



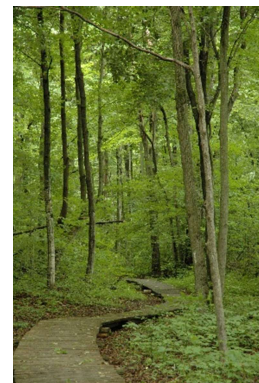
75 Years Celebrating *NATURE*

Ingersoll District Nature Club 2026-2027 ACTIVITY GUIDES

Please note:

For all travel locations we meet at the municipal parking lot to the west of the Ingersoll Arena at 9:00 a.m., unless otherwise stated. For any activities at the Lawson Nature Reserve, please go directly there.

All activities are subject to change. We do our best to notify in advance.



Saturday, September 12, 2026 – 3:00 P.m. / ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and NATURE WALK WITH BARBEQUE at Lawson Nature Reserve

Come learn more about the Ingersoll District Nature Club and the Lawson Nature Reserve's importance to our communities! Following an informative walk around the Reserve main trail, we will hold a **meeting at 4:00 p.m.** to acclaim our executive members, talk about the **upcoming 75th anniversary year**, planned projects for the Reserve and other items of interest. A **BBQ and Refreshments** will be provided. **Please RSVP if you will join us for the BBQ. ALL WELCOME – both members and non-members.** Contact Sheila, 519-485-2645.

Saturday, October 17, 2026 – 9:00 a.m. / FINGAL WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA WALK

This conservation area has a system of hiking trails geared to all tastes and ability levels. There are 21 km of trails altogether, through a variety of habitats. A waterfowl viewing stand allows visitors to observe a 3-acre pond. East of the pond are 9 acres of tall grass prairie encircled by a walking trail. With over 200 species of wildlife identified during breeding and migration seasons, the area is a haven for nature enthusiasts. The property is co-managed by Elgin Stewardship Council and MNR. Located at 34469 Fingal Line, Fingal. Contact Ken, 519-539-5234.



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Tuesday, November 10, 2026 – 6:30 p.m. / GUEST SPEAKER BRIAN CRAIG – ECOLOGICAL SUSTAINABILITY

@ Ingersoll Public Library, Meeting Room

A timely discussion. Brian Craig, a member of the Board of Directors of the Long Point Biosphere Region, will speak to us on how we can influence and protect sustainability and quality of life for all on our planet. This engaging speaker brings years of experience in education, nature restoration and community involvement to enlighten his audiences about the need for ecological sustainability for future generations. Contact Meg, 519-485-4220

Saturday, November 14, 2026 – 9:00 a.m. / PATULLO TRAIL, SOUTH WOODSTOCK

Join us for a pleasant and easy walk through Patullo Trail, located on Patullo Avenue, east of Highway 59 and just south of Highway 401. This trail is perfect for surrounding yourself in nature. A birding hotspot (as noted on eBird!), it offers the chance to see wildlife and is good for all birding skill levels. Suitable walking for children and seniors. Contact Meg, 519-485-4220.

Monday, December 7, 2026 – 7:30 p.m. / Scott Gillingwater, Local Conservationist – Local Species-at-Risk Presentation

7:30 p.m. at Huron Park Secondary School at 900 Cromwell St., Woodstock

Carpool an option for anyone needing a ride

Join us as the Woodstock Field Naturalists and Ingersoll District Nature Club co-host an enlightening conversation with Scott Gillingwater, the Species at Risk Biologist with Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA). Scott will present an overview of Reptile Research and Conservation in Southwestern Ontario: The Ongoing Struggle to Conserve Some of Ontario's Most At-Risk Species. This will be an informative and educational evening outlining the numerous obstacles that reptiles encounter. Scott has been a driving force in the Spiny Soft Shell turtle recovery along our Thames River. Contact Sheila, 519-485-2645.

Monday, December 28, 2026 - 9:00 a.m. at Lawson Nature Reserve / CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Started in 1900, the Christmas Bird Count is North America's longest running citizen science project. Counts happen in over 2000 localities throughout the Western Hemisphere. Join the camaraderie – come out to the Reserve and help with the count. We work as a group – no bird identification experience necessary. Binoculars are a definite asset. Contact Peter, 519-425-0429.





75 Years Celebrating NATURE

January 2027 *Celebrating 75 years of Nature Stewardship*

No January Event Planned at this time. Our Nature Notes lecture series runs once a month from February to April.

Wednesday, February 10, 2027 - 7:00 p.m. *Nature Notes* / CLIMATE ACTION SUPERHERO with Daria Kosinski of Thames Talbot Land Trust

@ Ingersoll Public Library, Meeting Room

Join us for an interesting overview and informative conversation with our speaker Daria Kosinski, Executive Director of Thames Talbot Land Trust. She will focus on nature-based climate solutions people can support - specifically outlining how different habitats (plant life) provide for carbon storage, the importance of protecting existing ecosystems to keep carbon in place, plus some key actions individuals can take to support nature-based climate solutions. Contact Meg, 519-485-4220.

