairy garden to take home and put in her own garden.

@ Canada's First Forestry Station Interpretive Centre on Highway #24 (just east of Forestry Farm Road)

**Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 1 to 3 P.M.**

***Biodiversity Blitz @ Bonnieheath***

The United Nations has proclaimed May 22<sup>nd</sup> the International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB) to increase understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues. Join us as we explore wood, ponds and grasslands and identify as many species of plants and animals as we can on this diverse and interesting farm property.

*@ Bonnieheath Estate Lavender & Winery, 410 Concession 12 Townsend Rd., Waterford*

**Saturday, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 9 A.M. to Noon**

***A Path that Leads to Yesterday: First Nations Traditions & Games***

Through exploration, storytelling, and hands-on activities, you and your family will get a first-hand look at interactions between Aboriginal peoples and early European Settlers on our land. Sharing of cultural aspects of how these two groups co-existed for survival living off the land (skills, beliefs, and knowledge) will provide a backdrop for our activities to celebrate National Aboriginal Day on June 21<sup>st</sup>.

*@ Wagon Wheel Produce and Corn Maze, 1371 Charlotteville #7 Rd. (just east of Turkey Point Rd.)*

**Sunday, July 9<sup>th</sup>, 9 A.M. to 3 P.M.**

***The Rooted in Nature Outdoor Family Festival***

A fun and educational weekend of all things nature, including guided hikes, wildlife shows, interactive displays, outdoor theatre, games, arts and crafts, live butterfly cage, campfire storytelling and more. All activities and events are geared to the entire family.

*@ Wagon Wheel Produce and Corn Maze, 1371 Charlotteville #7 Rd.*

For more information visit [www.naturefest.ca](http://www.naturefest.ca)

**Saturday, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 7:45 to 9:30 P.M.**

***Nocturnal Safari: Backus Woods at Night***

Enjoy the sights and sounds of animals that become active at night during this cool hike in Backus Woods. Bernie will call for owls, identify the songs of crickets and katydids, and attract late summer moths using light traps and baits. We'll also have some awesome sensory games for everyone.

*@ Backus Woods entrance on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Concession Road (between East Quarter Line and Hwy #59).*

**Saturday, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 10 A.M. to Noon**

***Annual GREAT CANADIAN SHORELINE CLEANUP and Monarch Watching***

Roll up your sleeves and lend a hand cleaning up the beaches of Long Point. The TD Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup is a national conservation initiative that allows all Canadians to have a positive impact on their local environment. If we're lucky we'll see a "Monarch tree" – a tree where Monarchs congregate and wait for favourable winds to start their long journey south to Mexico.

*Meet at the parking lot across from The Causeway Restaurant.*

Free event open to all.

**Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> & Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.**

***Shinin' Times: A Mountain Man Rendezvous***

Canada's mountain men and fur-traders lived as one with nature. This unique historical re-enactment of "rendezvous" will have re-enactors competing in challenges that include archery, tomahawk throwing, knife tossing, fire starting and trap setting. Visitors can participate in traditional games like the frying pan toss, tug of war; "anything in a skirt" egg toss, obstacle courses and more! There will be storytelling and yarns, fur-trapper lingo, various demonstrations of how mountain men lived and more.

*@ Wagon Wheel Produce and Corn Maze, 1371 Charlotteville #7 Rd. (just east of Turkey Point Rd.)*

**Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>, 1 to 3 P.M.**

***Celebrating Awesome Autumn***

Come and join us to celebrate all that autumn has to offer. We'll hunt for beautiful autumn leaves and make ourselves masks, crowns or wreaths from them and we'll make delicious spiced apple rings to nibble on while we carve some Halloween pumpkins.

*Location TBD*

**Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 11 A.M. to 3 P.M.**

***Halloween Fun at Wagon Wheel Produce & Corn Maze***

Spooky fun for the whole family! Why wait for Halloween – let's make it a drawn out affair! Find your way through the corn maze using clues to help you navigate. There will also be pumpkin bowling, pumpkin slinging, seed spitting contest, storytelling, building gnome houses for wildlife in the woods, face painting and lots of good food.

*@ Wagon Wheel Produce and Corn Maze, 1371 Charlottesville #7 Rd. (just east of Turkey Point Rd.)*

*Come in costume and get \$1 off admission.*

**Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.**

***Christmas Crafts and Storytelling at the Dickens Christmas Craft Show,***

Join us at the Dickens Christmas Craft Show and let your child's creative side shine. Kids and parents can re-ignite their inner nature spirit and express themselves in making nature-inspired Christmas crafts. They will be the most talked about ornament on your tree this year!

*@ The Aud in Simcoe*