



VOLUME 46 ISSUE 1  
SPRING 2015



Waskahegan Trail Association P.O. Box 131, Edmonton AB T5J 2G9  
[www.waskahegantrail.ca](http://www.waskahegantrail.ca)

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# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & SOCIAL

**Friday, April 17 2015, 7:00 PM**  
**AVONMORE UNITED CHURCH**  
**7909—82 AVENUE**

You are invited to attend  
the Annual  
General Meeting and Social.

A place to visit, welcome new members  
and elect a new board.

*After the business and elections portion of the  
meeting there will be a presentation on*

***The Beaver Hills Initiative and  
the UNESCO Biosphere Nomination***

will be given by  
Dr. Guy Swinnerton, Professor Emeritus University of Alberta

Light refreshments will be provided.

### THE WTA EXECUTIVE

PRESIDENT/HIKE COORDINATOR:	JOANNE BUREK	780-487-0645	NEWSLETTER/ PERMISSIONS ADMINISTRATOR:	MARILYN TICHKOWSKY	780-456-1819
PAST PRESIDENT:	ROB FAULDS	780-478-5622	TRAIL MAINTENANCE/ EVENT COORDINATOR:	KAREN BELL	780-642-6372
MEMBERSHIP/SECRETARY:	SANDRA CARRUTHERS	780-467-9572	LANDOWNER RELATIONS:	GEOFF FLECK	780-855-2126
TREASURER:	MICHELE FORTIN	780-417-6928	WEBMASTER:	LEE STICKLES	780-487-0645

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



JoAnne Burek

I just spent several days in the 1970's and early 1980's, living in the era when the Waskahegan Trail was being built. Actually, I was editing and indexing the new edition of the Waskahegan Trail Guide Book. As I read "Our History" and every one of the trail descriptions and all the endnotes, several times over, I was completely absorbed.

I am amazed that the trail got started. How many people today would have the nerve to call on farmers and ask permission to build trails on their land. And what about the labour to clear the trails, build stiles, and build bridges. Many hands came together, and of not just adults, but Scouts and high school students too. Was that a different era? Could such a project get off the ground today?

I would like to have this discussion with the people who were involved at the time as I can only speculate. But I am convinced of one critical factor: the project was led by great leaders, who established a compelling vision, which they communicated strongly, coherently, and frequently. It was so compelling that many institutions got on board. The momentum was maintained throughout. Although I doubt that every task proceeded smoothly, the work parties must have been exciting and satisfying to attract and engage so many people.

We live in a different era today, but the fundamentals never change. A clear and compelling vision is still the basis for any organization. The Waskahegan Trail is established now, and the work required to keep it going has changed somewhat. We focus on maintaining the trails we have, rather than building new ones, although in some places we have to rebuild as we deal with beaver damage and withdrawn permissions. We have new means to communicate, using email and our website. But we have half the membership we used to have, which points to a loss of momentum.

We need to check our vision. Is it still compelling, clear, and coherent? Is it reinforced in our communications and our activities? These are questions the board is responsible for addressing these questions, with the involvement of the members.

We also need to connect with those people who would like to participate in our activities, but don't know it yet. I believe people today are just as interested, if not more so, in the environment, outdoor pursuits, and fitness. They also have more demands on their time, and they have more choices on how to use their time. This is an exciting era—it should be easier to reach out to people today than it was in 1970. Again, we have to make sure our vision is compelling to people today, and we have to communicate it effectively.

I am interested in your views. Let me know what you think by sending me an email at [president@waskahegantrail.ca](mailto:president@waskahegantrail.ca).



## MEMBERSHIP DISCOUNT

Waskahegan members are eligible to receive 10% off any regular priced merchandise bought at Camper's Village on 170 Street or at 32nd Avenue and Calgary Trail and also at Track 'n Trail, 10148-82 Avenue. To obtain the discount you must show your current membership card.

