



Beat the heat with these seriously cool Adventures!

**AWA's summer adventure program continues, and
we have plenty of great ideas in store for you**

Photo: ©K. Van Pernis



From "Jumpingpound and Hounds Hike" adventure, held June 26

Wow what a week it's been! I imagine I'm speaking for more than just myself when I say that it's hard to believe summer is only just getting started!

It's even harder to believe when I think about all the great adventures we've already had this year. From the family skate way back in February (remember February? When it was still frigid?) through the March snow sports adventures

and Crocus hunt, the Pollinator Power! of April and then the explosion of field trips, hikes, and Adventures of all kinds in May and June.

Just last weekend, we had no fewer than *four* adventures take place! A birding tour, one hike each in the South Castle and Crowsnest Pass, and finally the "*Jumpingpounds and Hounds Hike*" with people and pooches in Kananaskis (see photo above)! We're working busily on getting photos and stories from all of those adventures up on the website's [photo gallery](#) -- as always be sure to keep checking back!

But we're far from done... as you can see by scrolling through the adventures below, we have several upcoming hikes and tours scheduled throughout the summer. Truly a great way to beat the heat (see for example the September 9th [Jura Creek Slot Canyon Hike](#)) and -- for those of you in Calgary -- the Stampede crowds (see e.g.: the adventures we have coming up on July 11, including [Discovering Ordovician Fossils](#), and [Lake Minnewanka Thru Hike](#)).

Looking for something to do with the kids? Margaret O'Regan's [Cochrane Ranche Adventure](#) should be a fascinating outing on July 22!

Plus many more... read on and find out!

And as always:

~ ~ ~ **Happy Adventuring!** ~ ~ ~



Jul 8-9: 40 / 40 / 40

Lindsey Wallis is turning 40 this year! Instead of buying a sports car, she plans to spend 40 hours doing something amazing in Alberta's wild spaces. Forty kilometres by bike. Forty pitches of climbing. All in forty hours.

[Follow along and become inspired!](#)

**Jul 11: Discovering
Ordovician Fossils in the
Tyndall Limestone in
Downtown, Kensington and
SAIT**

On this half-day urban field trip with Senior Petroleum Geologist Tako Koning we will look at buildings clad in fossils-rich limestones of the Tyndall Formation. Beginning in downtown Calgary, we will visit several historic buildings around the inner city including Kensington, and SAIT where a wide variety of fossils (corals, sponges, nautiloids, algae, pelecypods, brachiopods) are exquisitely preserved in the limestone that clads the Senator Patrick Burns building.

[Here's your chance to learn from a true expert in this fascinating field!](#)



Jul 11: Lake Minnewanka Thru Hike

Want to test your endurance and hike 33 kilometres (about 20 miles) mostly along Lake Minnewanka in Banff? Join a group of intrepid hikers who've been doing this long walk for the past 10 or 12 years, and let them organize the logistics of this "swap-the-keys-in-the-middle" hike. You could even challenge your family or friends, who may not believe that you can hike 20 miles in a day.

[Find out what you're really made of!](#)

Jul 11: Plateau Mountain - Bike and Hike

Plateau Mountain is a prominent landmark in south western Alberta between the Livingstone Range and

the prairie. It was declared an Ecological Reserve in 1991 and AWA have been stewards of this unique place for decades. This is a chance to see Plateau Mountain and its spectacular views in some detail – we will be covering some of the route by mountain bike and the rest on foot.

[Sign up for this rare opportunity!](#)



Jul 16: Dinosaurs and Badlands / Albertosaurus Bonebed of Dry Island

Sadly, the interpretive hike to Dry Island has already filled up. However there are still remaining spots in the special Zoom presentation on the “*Albertosaurus Bonebed of Dry Island.*” This is an exclusive opportunity to virtually meet Dr. François Therrien, Curator of Dinosaur Palaeoecology at Royal Tyrrell Museum and attend his fascinating lecture.

[Sign up today to learn about the Albertosaurus!](#)

Jul 22: Cochrane Ranche Adventure

On this kid-friendly adventure at the historical Cochrane Ranche led by two schoolteachers, we will hike through the beautiful Big Hill Creek valley and will make a visit to the museum at the Cochrane RancheHouse to discover more about the area and the ranching way

of life.

[Suitable for ages 7-12](#)



Aug 11: Ghost Wildfire Exploration

You may recall the wildfire in the Ghost last fall that almost got out of control and had the population of the valley on evacuation alert for almost a week. On this adventure we will hike through the gravel flats of the upper North Ghost Valley near Black Rock Mountain, where accompanied by wildfire expert Edward A. Johnson Ph.D., we will check out the burned and charred areas, looking for signs of new plant growth. We will learn how such fires start, how they spread and also how to best fight them. And we will better understand the benefits and also the damages that wildfires can cause.

[Indulge your inner firefighter!](#)

Aug 28: Orphan Oil & Gas Wells and Foothills Geology – Southern Alberta Field Trip

Senior petroleum geologist Tako Koning will be leading this exciting all-day road trip starting at Frank

Lake, ending in Longview, and stopping at a handful of interesting sites along the way. We will visit sloughs where hundreds of bird species have been identified; stop at the site of an orphan gas well assigned to the Orphan Well Association for abandonment and site remediation; investigate the underlying geology and stunning views at the crest of the Porcupine Hills; and more.



[Sign up here!](#)



Sep 9: Jura Creek Slot Canyon Hike

Ever wanted to hike through a cool stream in a slot canyon on a warm summer day – an hour’s drive from Calgary? Further up the valley you can visit a geology teaching site where three rock formations meet up, all several hundred million years old. Sign up to walk with Heinz Unger up Jura Creek, and maybe even scout out the “trail” to Loder Peak.

[Explore the cool waters](#)

Jul-Aug: Biodiversity Bees in Brentwood

Following on the 2021 Earth Day theme of *Restore our Earth*, this year’s World Environment Day, June 5, kicked off the UN *Decade of Ecosystem Restoration*. And, it all comes together nicely under the 2021 theme for the International Day for Biological Diversity: *We’re Part of the Solution*. It seems like the perfect year to join in with communal

stewardship right here in Brentwood
– with plenty of space to keep 2
metres apart.

[Support local native biodiversity.](#)



What is Adventures for Wilderness?

Adventures for Wilderness is AWA's annual program to engage Albertans in wilderness conservation. We believe an Adventure can be anything from climbing a mountain, to walking by the river, to enjoying the beauty of nature in your own backyard ([literally YOUR own backyard!](#)) Visit our website to learn about the Adventures this season and how you can support Alberta Wilderness Association.



[Learn more](#)



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