

NEW SEASON/2024

# macphail ecological woods forestry project

## EVENTS CATALOGUE 2024



# ABOUT US



Macphail Woods acknowledges that the land on which we work is unceded Mi'kmaq territory, and we pay our respects to the Indigenous Mi'kmaq people and of this territory; past present and future. We recognize the land in which we work as Indigenous Wabaniki forests, and will continue working with regional knowledge keepers of this land to inform our practice.

The Macphail Woods Ecological Forestry Project is the initiative of the Environmental Coalition of Prince Edward Island, a community-based registered charity. It combines protection of the natural areas with wildlife enhancement, forest stewardship, watershed protection, environmental education and ecological research.

## RESTORATION

- Native Plant Landscaping
- Native Plant Propagation
- Ecological Land Management
- Sustainable Forestry
- Shoreline Restoration

## EDUCATION

- Summer Nature Camps
- Chainsaw Training
- Free Events and Workshops
- Schoolground Naturalization
- Post-Secondary Courses
- School of Woodland Ecology

## NON-PROFIT

If you have been inspired by any of our free events, or would like to support our cause, we accept donation through our website or in-person.

**Support the Project!**  
[macphailwoods.org/about/support](http://macphailwoods.org/about/support)



# 2024 CALENDAR of EVENTS



- **Sharing a Love of Nature Summer Camp**
- **Free Educational Events**
- **Courses Offered** (*register at [macphailwoods.org](http://macphailwoods.org)*)

## February

**February 10th:** School of Woodland Ecology: Mapping your Forest

## April

**April 6th & 7th:** Chainsaw Safety Training level I & II

**April 13th:** Owl Prowl #1

**April 20th:** Owl Prowl #2

**April 27th & 28th:** Chainsaw Safety Training level I & II (women only)

## July

**July 1st- 5th:** Young Ecologists (Ages 10-12) Week 1

**July 8th-12th:** Nature Discovery (Ages 6-8) Week 1

**July 15th-19th:** Becoming a Naturalist (Ages 8-10) Week 1

**July 20th:** Summer in the Forest

**July 22d-26th:** Nature Discovery (Ages 6-8) Week 2

**July 22d-26th:** Bushcraft Ecology (Ages 12-14) Week 1

**July 29th- August 2nd:** Young Ecologists (Ages 10-12)

## August

**July 29th- August 2d:** Young Ecologists (Ages 10-12)

**August 5th-9th:** Nature Discovery (Ages 6-8) Week 3

**August 10th:** Coastal Habitats & Krumholtz Forests

**August 12th-16th:** Bushcraft Ecology (Ages 14-16) Week 2

**August 19th-23d:** Becoming a Naturalist (Ages 8-10) Week 2

## May

**May 4th:** Building and Maintaining Hedgerows

**May 11th:** Springtime in the forest

**May 18th:** Birds and Breakfast

**May 25th:** Landscaping with Native Plants

## June

**June 1st:** Native Plants of PEI with Kate MacQuarrie

**June 8th:** Nature in the Maritimes with Bob Bancroft

**June 15th:** Mosses, lichen & Liverworts with Daniel McRae

## September

**September 7th-8th:** Chainsaw Safety Training level I & II

**September 21st-22d:** Chainsaw Safety Training Level III & IV

**September 28th:** Black Ash, Wet Woodland & Swamps

## October

**October 12th:** Autumn in the Forest

## November

**November 16th:** Natural History of PEI

## December

**December 8th:** Winter Woodlands

# POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION

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## FIELD COURSE: ECOLOGICAL FORESTRY

Since 2009, we've offered a hands-on credit course with UPEI on Ecological Forestry. In recent years we've been able to expand to Acadia University in Nova Scotia as well. Our course is designed on principles of experiential learning. This week-long intensive course challenges students to combine theoretical learning with practical experience in planting native species, pruning for tree health, as well as creating and enacting a small-scale ecological forestry management plan.

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### UNIVERSITY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

**June 3-7**

In its twelfth year, this popular course often fills up so register early to avoid disappointment. Register through the [UPEI registrar's office](#).

### ACADIA UNIVERSITY

**August 26-30**

This is the fourth year we'll be offering our ecological forestry course at Acadia University. Register through [Acadia's registrar's office](#).



*Gary Schneider, Founder, teaching at Macphail Woods*

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# CHAINSAW SAFETY TRAINING



Our chainsaw safety courses teach participants to use a saw safely, thoughtfully, and with confidence. Chainsaw pants and/or chaps, and chainsaw boots and/or steel toes are required to attend the course. We will provide helmets and chainsaws for attendees to use.



## **CHAINSAW SAFETY TRAINING LEVEL I & II - \$370 (incl. HST) LEVELS I & II are prerequisites for LEVEL III & IV)**

Course One: **April 6th-7th**

Course Two: **September 7th - 8th**

This course covers the basics of chainsaw operation and safety, with both classroom and hands-on training. Day one is spent on safety and felling; day two is spent on maintenance, limbing and bucking.