## TRAIL MAINTENANCE NEWS—APRIL 2015

This season we will start with a light schedule in May due to the hard work of our maintenance crews last October. In Ministik north through Berg stopover landowners have cleared the trail for us! Thank you! Now we can hike Ministik in the spring, which is something we rarely do as the trail work cannot be done till past July due to bird nesting.

I am reducing the number of times we go out by organizing some work crews with more people. I will email all the volunteers with the upcoming two months' schedule and ask for people to commit themselves to a specific date. However last minute workers are welcome as well. Changes in the schedule are always up to date on the website.

We are in the initial stages of an agreement with the Edmonton chapter of Military Engineers to build a bridge next year between A110 and the gas well, crossing Ross Creek, where it has become a lake due to beaver activity. This year I hope to do some of the simpler boardwalk building in the Ross Creek area around RR 215.

Volunteers will now be treated to a coffee AND a muffin after each work day!

### *Do you have a double garage on the South Side?*

Trail Maintenance is looking for a workshop for our equipment. Currently we store our equipment at Sentinel Storage. We do not have enough space and light, nor any electricity, to actually maintain the equipment there or to store any wood.

For example, we fill equipment with gas and oil, sharpen blades, cut wood for stiles or boardwalks, and do minor repairs. Currently the equipment manager must use his own garage for this. This is inefficient. With a central location, some of the tasks could be shared.

If you have a double garage that we could rent please contact Karen at [k-bell@shaw.ca](mailto:k-bell@shaw.ca) or 780 642-6372.

### *Do you have a truck or a hitch to pull our trailer?*

Are you interested in doing trail maintenance and do you have a vehicle with a hitch or a truck?

Currently we have only one person with a trailer hitch for pulling our equipment trailer and another person with a truck for transporting equipment, materials to the trail. We are looking for more people we can call on.

If your vehicle is used for transporting equipment and/or materials, you will be compensated at \$.60 per km.

Please contact Karen at [k-bell@shaw.ca](mailto:k-bell@shaw.ca) or 780 642-6372.



*Pipestone May 2014- stile construction*



*Pipestone June 2014 - in a tangle*



*Trappers Lake May 2014 - mower eats tree!*



*Battle River Gwynne August 2014-stubborn mower*

## *Beyond the Waskegagan Trail Events 2015*

- (membership required) -Contact Karen with questions or for sign-up [k-bell@shaw.ca](mailto:k-bell@shaw.ca) 780 642-6372

### One Day Events:



1. **May 17 Sunday-*Elk Island Natioal Park*** <http://www.pc.gc.ca/eng/pn-np/ab/elkisland/index.aspx>

- We will hike Shirley Lake trail. The 10.5km trail passes through rolling terrain, aspen forests and meadows where moose, bison and elk can be seen.
- Meet at Capilano McDonalds parking lot
- Limit 12 people or 3 cars; unless members have national park passes. Sign up ahead to make sure you have a spot; however sign up is not required.
- Car pool cost is \$5



2. **June 19 Friday -*Whitecourt*** explore road trip

- We pit stop in *Sangudo*, before going on to *Whitecourt's* Forest Interpretive Centre and up to *Coal Mine Hill Lookout* for a breath taking view. Then we go to *Hard Luck Canyon* where we will have lunch. This is a beautiful place nestled in the forests of Woodlands County with a breathtaking view of the ancient cliffs and the sound of the trickling falls and creek nearby.
- We take a look at the *E.S. Huestis Demonstration Forest* with 7km of trail.
- On the drive home we go for supper at the *Rochfort Bridge Trading Post*, a restaurant & gift shop just past *Mayerthorpe*.
- Car pool cost is \$8. The distance is approximately 172km (1hr 30min) from Edmonton.
- Meeting place is at Superstore 170 St parking lot.
- Sign up to maximize carpooling.



3. **July 5 Sunday-*Gouin***; an Alberta Conservation site <http://www.albertadiscoverguide.com/>

- Site details – From lime green palm trees to towering cacti, expect the unexpected on your visit to Gouin. Such additions to the landscape may seem tongue-in-cheek, but all 480 acres have been lovingly preserved and developed for the enjoyment of visitors.
- Location is north on Hwy 2 near Westlock.
- We will explore and have our lunch near one of the lakes.
- Meet at McDonald's Westmount parking lot;
- Car pool cost \$5
- No prior sign up required.



