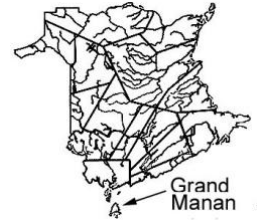


Festival of de la Nature

Grand Manan 2, 3, 4 & 5 September 2011

The Board of Nature NB extends a warm welcome and invitation to attend its 4 day Festival of Nature (and AGM) which is being held on the scenic island of Grand Manan. With 28 outings to choose from ...



whales, birds of land and sea, seaweeds, butterflies, wildflowers, ferns,

dragonflies, geology, star gazing ... it is a chance to be charmed and enchanted by island nature. Please register early to aid us in ensuring all the events will be able to accommodate the number of participants.

Getting There: To get to the ferry, proceed along Hwy 1 to Exit 60, to Blacks Harbour, at Pennfield Corner. Take Hwy 176 to Blacks Harbour (~10 km) and follow the signs to the ferry terminal. (It takes about 45 minutes to get from Saint John to Blacks Harbour.) The ferry crossing is the beginning of the magic of Grand Manan as you can be on the look-out for whales and porpoises and numerous pelagic birds during the 1½ hour trip. The cost of the ferry is \$10.50 / adult, children 5-12 \$5.40, plus \$32.55 for passenger cars and pick-up trucks. Costs are subject to change. Up-to-date information about schedules and fees can be found at <http://www.coastaltransport.ca/schedule.htm> .

Where: Our headquarters for the weekend will be the Church Hall of St. Paul's Anglican Church in Grand Harbour. After arriving on the island, turn south (left) on Hwy 776 to Grand Harbour. The Church Hall is on your left at the corner of Hwy 776 and Ingalls Head Rd.

Accommodations: Although these are limited, there are a variety, including campgrounds. It is strongly suggested that you book accommodations early as some places are booked a year in advance. A brief list is available on our webpage under Festival of Nature, and a more detailed listing can be found at <http://www.grandmanannb.com/accomm.htm>. Other places are available but are not listed; you can check with Tourism at gmtouris@nbnet.nb.ca .

Field Trips: All field trips will start from the Anglican Church Hall in Grand Harbour. Some will be limited to 15 participants, which will be booked on a first come basis. Early registration is strongly recommended. If you request a lunch, make sure that you pick it up in the morning. Items to bring with you include: warm coat and motion sickness remedies for boat trips, walking sticks, hats, sun screen, rain gear, appropriate foot gear, day pack, binoculars, handlens (magnifiers), field guides, refillable water bottle, note book and pen. Your registration fee covers the cost of most field trips. However, for those of you who sign up for boat tours, there are extra costs involved. Pelagic Birds and Whales tours on 'Sea Watch Tours' and 'Whales-n-Sails' Adventures can possibly be rescheduled for Monday morning if cancelled due to poor weather. Guests are welcome on any field trip, as long as space is available, and are encouraged to make a donation. A complementary Continental Breakfast of juice, coffee, muffins, and fruit will be available on Saturday to Monday mornings on a first come basis. Car pooling is encouraged for all trips, and for some with limited parking, it is a necessity.

Banquet: This year's banquet and silent auction will be held at the church hall from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Meal choices are chicken, lobster or vegetarian. Our guest speaker is Alain Clavette an expert birder and naturalist who worked with Parks Canada as an interpreter before devoting himself to broadcasting work on radio and TV. Drawing on his extensive library of nature photographs, (birds in particular) and his detailed knowledge of Grand Manan, Alain's presentation is sure to be informative as well as a visual delight.

Pre AGM Presentation by Deborah Carr, author of the new biography, Sanctuary: The Story of Naturalist Mary Majka, will speak about the life and legacy of this great Canadian naturalist. Books will be available for purchase during the Friday meet and greet. www.deborahcarr.ca

Schedule:

Friday Sept 2

Registration, Meet and Greet 5 – 9 pm
Evening field trip 7 – 10 pm

Saturday Sept 3

Early bird outing 6 – 7 am
Continental Breakfast 7 – 8 am
White Head Is. outing (Jim Goltz) 7:30 am start
Morning outings 8 am – 12 noon
Afternoon outings 1 – 5 pm
Full Day 8 am – 5 pm
Banquet 6 – 9 pm