## **CHAINSAW SAFETY TRAINING LEVEL III & IV - \$370 INCLUDING HST**

**September 21st-22nd**

Building on the concepts of Levels I & and II, we deal with more dangerous trees, storm damage, and sharpening. This course is designed to fine-tune your skills to tackle more complex situations in the woods.

## **WOMEN'S ONLY CHAINSAW TRAINING LEVEL I & II - \$370 INCLUDING HST**

**April 27th-28th**

The goal of these courses is to create a positive learning environment and build confidence. As with all our chainsaw safety courses, we aim to give participants a thorough understanding of safety concepts and foundational skills in saw operation.

## **INDUSTRY CHAINSAW SAFETY TRAINING**

This comprehensive three-day course is available for private bookings and focuses on preparing employees to work safely and efficiently. Topics range from chainsaw basics to advanced felling techniques to dealing with storm damage.

## **PRIVATE CHAINSAW SAFETY TRAINING**

Gather a group and book your training! Perfect for community groups and NGOs.

**For Inquiries Contact:** Evan Young [evanyoung@macphailwoods.org](mailto:evanyoung@macphailwoods.org)

**Registration & Availability** <https://macphailwoods.org/courses/chainsaw-safety-training>

# FREE EDUCATIONAL EVENTS



Come share a love of Nature with us through our free events all year round. Be sure to check out our website for any additions or changes to our calendar of free events! There is no registration required, and all events will be held on-site.

## Owl Prowl at Macphail Woods

**Owl Prowl #1: April 13th - 7:30pm**

**Owl Prowl #2: April 20th - 7:30pm**

Join us for a talk on owls and then walk the trails learning how to hoot for owls. Although we offer multiple owl prowls, we ask that you only attend one so that everyone has an opportunity to participate.



## Building and Maintaining Hedgerows

**May 4th, 10 am**

This workshop will look at creating diverse, beautiful and functional hedgerows and windbreaks using a variety of native plants. Participants will learn about which plants are best, spacing, planting and maintenance a variety of native plants. Participants will learn about which plants are best, spacing, planting and maintenance.

## Springtime in the Forest

**May 11th, 10 am**

Let us enjoy the beauty and wonders of springtime in the forest together. Come on a guided walk with staff at Macphail Woods showcasing spring flowers and ferns through our forest trails.





## **Birds & Breakfast**

*With Dwayne Oakley & Fiep De Bie*

**May 18th- 7 am (Breakfast) - 8 am (Guided Walk)**

Come for breakfast, stay for the birds! Join us at 7 am to serve a free "early bird" breakfast. Then walk the trails of the Macphail Homestead with Dwayne Oakley and Fiep de Bie, looking at year-round residents and returning migratory birds. A great walk for the whole family. Wear your boots, and bring binoculars if you have them.

## **Landscaping with Native Plants**

*with Becky Byrne*

**May 25th, 10 am**

Want to spend less time cutting grass and more time enjoying the beautiful plants around your home? This workshop introduces a variety of hardy native plants to attract wildlife and beautify your yard. Becky Byrne has made countless landscape designs and is an expert in native plant propagation.



## **Plants of PEI With Kate MacQuarrie**

**June 1st, 10 am**

Kate MacQuarrie, one of the province's foremost biologists will host another of her much sought-after educational events. Her talk and walk will focus on many of these plants, both native and non-native, that you commonly encounter, plus a look at lots of rare trees, shrubs, wildflowers and ferns. You won't want to miss this one.



## Nature & the Maritimes

*with Bob Bancroft*

**June 8th, 2pm**

Join us for a special walk and talk by Bob Bancroft, the well-known CBC Radio Noon guest. Drawing upon his career as a wildlife biologist and avid nature lover, Bob offers a unique perspective on Maritime ecology over the last half-century.



## Mosses, lichens and liverworts

*With Daniel McRae*

**June 15th, 10 am**

Join ecologist Daniel McRae on a hike at Macphail Woods with a special focus on mosses, lichens, and liverworts of the Wabanaki-Acadian forest. Gain a deeper appreciation, learn some basic ID, and discover the beauty and importance of these phenomenal species.



## Summer in the Forest

**July 20th, 10 am**

Join us for a sunny hike looking at our forests during the prime growing season. This busy time of year is a flurry of activity in the forest, from fresh blooms, juicy fruits and active wildlife sure to invigorate the senses and foster a rejuvenated love for the natural world.







## Coastal Habitats & Krumholtz Forests

**August 10th, 10am**

Come learn about our unique coastal habitats and wind-blow krummholz forests. Growing along exposed shores, these gnarly and fascinating places are critical habitats for many native species as well as the Island's natural shield against coastal winds, waves and flooding.



## Annual Festival of Forests

**Date TBA**

Join us for a celebration of all things forests/ecology! Our annual Festival of Forests is always fun, with educational walks and talks, games, art activities and more. This event typically happens in early fall, but keep up with our social media and website for details and a date to come!



## Black Ash, Wet Woodlands & Swamps

**September 28th, 10 am**

Black ash or Wisqoq is a unique and culturally-important species for the Mi'kmaq People. Come learn about this wonderful native tree and the swampy habitats that it thrives in. These amazing wet woodlands are biodiversity hotspots with an array of specialized and rare native flora.