4. **October 3 Saturday - *WTA BBQ & hike***, possibly at Miquelon PP

- This is an annual membership event where we provide the BBQ lunch. Thanks again to Car-gill for donating the delicious burgers for last year's event!
- More details will appear on the website closer to the date.
- Sign up will be required.

**5. October 16 Friday - County of Lamont churches**

- This will be a road tour of some of the 47 churches in Lamont County. Some of the churches will be viewed on the inside. Victoria Settlement historic site may be included in the tour. Lunch will be a buffet for \$14 at M&M's Kozy Kitchen in Mundare.
- Sign up is required to maximize car pooling.
- The cost of car pooling TBD.
- More details TBD.

**Overnight Events:****1. July 20-24; Mt Robson Provincial Park in BC**

- Monday – Friday; 4nights/ 5 days
- lodging at Tete Jaune Lodge <http://www.tetejaunelodge.com/index.html>
- meals next door at Riverside Cafe; good for breakfast, bag lunches, some suppers
- other suppers in Valemont: Cariboo Grill, Great Escape, Pepe's Pizza, The Funky Goat.
- option to Whitewater raft one day for 3hrs on the Fraser with Stellar Descents for \$90 approx.
- sign up with post dated cheque payable to Karen Bell for **\$255** dated July 15
- limit 12 people

**2. August 24-27; Nordegg area**

- Monday – Thursday; 3 nights/4 days
- lodging and meals at Goldeye Centre (<http://goldeye.org/>) President's Wing
- hike and lunch at Crimson Lake PP enroute to Goldeye
- stopping at Grillers for supper in Rocky on return drive to Edmonton.
- sign up with post dated cheque payable to Karen Bell for **\$350** dated Aug.15
- limit 12 people

**3. September 21-25 Kananaskis/Canmore @ Camp Chief Hector YMCA**

- Monday to Friday 4 nights/5 days – lodging and meals
- (<http://www.ymcacalgary.org/camps/camp-chief-hector/>)
- staying at the Forest House and eating at Bowfort Lodge
- sign up with post dated cheque payable to Karen Bell for **\$310** dated Sept.10
- limit 16 people

The  
Waskahegan  
Trail Guide  
Book



Eighth Edition

## Guide Book Eighth Edition

The Eighth Edition of the Waskahegan Trail Guide Book is now available. This edition has several changes:

The front section was rewritten substantially. It has a better explanation of the trail and how to use it.

The trails section was updated to reflect changes since 2009 to 2012. Descriptions and maps were updated or clarified for thirteen trails.

More detail was added to the table of contents and the References, and the index is now more comprehensive.

Facts were checked and validated and other enhancements were made to improve usability.

One thing that has not changed is the page numbers of the trails. "Fort Ethier to Highway 814" is still on pages 40–41. **This makes the new book usable with the old trail map references.** Nevertheless, we hope that you decide to purchase the eighth edition because of the new information about the trails and the many improvements.

The Eighth Edition team consisted of Karen Bell, Michele Fortin, JoAnne Burek, Don Kennedy and Marilyn Tichkowsky.

## Opportunities for You

We would never be able to accomplish as much as we do without a board to represent the Association, manage its affairs, and set direction.

Do you have skills you can share? Or perhaps would you like to learn some new skills and gain practical experience in a relaxed and supportive environment? Why not consider joining the board?

Going into the elections at the Annual General Meeting, the following positions are unfilled - secretary, publicity, hike coordinator, vice president, and directors-at-large.

Call JoAnne at 780-487-0645 to learn more about these positions.

## A YEAR OF HIKING—2014

Have you hiked a few or all of our scheduled hikes? Did you enjoy where you hiked? Would you like a memento? Would you like to tell the world (or just your friends) all about "The Waskahegans"?

