



The Voice of the Friends

Note from the Executive Director

Katrina Terrill



After a very snowy April and early May, we have leapt into spring with a vengeance! Blooms can now be found all around the park, and migratory species from sparrows to

osprey have made their returns. Our team has also grown, with 11 summer staff members joining us from May through August to help undertake our ambitious field plans!

With large projects including the Listen Garden, Mallard Point riparian restoration, and critical invasive plant management on the docket for 2026, having groups of volunteers are becoming more critical than ever. In 2025 we had over 900 volunteers contribute over 4,000 hours of work during single-day group stewardship events, and we are looking to grow this number even more this year! Check out the details of our Corporate Stewardship program on page 4 to learn more about ways that you and your friends or colleagues can make a difference to both the park and the millions of visitors we see each year.

We are once again participating in the Rogers Birdies for Kids presented by AltaLink program to help fund our Learning Naturally program. Thanks to the generous support of the Calgary Foundation, we have been able to offer over 100 free field trips this school year (compared to 70 in prior years); however, we now need help to keep that momentum going.



The Friends receive over 150 applications from schools needing financial assistance for field trips each year. While our new day camp will help to partially fund this expansion, we need your help to make sure all of the costs (including bus fees, which average \$300 per field trip!) continue to be covered. Please help us reach our goal of \$40,000 for Learning Naturally this year by donating today!

Click or scan to donate to Learning Naturally through Rogers Birdies for Kids



We recently released our new Annual Report, which detailed some significant improvements for the organization year over year. On a personal note, I cannot say enough about the amazing staff and volunteers I get to work with. From restoring habitats and beating back invasive plant infestations to bringing people together through tours and events, their impact is truly astounding. It is through their tireless efforts that the Friends are able to bring so much value to this park we all love. Our members, donors, and partners also play critical roles in ensuring we have the support needed to make meaningful change here in Fish Creek Provincial Park. Thank you to everyone who has helped support us, we couldn't do it without you!

Sincerely,

Katrina Terrill
Executive Director

Help preserve the park, donate today!



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Thank you for your
commitment to
Fish Creek
Provincial Park!

Help preserve the park,
donate today!



Spring and summer: blooming in the Park

Emma Stroud, Ecology Manager

Now that spring has officially begun, who's up for getting out into the park to enjoy the new greenery and take in some blooming native plants? One thing a few of us who are at the beginning of our native plant species journey have noticed is that once you start to learn a few native plants, you see them everywhere. So we thought we would share with you, Fish Creek Community, a condensed list of some of the plants you can expect to see blooming over spring and summer here in the park.

We can't guarantee all of these will be blooming in the exact month they're listed in, so don't fret if you see blooms a little earlier or later than expected. Timing is greatly dependent on weather and when the ground thaws, and you'll see things start to kick off a little earlier or later depending on the year.

May

Early cinquefoil
Potentilla concinna



Early yellow locoweed
Oxytropis sericea



Golden bean
Thermopsis rhombifolia



Prairie crocus
Pulsatilla nuttalliana



Prairie smoke
Geum triflorum



Moss phlox
Phlox hoodii



Alpine aster
Aster alpinus



Textile onion
Allium textile



June

Blanketflower
Gaillardia aristata



Blue flax
Linum lewisii




Slender beardtongue
Penstemon gracilentus



Alaska harebell
Campanula lasiocarpa




Junegrass
Koeleria macrantha



Northern bedstraw
Galium boreale




Wild rose
Rosa acicularis




July


Northern sweetvetch
Hedysarum boreale




Stiff sunflower
Helianthus pauciflorus




Nodding onion
Allium cernuum



Purple prairie clover
Dalea purpurea




Silky lupine
Lupinus sericeus




August


Tufted fleabane
Erigeron caespitosus




Missouri goldenrod
Solidago missouriensis




Dotted blazing star
Liatris punctata



Blue grama grass
Bouteloua gracilis



Tufted white prairie aster
Symphotrichum ericoides



Want to learn more about native plants in the park? Sign up for one of our planting shift! Learn more at friendsoffishcreek.org/volunteering-basics

OUR MISSION:

To engage the community through activities and awareness to conserve a truly unique naturalized urban park.

