

Nature Outings
and Events

For Nature Lovers of All Ages

December 2025 | January & February 2026

Winter 2025/26



Mill Hill Regional Park

What You Need to Know

Legend


Drop-in Event

Guided Hikes (Moderate)

Self-Guided Walks

User-friendly


Youth & Adults only



Extreme Weather:

Try to arrive 10 minutes beforehand.

Accessibility



Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park

What You Need to Know

What to Bring & How to Dress

Pets

Feedback

Register Online

www.crd.ca/parks-events




Mill Hill Regional Park

Respectful Exploration
in Regional Parks

Here's what you can do to keep our forests, beaches, and shorelines in regional parks strong and healthy!

- Stay on designated trails to protect plants and animals.
- Keep your dog under control, in sight and on a leash where required. Remember to pick up your dog's droppings and take them to the trash.
- Do not harvest anything from the park, including plants, animals and other natural materials. Plants and animals rely on these materials for food, shelter and habitat.
- Keep your parks clean. Help by picking up litter. Leave no trace and pack out your trash.
- Explore carefully along the beach. Watch your step and step only on bare rocks or sand.
- Use your shovels and buckets to make sandcastles, not to collect crabs and other creatures.
- Observe creatures behaving naturally under rocks on the beach by: Lifting. Looking and Lowering.
- Remember, dogs are not permitted to stay in beach and picnic areas between June 1 and September 15.

We can all be caretakers of the forests and beaches, as local First Nations have been for thousands of years.



Pine Station

Exploring Indigenous Perspectives



Is your organization interested in a private 'Exploring Indigenous Perspectives' walk?

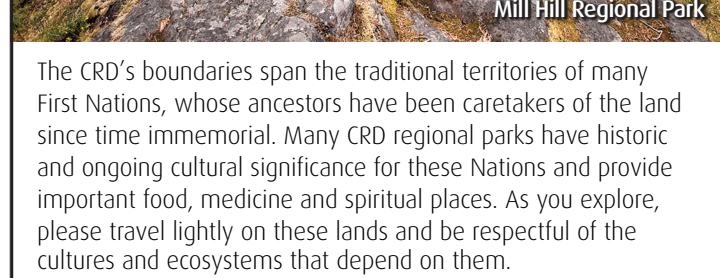
With CRD Regional Parks Indigenous cultural programmer, Leslie McGarry, your group will discover a human history spanning thousands of years.

Tel: 250.478.3344 | E: crdparks@crd.bc.ca



About CRD Regional Parks

The Capital Regional District protects and manages more than 13,300 hectares of spectacular and accessible natural areas in 34 regional parks and four regional trails on southern Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands.



Mill Hill Regional Park

The CRD's boundaries span the traditional territories of many First Nations, whose ancestors have been caretakers of the land since time immemorial.

Please take one, share with a friend and recycle.

Download a PDF brochure at www.crd.ca/parks-events.

Connect With Us

Capital Regional District

CRDVictoria

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CRD

Making a difference...together

Capital Regional District | Regional Parks

Tel: 250.478.3344 | E: crdparks@crd.bc.ca

www.crd.ca/parks

CRD Regional Parks Nature Centres



Francis/King Regional Park

There is a wonderful world of natural and cultural history to explore at our Nature Centres.

Beaver Lake Nature Centre

Francis/King Nature Centre




Francis/King Nature Centre

Winter at a Glance

December 2025


DATE	EVENT & LOCATION	
Sat 6	Christmas Bird Count Tune-up (Guided Walk) Witty's Lagoon	
Sun 7	Holiday Open House (Drop-in Event) Francis/King	
	Holiday Open House (Drop-in Event) Francis/King	
	Holiday Open House (Drop-in Event) Francis/King	



Christmas Bird Count Tune-up

January 2026

DATE	EVENT & LOCATION	
Sat 10	Exploring Indigenous Perspectives (Guided Walk) East Sooke	
Sun 11	Wee Winter Ones (Drop-in Event) Elk/Beaver Lake	
Sat 17	Taking a Lichen to Nature (Guided Adult Walk) Francis/King	
Sun 18	Magnificent Mosses (Guided Walk) Elk/Beaver Lake	
Sat 24	From Plant to Pigment (Guided Adult Walk) Francis/King	
Sun 25	What's That Evergreen? (Guided Walk) Witty's Lagoon	
Sat 31	Magnificent Mosses (Guided Walk) Thetis Lake	
Sat 31	Exploring Indigenous Perspectives (Guided Walk) Elk/Beaver Lake	