The DVD "A Year of Hiking 2014" is now available.

The cost for the DVD is \$5, plus an additional \$5 if you want it mailed.

Additional DVDs purchased on the same order are \$2 each. We have DVDs going back to 2010.

Please contact JoAnne Burek at [780-487-0645](tel:780-487-0645) or Sandra Carruthers at [780-467-9572](tel:780-467-9572), or mail a request to Waskahegan Trail Association, P.O. Box 131, Edmonton AB T5J 2G9, enclosing a cheque payable to "Waskahegan Trail Association."



## WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Alexander Boos and 3068 SALH Cadets  
 Todd Dewart  
 Andrew Fehr  
 Rita Jandrey  
 Rosemarie Jalbert  
 Susan Kokas  
 Crista Korniski  
 Cindy & Drew Lowry  
 Alizah Miller  
 June Osborne  
 Adeline Panamaroff  
 Miranda Smit  
 Susan Spylar  
 Chris Hammond-Thrasher

Sandra will be available to renew memberships at the AGM.

Memberships and/or renewals can be made for periods of 1 to 5 years.



## DONATIONS

*Thank you*

Heather Shankowsky  
 Gail Helgason and John Dodd  
 Andrew Fehr  
 Susan Kokas  
 Alizah Miller  
 Crista Korniski  
 Todd Dewart

*For your generous donations*



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## Do you enjoy working with tools?

We are looking for an Assistant Equipment Manager to assist with maintaining our trail maintenance equipment, make purchases as required, and help get supplies ready for work parties. The work will be done under the direction and guidance of the Equipment Manager, and will require travel to and from the storage shed where the equipment is located (currently at Sentinel Storage, 99 Street and 34 Avenue).

At present, our equipment includes mowers, weed eaters, chain-saws, and a trailer. We also use hand tools, such as clippers, hammers, shovels, and hand saws. Occasionally we build stiles. You may already have expertise, or you may want to grow your skills and expand your knowledge. If you are interested, or if you have any questions about the opportunity, send an email to [information@waskahegantrail.ca](mailto:information@waskahegantrail.ca) and we will get back to you.



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## 2015 Hikes

We are pleased to bring you the schedule of hikes from May through October. Note that the schedule includes the occasional Saturday hike; Saturday dates are **bolded**. The guide book page number is listed for each hike destination.

This schedule is prepared well in advance. Please remember that the details are subject to change. Consult the website for the most current information ([www.waskahegantrail.ca](http://www.waskahegantrail.ca)), or call the hike leader, or call JoAnne at 780-487-0645.

There are several hikes not yet assigned to leaders. If you would like to lead a hike, email [hikes@waskahegantrail.ca](mailto:hikes@waskahegantrail.ca), or call JoAnne.

### Meeting Places and Carpooling

Unless otherwise indicated, we meet at the northwest corner of the parking lot at Superstore on Calgary Trail near 51<sup>st</sup> Ave.

The locations of alternate meetings places are the following:

Capilano McDonalds: 9857 - 50 St.

Westmount McDonalds: 11260 Groat Road (around 112 Avenue and 133 St.)

*If you are going to ride in a carpool, please bring \$5 for the driver.*

Departure Time is 9 a.m.

We depart from the meeting place at 9:00 a.m. We recommend that you get to the meeting place by 8:45 to allow time for signing in.