Sunday Sept 4

Early bird outing 6 – 7 am
Continental Breakfast 7 – 8 am
White Head Is. outing (Roger Burrows) 7:30 am start
Morning outings 8 am – 12 noon
Afternoon outings 1 – 5 pm
Full Day 8 am – 5 pm
Presentation by Writer Deborah Carr 6:30-7:00 pm
AGM 7 – 9 pm

Monday Sept 5

Early bird outing 6 – 7 am
Continental Breakfast 7 – 8 am
Morning outings 8 am – 12 noon

Field Trip Descriptions:

FRIDAY, 2 SEPTEMBER 2011

1. **Nature in the Evening.** 7-10 pm. Start the Festival of Nature weekend with an evening field trip to Dark Harbour. Discover the nocturnal species and the night

skies of Grand Manan with Roy Lapointe and Don McAlpine. Bring a flashlight. Unlimited attendance. Degree of difficulty: Easy

SATURDAY, 3 SEPTEMBER 2011

2. **Early Bird.** 6-7 am. Jim Brown (No participation limit and no registration required).

Full Day Field Trips

3. **White Head Island.** 7:30 am -5 pm. Enjoy a walking tour of Whitehead Island with Jim Goltz. Be prepared to stop for sea-life, birds and butterflies. Almost certainly you will see an interesting plant or two such as the diminutive Rand's Eyebright or the famous white-flowered patch of Fireweed, and you are sure to learn more than just their name. The walk will not be strenuous or difficult, but will be an all-day ramble (8-10 km) around the island. Max: 15 participants

4. **Introduction to Grand Manan Geology.** 8am – 5 pm. Dr. Greg McHone. Grand Manan has a "split personality" when it comes to geology, with a great fault separating Mesozoic basalts on the west from ancient metamorphic rocks on the east. Access is easy to vast lava flows, agate beaches, curious folds and faults, and remnants of the Ice Age. Max: 15 participants.
<http://earth2geologists.net/grandmanangeology/index.htm>
Degree of difficulty: Moderate, some scabbling.

5. **Island Hopping 1. - Wood Island.** 8 am-5 pm. (Cost: \$30, cash or cheque.) Visit one of the more remote islands of the Grand Manan archipelago with experienced birder and naturalist Roger Leblanc. Situated in plain sight of Grand Manan, this uninhabited island is seldom visited by naturalists as it has no ferry service. But that is exactly why you should want to go. Who knows what birds, plants and other natural treasures are there for the finding? That is what we will discover. Leaving from Seal Cove, this trip will be captained by Russell Ingalls whose family has worked and played on the outlining islands of the archipelago for generations. Max: 15 participants. Degree of difficulty: Moderate.

6. **Birding Grand Manan.** 8 am – 5 pm. If you have never been birding on Grand Manan or maybe are eager to learn where all the good "hot spots" are on the island, taking this tour with Normand Belliveau will be a good fit. Starting in Grand Harbour the group will head south to beautiful and "birdy" Southern Head and Bear's Den. On the drive back north, stops will be made at all the "musts" like Red Point, Anchorage, Castalia as well as the Whistle and Whale Cove roads. An experienced leader, Norm will not only help you find out where the birds are but also make sure everyone will have a chance of seeing them. Max: 15 participants. Degree of difficulty: Easy.

Morning Field Trips

7. **Pelagic Birds and Whales - Sea Watch Tours.** 8 am - 12 noon. (Cost: \$63 HST included, cash, cheque or credit cards accepted.) Leaving Seal Cove aboard the "Days Catch", a modified fishing vessel, Captain Peter Wilcox and mate Durlan Ingersoll will take you off Grand Manan to view a variety of whales and pelagic seabirds, and possibly porpoises, basking sharks, seals, ocean sunfish and blue fin tuna. We will "chum" for sea birds on our way to the whales. Dress warm and bring a snack. Hot beverage included. www.seawatchtours.com. Max: 40 participants . Degree of difficulty: Easy

8. **Seaweed discovery walk, talk, cook and taste.** 8 am - 12 noon. Explore and collect seaweed from the intertidal/beginning of subtidal zone with research scientist Thierry Chopin (bilingual). Make the Acadian pudding recipe, Blanc Mange, using Irish moss and enjoy a presentation about current seaweed research in the Bay of Fundy. Bring rubber boots and a walking stick (there will be some extras). Max: 15 participants. Degree of difficulty: Moderate (slippery rocks)

9. **Ross Island.** 8 am-12 noon. Join Grand Manan resident Bob Stone as he leads you around Ross Island. This island, now uninhabited, was the site of the first European settlement in 1784. It is accessible by foot 2 1/2 hours before and after low tide. You will hike the south western section, visiting an early building, a gravestone and Fish Fluke Light, the most endangered lighthouse on the East Coast. During our walk, there will be ample opportunity to view both birds and flora and fauna. Hiking footwear or rubber boots an asset. Max: 15 participants. Degree of difficulty: Moderate (no big hills).

