



Spring is coming, and so are some great new Adventures!

We hope you haven't forgotten to make room on your calendar for some of our *Adventures for Wilderness*! Read on to see what we have coming up in the coming months.



Photo from a day trip to Upper Waterton Lake following an April snowfall.

I hope you're feeling as good as I am about coming out of an occasionally-challenging Winter season. Between the deep cold around the New Year, the poor cross-country skiing conditions, and the general uncertainty in the world at large, it's been hard for us to know what kind of Adventures would be best for us to offer. We definitely had several ideas that turned out to be less-than-feasible and a few planned Adventures that never quite made it off the drawing board.

However I'm quite confident that we've now turned a corner, and with the melting ice can set our sights firmly on the Adventures we have for the spring.

Part of that optimism stems from the success of our new **Kids' Citizen Science** series. In the first Kids' Citizen Science Adventure in January, participants [learned all about the science of snowflakes](#), and grew their own crystal snowflake in a jar. It was a real hit with the young budding scientists, who were all eager for more. So we're excited to open the February instalment up for new registrations. The February Kids' Citizen Science adventure will be [on the topic of Coyotes, with Colleen Campbell](#) who is a renowned Alberta naturalist and expert.

As we mentioned in the last newsletter, the Kids' Citizen Science series will be running all year long, with upcoming adventures on the following topics:



- [January: Snowflakes](#)
- [February: Coyotes](#)
- March: **Alberta Native Bees**
- April: **Greater Sage-grouse**
- May: **Grizzly Bears**
- June: **Orchids**
- August: **Squiggly Snakes**
- September: **Water Bugs and Westslope Cutthroat Trout**
- October: **Little Brown Bat**
- November: **Woodland Caribou**

Of course we have any number of other adventures, for us older scientists and explorers of the natural world! Read on below for hikes, walks in the park, bike trips and more!

And as always, we have more ideas cooking on the burner that aren't *quite* ready to post yet, but we hope to announce officially in the next newsletter.

To give you a quick preview:

- As much as it may feel like Spring has sprung, of course it is still February, so our Alberta climate will likely have other plans. Which means we anticipate another snowshoe adventure (or perhaps Winter Hike, as the weather dictates) sometime in March.
- Sr. Geologist Tako Koning's field trips to explore the Geology of Alberta are always well received, and we eagerly anticipate a reprise of those educational outings.
- And finally, we often hear from folks who appreciate the backcountry Adventures but are sad that the annual Stair Climb is no longer around. We understand that disappointment, and have something special up our sleeves that we hope to be able to announce soon!

So stay tuned for those and more adventures, making sure to leave some room on your calendar for dessert.

But for now, on to the main course! The outings that we have confirmed are listed below, so we hope you to see you at one (or more!)

Finally. To be sure you don't miss any announcements of upcoming Adventures, I wish to remind everyone that we are actively posting content on our various social media platforms. So be sure to give Lindsey a follow on:

- [Twitter \(@Adventures4Wild\)](#)
- [Instagram \(@Adventures4Wild\)](#)
- [Facebook \(AlbertaWilderness\)](#)

And as always:

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

Feb 26: Kids' Citizen Science (February): Coyotes with Colleen

Coyotes is the second *Kids' Citizen Science Adventure* offered in 2022. Unique to North America, Coyotes



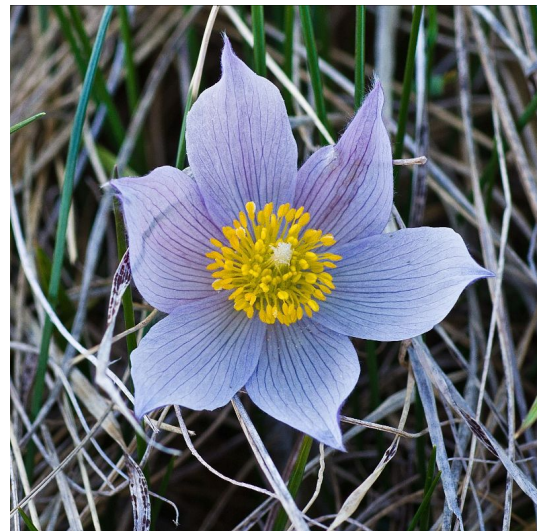
have been our wild neighbours for thousands of years. You will learn about “Trickster Coyote,” coyote’s important role in our ecosystems and how we can be respectful of all our wild neighbours. Colleen will also be teaching you how to draw a coyote!

[Let’s get howling](#)

Mar 24: Crocus Hunt on Nose Hill

Join Christyann on an Adventure in memory of Margaret Main and Gus Yaki, two of AWA’s most dedicated volunteers. In years past Margaret and Christyann would check hillsides for the first crocus blooms, a symbol of spring that meant so much to both; while in his inimitable way, Gus would often beat them to the punch, finding the first one.

[Register to join the hunt](#)



Jun 11: Wainwright Dunes - Birds and More Tour

Join AWA and Cliff Wallis for a unique hike and birding tour out among the grasslands and wetlands



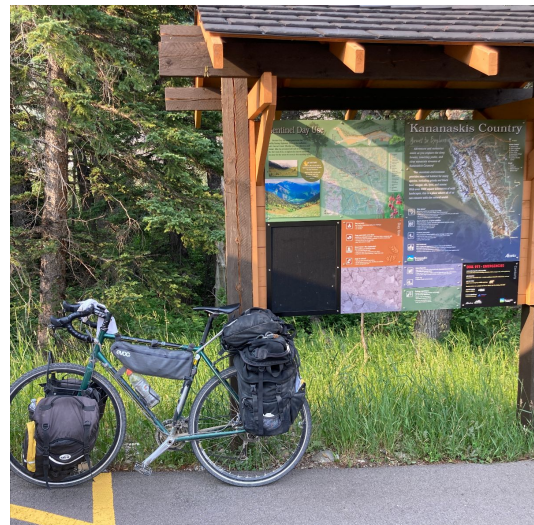
of the Wainwright Dunes Ecological Reserve, northwest of Provost. Situated adjacent to the southern boundary of the Wainwright Canadian Forces Base, this protected area is a unique combination of ecosystems. The Ecological Reserve has a diverse bird life representing the interface between boreal and prairie including both upland and wetland habitats .

[Sign up for a tour of discovery.](#)

Jun 25-26: Bikepacking the Cowboy Trail

This weekend-long bikepacking trip will take us from Calgary south to the Porcupine Hills along the Cowboy Trail. In this two-day adventure we will spend a day taking in the fantastic views and history of Alberta's front ranges. Then we'll camp overnight among the wildflowers of the Porcupine hills before returning to town the second day. The adventure will be led by an experienced bikepacker and we will have support on-hand to cover any eventuality.

[Get ready for an epic ride](#)



Jul 16: Rae Glacier

This hike will take us very close to or



onto 2 small glaciers on the north side of Mount Rae in the Elbow Lake/Highwood Pass area. The first two thirds of the hike is on clear trails, the last third is on scree and is stony underfoot. The scenery in the area is spectacular.

This is a reprise of the *Rae Glacier* hike scheduled in October 2021, which had to be postponed on account of weather. If you were registered on the October hike, you are automatically registered in this one. If you weren't but would like to come along, we have a bit of extra space, so please sign up!

[It's never too early to think about the summer](#)

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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