Date		Destination	Guide Bk Pg	Leader	Phone
3-May	Sun	Ministik: A88 to Ministik Lake Part I	75		
10-May	Sun	Ross Creek & Fort Saskatchewan	107, 109	Karen	780-642-6372
17-May	Sun	Beyond Event: Elk Island (members only) Meet at Capilano McDonalds		Karen	780-642-6372
24-May	Sun	Ministik - Berg: A88 to Triple B Ponds	77		
<b>30-May</b>	<b>Sat</b>	Coal Lake: A45 to Water Plant	37	Yvette	780-756-3623
7-Jun	Sun	Source of the Blackmud: A38-A39+	29		
14-Jun	Sun	West Battle: A57 to A58C (Schnee Hill)	49	JoAnne	780-487-0645
21-Jun	Sun	Ministik: A87 (Spilstead Access) to Dorward Lake	73, 75		
<b>27-Jun</b>	<b>Sat</b>	East Hastings Lake and Allen Nature Walk: A97 to A92	79,81	Yvette	780-756-3623
5-Jul	Sun	Beyond Event: Gouin (members only) Meet at Westmount McDonalds		Karen	780-642-6372
12-Jul	Sun	Stoney Creek	57	Elizabeth	780-672-2873
19-Jul	Sun	Ross Creek Partridge Hill: A112 to A110	105		
<b>25-Jul</b>	<b>Sat</b>	North Coal Lake: A40 to A39	29		
2-Aug	Sun	Coal Lake South: A47 to Water Plant	37		
9-Aug	Sun	Gwynne Section and Chickadee Trail	47	Oscar	780-435-1197
16-Aug	Sun	Miquelon Lakes: A84 to A84D (Miquelon Lake #2)	67	JoAnne	780-487-0645
23-Aug	Sun	Saunders Lake	25	Stella.	780-488-9515
<b>29-Aug</b>	<b>Sat</b>	Middle Battle A60 to A61E	51	Yvette	780-756-3623
6-Sep	Sun	Whitemud - Mactaggart		Karen	780-642-6372
13-Sep	Sun	Kopp Lake: A35 to A34	27	Helen	780-468-4331
20-Sep	Sun	Miquelon A85- A86	71		
<b>26-Sep</b>	<b>Sat</b>	St. Albert with St. Albert Market			
4-Oct	Sun	Pipestone: A50 to A48D	41, 43		
11-Oct	Sun	West Battle: A60 to Schnee Hill	49	JoAnne	780-487-0645
18-Oct	Sun	Devon		Helen	780-468-4331
<b>24-Oct</b>	<b>Sat</b>	Wanisan: A99 To Winter Shelter	85		

## Membership Renewal

Unless you joined after September 1, 2014, or if you haven't already renewed, your membership expired on February 28, 2015. Please detach this form and mail it with your cheque, and we will send you an updated membership card. Or if you prefer, you can pay for your renewal at the Annual General Meeting on April 17. You can renew your waiver when you come to the next hike or at the AGM. For your convenience, you can renew for up to five years at once.



### WASKAHEGAN TRAIL ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

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Please complete this form and Member Waiver(s) and mail to **Waskahegan Trail Association**, P.O. Box 131, Edmonton, AB T5J 2G9

First and Last Name: Family or Group, provide a Primary Contact Person's First and Last Name. \_\_\_\_\_  
Family or Group Name: If joining as a family or organization \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address including Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Alternate Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: Family or Group, please enter a Primary Email Address. \_\_\_\_\_

Single/Family/Group Membership Fee	_____	\$20.00/ year <i>Membership runs March 1 to February 28. New members joining after September 1 receive the balance of the year free with a full paid membership for the next year.</i>
Guide Book (Members Only)	_____	\$10.00 available to members only
DVD "A Year in Hiking"	_____	\$5.00 for the first one, \$2.00 for additional
Guide book and/or DVD shipping	_____	\$5.00 required if you want these mailed to you
Crest	_____	\$3.00
Decal	_____	\$2.00
Pin	_____	\$3.00
Donation	_____	Tax receipt issued for donations of \$10 and more
Total	\$ _____	Total in Canadian Dollars

Newsletters will be emailed to you. If you request, we will mail you a black and white paper copy.

*I wish to receive paper-copy newsletters through the mail*

We welcome and appreciate our member volunteers. Please indicate whether you or members of your family or group would be willing to help, by checking the area(s) of interest:

Hike Leader	<input type="checkbox"/>	Board of Directors	<input type="checkbox"/>
Trail Maintenance	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social Events	<input type="checkbox"/>
Please Call Me	<input type="checkbox"/>	Website/Newsletter/Publicity	<input type="checkbox"/>