## Autumn in the Forest

**October 12th - 10am**

Join us for an educational walk and talk in our Wabanaki-Acadian Forest at Macphail Woods. Share knowledge with experienced forest ecologists, and revel in the beauty of Autumn in the forest, and all the changes that come with it.



## Natural History of PEI

**November 16th - 1pm**

Our forests have a rich, complex, and fascinating story to tell about our island's history. Join ecologist and researcher Daniel McRae for an eye-opening look into PEI's past by exploring forests. Discover telltale signs of things like farming, foresting, and other disturbances, and gain a deeper appreciation for our forests.

## Winter Woodlands

**December 8th - 10am**

Discover the beauty and wonder of the Wabanaki-Acadian Forest in the winter. Join us for a walk through our trails and learn to recognize keystone species in the cooler months of the year, including winter buds, wildlife signs, and all the important functions of winter in the forests.



# SCHOOL OF WOODLAND ECOLOGY



Over the last 30 years, Macphail Woods has offered a huge variety of workshops focused on ecological concepts, woodlot management and building forestry skills.

We are dedicated to ensuring a safe learning environment for all participants and believe that sharing a love of nature begins with the care and respect of each individual. The more we understand nature, the more we can appreciate it, and the more our restorative actions sound.

Our teaching method uses direct experience, observation, and hands-on learning. Students are taught to recognize keystone patterns in ecology. This time-tested approach works for students of every age and level of understanding.

Our instructors have spent thousands of hours honing their teaching and skills and look forward to sharing their enthusiasm with you.

Please stay tuned to our website and social media for upcoming courses in our School of Woodland Ecology.

When the School of Woodland Ecology schedule is made public, all registrations can be made through our [Active Network's Camp and Class Manager](#).

## TOPICS INCLUDE:

- Pruning
- Plant ID
- Forest Restoration
- Woodland Ecology
- Sustainable Fuelwood Harvesting
- Improving wildlife Habitat
- Introduction to Mapping and Data Collection



# SHARING A LOVE OF NATURE CAMPS



## Nature Discovery (Ages 6-8) \$200

**Week 1: July 8-12 Week 2: July 22-26**

**Week 3: August 5th-9th**

The campers will delight in learning to use all their senses to understand the natural world, as well as create crafts, tell stories and play games designed to give them a foundation for further inquiry and exploration.



## Becoming a Naturalist (Ages 8-10) \$200

**Week 1: July 15-19 Week 2: August 19-23**

This camp focuses on encountering and describing the natural world. Through the use of art and other hands-on outdoor activities, they'll expand their understanding of life in the woodlands, waterways, and fields.



## Young Ecologists (Ages 10-12) \$200

**Week 1: July 1- 5 Week 2: July 29 - August 2**

This camp will begin to introduce the campers to the amazing complexity of our native Acadian forests. They will dissect owl pellets, take part in forest restoration planning and plantings and develop their understanding of how we can take positive environmental actions.



## Bushcraft Ecology \$250 (Includes Thursday Overnight Excursion)

**Week 1: (Ages 12-14 ) July 22-26 Week 2: (Ages 14-16) August 12-16**

These campers will delight in learning survival skills such as one-match firemaking, shelter building, rope making with natural fibres, and tracking animals. Touching on plant and tree identification, campers will learn the edible and medicinal properties of some local plants. Our camp will include cooking over an open fire, natural crafts, basic whittling and an overnight camp.

**For Inquiries Contact:** Jasmine Katz @ [jasminekatz@macphailwoods.org](mailto:jasminekatz@macphailwoods.org)

**Registration & Availability:** <https://macphailwoods.org/camps>

# GET INVOLVED!



There are many ways that individuals and groups can be involved with our mission here at Macphail Woods! For details visit our website and keep up with current events on our social media.

## FINANCIAL SUPPORT

- Donate through [macphailwoods.org](http://macphailwoods.org)
- Join our Restore an Acre Initiative
- Purchase a gift card at [evanyoung@macphailwoods.org](mailto:evanyoung@macphailwoods.org)
- Buy and Plant Native Species from our nursery

## PARTICIPATION FOR ALL AGES

- Attend our free workshops
- Sign up for courses
- Send your child to camp
- Come visit our trails and arboretum
- Attend our free events

## VOLUNTEER!

Volunteering with Macphail Woods can be fun for the whole family whether by helping us with public plantings, seed collection, or fundraising. We also are always looking for wonderful photography of local flora and fauna as well as help on our website.

Contact Gary Schneider at [Macphailwoods@gmail.com](mailto:Macphailwoods@gmail.com) to find out how you can get involved!

## RESTORE AN ACRE

To improve the health of our public forests and create a model for environmental stewardship, Macphail Woods launched the Restore an Acre initiative in 2014.

Each donation of \$200 will help carry out restoration work on one acre of over 2,000 acres of land we steward for the Provincial Government.

With generous help from across Canada, we've been able to plant thousands of native plants, improve wildlife habitat, and create food sources across more than 100 acres.