Afternoon Field Trips

10. **Butterflies, Dragonflies.** 1-5 pm. Join Gilles Belliveau in search of Butterflies, Dragonflies and Damselflies in a variety of habitats throughout Grand Manan. Learn how to find them, how to net them, how to identify them. Bring an insect net and field guides if you have them but they are not required. Max: 15 participants. Degree of difficulty: Easy

11. **Tagging Monarch Butterflies.** 1-5 pm. Leader Jim Wilson is involved in a continental tagging program to track migrating Monarchs between here and Mexico. Early September is the peak migration and Grand Manan is one of our best places to find them. Jim will show how to capture and tag Monarchs and will also visit a certified

Monarch Waystation, part of an important North American network. Max: 15 participants. Degree of difficulty: Easy

SUNDAY, 4 SEPTEMBER 2011

13. **Early Bird.** 6-7 am. Durlan Ingersoll (No participation limit and no registration required).

Full Day Field Trips

14. **All-day field trip to White Head Island.** 7:30 am-5pm. Join Roger Burrows for a walking tour of White Head Island. Participants meet at the Anglican Church in Grand Harbour and car-pool to Ingalls Head for the 8:15 am ferry. Parking is available by the ferry terminal. A short ferry ride will take us to White Head Island to look for waterfowl and shorebirds and walk a total of 10 km (6+ miles) flat in search of raptors and migrant songbirds. Half of the walking will be on roads and half on pebbles and wet ground, so waterproof hiking boots are suggested. We will return by the 4.00 pm ferry. Max: 15 participants. Degree of difficulty: Moderate

15. **Island Hopping 2 - Kent Island.** 8 am – 5 pm. (Cost: \$45.00, cash or cheque.) Explore another outlying island of the Grand Manan archipelago with experienced birder and naturalist Roger Leblanc. Its remoteness (45 minutes by fishing boat from Seal Cove) makes it special, but the fact that Bowdoin College of Maine has maintained a biological field station and nesting seabird sanctuary there since 1935 makes it extraordinary. The people of the field station will be our host on Kent, and help us make the most of this exceptional trip to one of the most remote spots of the province. Leaving from Seal Cove, this trip will be captained by Russell Ingalls, year round caretaker for Kent island, whose family has worked and played on the outlying islands of the archipelago for generations. www.bowdoin.edu/kent-island/ Max: 15 participants. Degree of difficulty: Moderate

16. **Birding Grand Manan.** 8 am – 5 pm. See outing number 6.

17. **Introduction to Grand Manan Geology.** 8am – 5 pm. See outing number 4.

Morning Field Trips

18. **Pelagic Birds and Whales - Whales-n-Sails Adventures.** 8-12 noon. (Cost: \$66 - 10% discount = \$58.50 plus tax, Cash, cheque or credit cards). This discount will be extended to members from Aug 28 to Sept 10/11.) Leaving North Head aboard the "Elsie Menota", a sailing ketch, biologist Laurie Murison and crew will take you off Grand Manan for a 4 hour tour to view a variety of whales and pelagic seabirds, and

12. **Wildflowers.** 1-5 pm. Spend the afternoon with Grand Manan resident Wendy Dathan exploring the late summer wildflowers found in the woods, meadows, bogs, dunes and seashore around island. Max: 15 participants. Degree of difficulty: Easy

possibly porpoises, basking sharks, seals, ocean sunfish and blue fin tuna. The crew will "chum" for sea birds on our way to the whales Fish chowder and hot beverage included. Max: 40 participants. www.whales-n-sails.com. Degree of difficulty: Easy