OUR VISION:

A sustainable Fish Creek Provincial Park that improves the quality of life for present and future generations.

Become a Member Today!

Purchase an annual membership and support us in preserving the ecological integrity of the Park, sharing education and knowledge with the public, and building awareness of this incredible Park right in our backyards!

Member Benefits

- 10% discount at the Wild Bird Store
- 10% discount at Kensington Art Supply
- Free Entry to Fish Creek Speaker Series
- Discounts on Birding, Tours, and Merchandise
- Early registration for Day Camps

Help preserve the park, donate today!



Corporate Stewardship



Looking for an opportunity for you and your team to get out and give back? Summer is full of different ways to volunteer here in Fish Creek Provincial Park! We've got a wide range of activities to choose from, including helping us prep sites for restoration, wrapping trees,

managing invasive species, and planting both in the grasslands and riparian areas. Get your team out into nature and feel proud that you were a part of restoring a piece of Fish Creek Provincial Park to its natural beauty.

Group Corporate Stewardship Opportunities

Year round: Park clean-up.

June through September: Grassland restoration and invasive species management (weed pulls)



May-June and September-October: Weed pulls, riparian restoration, and tree wrapping (in support of beaver coexistence)

Fee Schedule

Riparian Restoration \$2,500	Tree Wrapping \$1,000	Grassland Restoration \$800	Weed Pull \$500
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Park Cleanup

Pay what you can! Just register with us and collect supplies from the cookhouse Monday-Friday.



Scan or click to learn more about Corporate Stewardship Opportunities

Fish Creek Summer Day Camp



The Friends of Fish Creek are introducing a new and exciting offering to keep your kids active, learning, and having fun this summer! Fish Creek Summer Day Camp invites kids to slow down, get curious, and experience the park in a way that's joyful, meaningful, and a little bit muddy. Each day, campers spend their time outdoors exploring creeks, grasslands, and forests through hands-on activities that spark wonder and build confidence.

Daily camp themes

Day	Theme
Monday	World of Water
Tuesday	Beaver Blitz
Wednesday	Growing Grasslands
Thursday	Living with Wildlife
Friday	Nature at Night

From investigating aquatic insects and wildlife clues to creating nature-inspired art and taking part in real stewardship projects, kids are encouraged to ask questions, make discoveries, and learn by doing. Our programming blends outdoor play with environmental learning, helping campers understand how plants, animals, water, and people are all connected. Along the way, they build friendships, practice teamwork, and develop a sense of care for the natural world around them.

Guided by experienced educators in a safe and supportive environment, Fish Creek Camp offers more than just a fun summer experience; it gives kids the chance to form a lasting connection to nature and see themselves as capable, curious explorers. It's a week of fresh air, meaningful learning, and the kind of memories that stick long after summer ends. Sign your child up for Fish Creek Summer Day Camp for an experience they won't forget!



Scan or click to learn more about Fish Creek Day Camp

Sample schedule

Time	Activity
9:00 – 10:30 a.m.	Hands-on nature investigation
10:30 – 10:45 a.m.	Snack break
10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Creek walk & wildlife discovery
12:00 – 1:00 p.m.	Lunch & camp games
1:00 – 2:00 p.m.	Stewardship adventure activity
2:00 – 2:15 p.m.	Snack break
2:15 – 3:30 p.m.	Nature games & creative time
3:30 – 4:00 p.m.	Daily wrap-up