Wednesday, March 10, 2027 - 7:00 p.m. *Nature Notes* / DESTINATION COLOMBIA with Richard Skevington

@ Ingersoll Public Library, Meeting Room

Back by popular demand! A lifelong naturalist and member of the Woodstock Field Naturalists' Club, Richard Skevington will join us to present an engaging talk and slideshow on his recent travels to Colombia, one of the richest birding environments on the planet. Richard weaves a compelling and enlightening story that you won't want to miss. Contact Meg, 519-485-4220.

Saturday, March 13, 2027 – 9:00 a.m. / PANCAKES AT SPRINGWATER and WALK AT ARCHIE COULTER CONSERVATION AREA

Our March favourite continues to be Springwater's **Maple Syrup Festival** – come enjoy great pancakes and maple syrup across from the **Springwater Conservation Area**. We will eat first!! Then off a short distance for a walk through Archie Coulter Conservation Area. On the way home, a stop at the Aylmer viewing stands to watch migrating swans and geese is also an option for those interested. Contact Meg, 519-485-4220.

Wednesday, April 14, 2027 - 7:00 p.m. – *Nature Notes* / WILDFLOWERS OF POINT PELEE NATIONAL PARK with Dave Jolly

@ Ingersoll Public Library, Meeting Room

Turn your sights to spring! Local Canadian biologist Dave Jolly will offer an informative evening of what it takes to identify hundreds of species within a national park. With 30 years of professional experience his extensive knowledge guarantees an interesting and informative showcase of Point Pelee's natural diversity. This talk will be timely, as spring's bounty plus bird migration will be in full swing early May. Contact Meg, 519-485-4220.



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Saturday, April 17, 2027 – 9:00 a.m. / CALTON WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA WALK

The Calton Swamp Wildlife Management Area is a 208-acre site located at 52591 John Wise Line near the hamlet of Calton in Elgin County. Managed jointly by the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority (CCCA) and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, this Provincially Significant Wetland is a popular spot for birdwatching and hiking. The complex provides crucial breeding habitat for waterfowl and is home to rare plant species like Slender Sedge, Putty-root, and Virginia Creeper. The mix of wetland, deciduous forest and coniferous plantation within the Wildlife Management Area supports a diversity of wildlife species, including pileated woodpeckers, wild turkey and ruffed grouse as well as a diversity of waterfowl. This is an easy walk on flat ground. Waterproof footwear is recommended for this time of year as trails can be muddy. Contact Ken, 519-539-5234.

Saturday, May 15, 2027 – 9:00 a.m. at LNR / “TALK AND WALK” PLANT IDENTIFICATION at LAWSON NATURE RESERVE with Dave Jolly

Join Dave Jolly, local instructor, botanist and author, of EARTHQUEST Biological Field School for a stroll throughout the Lawson Nature Reserve as he brings his extensive knowledge to bear on this guided wildflower walk. Spring ephemerals are the loveliest of woodland plants and abound within the reserve. Take advantage of this free workshop. Located in Port Burwell, EARTHQUEST operates as a consulting firm, education centre and lodge engaged in the identification, protection, restoration and enhancement of endangered, threatened or vulnerable species. Contact Sheila, 519-485-2645.

No planned event for June

Additional activities may be added on an ad hoc basis as opportunities arise.

There are no July/August club activities.

Celebrating IDNC turning 75 + Lawson Nature Reserve turning 50!

Saturday, September 18, 2027 – 9:00 a.m. meet at the Reserve / LAWSON NATURE RESERVE CLEAN-UP and CELEBRATION OF NATURE RESERVE'S 50th ANNIVERSARY

Community members are welcome to join us for clean-up activities at the Reserve, including trail maintenance, garlic mustard extraction and painting. Bring gloves and wear sturdy boots. This property is solely managed by volunteer hours. Helping hands are always greatly appreciated. Help will also be required in celebrating 50 years of the “Tract's” existence... solely powered by volunteer hours, care and stewardship.

Starting at 9:00 a.m., barbeque and refreshments planned for 12:30 p.m. **Please RSVP if attending BBQ.** **ALL WELCOME.** Contact Meg, 519-485-4220.



75 Years Celebrating NATURE

Saturday, October 16, 2027 – 2:00 p.m. / FINALE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Ingersoll Seniors' Centre (Location to be confirmed)

This AGM will be the finale event in our celebration of 75 years supporting nature in our local region and beyond. Volunteer driven, the club has provided stewardship to the Lawson Tract (Lawson Nature Reserve) for 50 years of its existence. Recognition to be given to the founding members of 75 years past, those who continued with their vision, and to Ontario Nature and South-West Oxford, key partners in all we have accomplished over the years. Key speakers to be confirmed, but we hope you and our extended communities will join us in this milestone achievement. Refreshments will be provided.



Long-time members of the past and present...



Don Bucknell



Jack Janssen



Dr. John Lawson

Ingersoll District Nature Club is interested in the development and preservation of nature in Oxford County.

For more information about the Club and the Lawson Nature Reserve go to:

<http://www.ingersollnatureclub.com>



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2002 - 2026