19. **Intertidal Beachwalk.** 8 am -12 noon. Explore the tide pools and crevices of the intertidal zone of a Grand Manan shore with Mary Sollows. Look for sponges, mollusks, worms, crustaceans, echinoderms, tunicates and more. Walk approximately 1 km over sand, gravel, and slippery rocks. Bring rubber boots and a walking stick (there will be some extras). Max: 15 participants. Degree of difficulty: Moderate

20. **Field Photography.** 8 am – noon. Follow Clarence Nowlan on picturesque Grand Manan to share in some of the "tools of the trade" in photography that he has perfected over his several decades of conventional and more recently digital nature photography and presentations. This "in the field" session will concentrate on the use of "special existing light" to create stunning photos and also on "creating better composition". In other words we will concentrate on "What to look for before you press the shutter button". To learn more about Clarence and his company, Unique Stock Images visit www.photoatlantic.com. Max: 15 participants. Degree of difficulty: Easy

Afternoon Field Trips

21. **Butterflies and Dragonflies.** 1 - 5 pm. Repeat of outing number 10.

22. **Fern-tastic Walk.** 1-5 pm. Does fern identification scare you ? Now is the time to confront it! Rick Fournier will present participants with easy-to-use guides to help sort out ferns and fern allies, from the very small to the very big. All identification equipment will be provided. Max: 15 participants. Degree of difficulty: Moderate

23. **Fishing and the People of Grand Manan.** 1 pm -5 pm noon. Sharon Greenlaw will introduce you to her island and the islanders' way of life during the past century. Sharon is a descendant of the Passamaquoddy and of the first land grant owners of Grand Manan. She will describe how changes in fishing have changed the island way of life. Max: 15 participants: Degree of difficulty: Easy

24. **Early Bird.** 6-7 am. Paul Mansz (No participation limit and no registration required).

Morning Field Trips

25. **Pelagic Birds and Whales - Whales-n-Sails Adventures.** 8-12 pm. Repeat of session number 18.

26. **Intertidal Beachwalk.** 8 am -12 noon. Repeat of field trip number 19

27. **Fishing and the People of Grand Manan.** 8 am -12 noon. Repeat of field trip number 23.

28. **Birding with Jim Wilson.** 8 am -12 noon. Jim Wilson will spend the morning searching for new arrivals and “mopping up” – seeking out interesting birds found earlier in the weekend. This will be your chance to see some good birds you might have missed while on other field trips, or to discover something new. Fall migration will be in full swing and anything is possible. Max: 15 participants. Degree of difficulty: Easy to moderate

Registration Form (Please copy this form as necessary to submit **separate** registration information for each participant)

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Club affiliation _____

Registration for Early Bird events and Friday’s Nature In the Evening is not required.

Please circle your choices.

	First Choice	Second Choice
Saturday		
Full day	3, 4, 5, 6	3, 4, 5, 6
Morning	7, 8, 9	7, 8, 9
Afternoon	10, 11, 12	10, 11, 12
Sunday		
Full day	14, 15, 16, 17	14, 15, 16, 17
Morning	18, 19, 20	18, 19, 20
Afternoon	21, 22, 23	21, 22, 23
Monday		
Morning	25, 26, 27, 28	25, 26, 27, 28

Cheques payable to: Festival of Nature 2011,
Mail to: Festival of Nature 2011
% Alison McArthur
16 Pitt St. Sussex NB E4E 1J1

For inquiries contact Alison McArthur (506) 433-4994
alimarie@nbn.net.nb.ca

Participation in festival activities is at personal risk. Nature NB is not responsible for accidents, injuries or damages to persons participating in any activities of this Festival of Nature Weekend on the 2,3,4 and 5 September 2011.

Costs:	
<u>Registration Costs</u>	
Before June 1	\$30 _____
After June 1	\$40 _____
Youth under 12	free _____
<u>Banquet</u>	
Chicken	\$20 _____
Lobster	\$20 _____
Vegetarian	\$20 _____
<u>Lunches [R= Regular, M=Meatless]</u>	
Saturday R or M	\$8 _____
Sunday R or M	\$8 _____
Monday R or M	\$8 _____
Total	_____
<u>Costs to be paid on site:</u>	
Whale Watching (cash or credit card)	
Sat am	\$63
Sun am (inc. fish chowder)	\$58.50
Mon am (inc. fish chowder)	\$58.50
Wood Island (cash or cheque)	\$30
Kent Island (cash or cheque)	\$45