2026 Camps

Camp	Approach	Dates & Cost
Explorers	Learning to love nature through outdoor play, gentle discovery, and curiosity-led exploration.	July 6 – 10 (\$340) July 27 – 31 (\$340) August 17 – 21 (\$340)
Ages 6 - 8		
Adventurers	Exploring ecosystems with purpose through hands-on stewardship, teamwork, and growing independence.	July 13 – 17 (\$340) August 4 – 7 (\$272) August 24 – 28 (\$340)
Ages 9 - 10		
Trailblazers	Taking action for conservation through deeper ecological learning, leadership, and real-world stewardship projects.	July 20 – 24 (\$340) August 10 – 14 (\$340)
Ages 11 - 12		

Happening this summer in the Park

2026 has started off strong with a series of amazing Friends events, including two volunteer open houses, Star Night, our monthly Speaker Series, nature journaling with the Calgary Nature Journaling Club, spring birding kicking off, park watch and beaver monitoring resuming, and Good Grief's spring session in full swing. Thank you to everyone who attended and especially all the volunteers who supported the success of these events.



Nature Journaling with the Calgary Nature Journaling Club

We're sharing some photos from this year's events and a look at what we have planned for the summer so far:

Upcoming events with confirmed dates

- New Works Fish Creek Soundwalk – Sunday, June 14
- June Speaker Series – June 18
- September special Speaker Series – September 19
- Tuesdays: pop-up visitor centres across the park



Growing up at the Ranch Tour: March's Volunteer Open House

Are you interested in joining one of our programs or meeting new friends? Do you enjoy learning new things or sharing your experiences with others? Become a volunteer!

[Click here to get started](#)



SCAN ME

Upcoming events: keep an eye out for date announcements!

- June: Listen Garden kickoff events
- June: Nature journaling with the Calgary Nature Journaling Club
- Through summer: evening tours running, details to come.

All lower photos: Star Night 2026 (April)



Annual Report: 2025 in review

Ecology Statistics



2025 was a whirlwind of a year! We recently held our AGM and published our annual report detailing our successes and progress over the last year. We would love for you to take a read through the full report, but in case you're just interested in the highlights – we've put that together below:

- Internal process and accounting system improvements, increasing our capacity and making us stronger and more efficient
- The first Fish Creek watershed Fish Inventory in over 30 years, in partnership with Alberta Parks, the Alberta Conservation Association, Fish Creek Watershed Association, Tsuut'ina Nation, and Freshwater Conservation Canada
- Expanded partnership with the Alberta Native Plant Rescue Foundation, resulting in over 90,000 plants rescued from sites slated for construction (a \$674,000 value!)
- So many public events and outreach and engagement opportunities, including our Fish Creek Provincial Park 50th anniversary celebration in June 2025, which was a great success, drawing over 2,000 attendees
- New full-time staff to help move our mission forward (Communications, Outreach and Education Coordinators)

We're also thrilled to have re-elected six board members, with two board members moving into the second year of their two-year term. We've welcomed one board member – welcome to the Friends, Dianne Allen!



Thank you to everyone who contributed to such an excellent year last year, from our donors and funders to program collaborators and participants, and a special shout out to each and every volunteer – we couldn't have done it without you!

Volunteer Statistics



SCAN TO READ THE ANNUAL REPORT

Become a member today!

Membership gives you:

- Complimentary Speaker Series admission
- Discounted Birding
- Complimentary tour admission
- Discounts at local partners
- Early Day Camp registration

Volunteer with us



So many summer volunteer opportunities! Including:

- Pop-up Visitor Centres
- Surveying park visitors
- Visitor Centre Ambassador
- Grasslands restoration
- Day Camp assistant
- Public event support
- Group volunteering
- And more!



Scan or click me to visit our events page online

www.friendsoffishcreek.org/events

Fish Creek Speaker Series

Tickets: \$10 | Complimentary for Members

- June 18 | The Last Five Years: A Multi-Disciplinary Approach to Archaeology in the Springbank Area
- September 19 | Special FREE Saturday event with speakers! Bear Smart Day with the City of Calgary

Click or scan to get your tickets:

June
18



Sign up for our newsletter to get the latest on upcoming events.



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LEARN MORE
ABOUT
MEMBERSHIP

Member
perk!
\$90 value

9 free events
per year!