



Spring has finally sprung!! We hope you have been able to get out and enjoy the trails as it starts to warm up out there. With thoughts of pleasant weather, comes thoughts of the exciting spring events we are hosting or attending. Apologies for the long newsletter, there are quite a few! So get your calendars ready and check out our website or Facebook page for details as they are added 😊

Don't forget about the iNaturalist City Nature Challenge from April 26-29. To find out more information, visit <http://citynaturechallenge.org/>. To help our community get out and contribute their nature observations to the competition, we will be hosting a guided hike on **Sunday, April 28**. More info to come, so stay tuned! There are two workshops planned this weekend to help you get ready for the event and teach you about using the app. **On Saturday** from 10:00-12:00. [Register here!](#) Also **this Sunday**, at 2:30 at the Keshen Goodman Public Library. Space is limited and registration is required. Please contact Bob McDonald at bobathome83@gmail.com.

May 4 (9:00am) – Maintenance on the Mainland Common Loop. Come out to help us maintain this well-loved trail and check out the spring flowers that are abundant in the bog area and surrounding forest. Meeting point is the parking lot by the ballfield at the top of Westridge Drive at 8:50 am. Registration is required by emailing hnwta.communications@gmail.com

May 6 (7:00pm) – HNWTA Annual General Meeting at the Keshen Goodman Public Library! Come by to hear about what our organization has done this year and what we plan to do in the coming year! Our fabulous Keynote Speaker Karen McKendry, Wilderness Outreach Coordinator with the Ecology Action Centre, is excited to share with us the benefits of getting out in nature and how to encourage those hesitant folks to join us outside! We will also be voting for this year's board members, and you can renew your membership at this time. If you have an interest in [becoming a member of our board](#), please let us know by emailing hnwta.communications@gmail.com. We are always looking for eager volunteers and are looking for anyone interested in managing the membership aspect of our organization.

May 24-26 – Hike Nova Scotia's eighth annual Hiking Summit, Western Shore. HNWTA will be there with bells on! A celebration of hiking culture, the summit includes workshops, hiking stories, networking, hikes, and a kids' program. Learn more and register here: www.hikenovascotia.ca.

June 1 (10:00am) – International Trails Day Hike to Fox Lake. Join us as we celebrate International Trails Day with a hike to Fox Lake in the proposed Blue Mountain Birch Cove Lakes Regional Park. Hike leaders Spencer and Alyssa will guide you out to the lake on the approximately 4 km return trail. It's a little rugged, and can be wet in places, so make sure you have proper footwear and are prepared for a moderate to intense hike (depending on your skill level). There will be rocks to climb over, and fun to be had! Meeting place is at the end of the cul-de-sac of Colins Road at 9:50 am. Registration is required by emailing Alyssa at: hnwta.communications@gmail.com This event is already almost full!!

June 9 (12:00pm) – Community Foot Prints Event! HNWTA has organized this fun event with support from Foot Solutions Halifax. Part of the HNWTA mandate is to connect community members and to act

as stewards for the environment; this event will unite like minded organizations in a community celebration. Visitors will be enriched with education, social opportunities, and with becoming involved community members. Some of our presenters are Nordic Walking Nova Scotia, Bike Again! and Welcoming Wheels, Ducks Unlimited Canada, Foot Care Nurses of Nova Scotia, and HRM Waste Management. Sign up or renew your HNWTA membership at the event and you could win new trail shoes from New Balance and Vasque. Great shoes to use while enjoying the beautiful trails that our community has to offer.

June 16 – Introduction to Nature Photography. This event is still in the planning stages, but we are excited to announce the bit of information we have so far! Darlene from [Creative Watters Art and Design](#) will be joining us to teach us all about how to find the right nature shots while out on the trails. More info to come about time, location, and registration!

Share these events with your friends, and we hope to see you all out on the trails!

Alyssa – HNWTA Communications