Magnificent Mosses

February 2026

DATE	EVENT & LOCATION	
Sun 8	Superb Owls of Mill Hill (Guided Walk) Mill Hill	
Sat 14	Family Fun in the Park (Drop-in Event) Francis/King	
Sun 15	Family Fun in the Park (Drop-in Event) Francis/King	
Sat 21	Magnificent Mosses with Power to Be (Guided Walk) Francis/King	
Sat 21	Exploring Indigenous Perspectives through Storytelling (Guided Walk) Elk/Beaver Lake	
Sun 22	Look Who's Talking (Guided Walk) Mount Work	
Sat 28	Road Trip to Bears with City of Victoria (Guided Walk) Francis/King	



Superb Owls of Mill Hill

December

Saturday, December 6 | 9-11am

Christmas Bird Count Tune-up (Guided Walk) – 12 years+ Witty's Lagoon Regional Park (Metochosin)

Join birding expert Geoffrey Newell and a CRD Regional Parks naturalist along the trail to search the sky and sea for birds.

Meeting place: The information kiosk at the Tower Point parking lot off Olympic View Drive. BC Transit #54

Trail Description: 700 m; compact surface, some tree roots; moderate incline.



Christmas Bird Count Tune-up

Sunday, December 7 | 10am-2pm

Holiday Open House (Drop-in Event) – All Ages Francis/King Regional Park (Saanchich)

Celebrate the holiday season in nature with a visit to the Francis/King Regional Park Nature Centre!

Follow up your forest walk by warming up inside the cabin and visiting with a CRD Regional Parks naturalist for some holiday crafts.

Meeting place: Drop by anytime between 10am and 2pm. This self-guided walk begins at the Nature Centre off Munn Road.

Trail Description: 800 m; boardwalk and compact surface; slight incline; accessible nature centre and cabin, wheelchair accessible and stroller friendly.

Saturday, December 13 | 10am-2pm

Holiday Open House (Drop-in Event) – All Ages Francis/King Regional Park (Saanchich)

Celebrate the holiday season in nature with a visit to the Francis/King Regional Park Nature Centre!

Follow up your forest walk by warming up inside the cabin and visiting with Leslie McGarry, CRD Indigenous cultural programmer, for some seasonal Indigenous crafts.

Meeting place: Drop by anytime between 10am and 2pm. This self-guided walk begins at the Nature Centre off Munn Road.

Trail Description: 800 m; boardwalk and compact surface; slight incline; accessible nature centre and cabin, wheelchair accessible and stroller friendly.

Holiday Open House

Drop-in Event — All Ages

Sunday, December 14 | 10am-2pm

Holiday Open House (Drop-in Event) – All Ages Francis/King Regional Park (Saanchich)

Celebrate the holiday season in nature with a visit to the Francis/King Regional Park Nature Centre!

Follow up your forest walk by warming up inside the cabin and visiting with a CRD Regional Parks naturalist for some holiday crafts.

Meeting place: Drop by anytime between 10am and 2pm. This self-guided walk begins at the Nature Centre off Munn Road.

Trail Description: 800 m; boardwalk and compact surface; slight incline; accessible nature centre and cabin; wheelchair accessible and stroller friendly.



Holiday Open House

January

Saturday, January 10 | 1:30-3pm

Exploring Indigenous Perspectives (Guided Walk) – All Ages East Sooke Regional Park (East Sooke)

Join CRD Regional Parks Indigenous cultural programmer, Leslie McGarry, for a walk to discover a human history spanning thousands of years.

Meeting place: The information kiosk at the Aylard Farm parking lot off Becher Bay Road.

Trail Description: One km walk; variable trail surface; slight incline.


Sunday, January 11 | 10-11am

Wee Winter Ones (Guided Walk) – 5 years and under Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park (Saanchich)

Bring your littles ones to explore the forest in wintertime and learn all about how animals keep their babies warm and cozy this time of year.

Meeting place: The Nature Centre, near the Beaver Beach parking lot. BC Transit #70, #72 or #75

Trail Description: 500 m; compact surface with roots; slight incline.



Wee Winter Ones

Saturday, January 17 | 1:30-3:30pm

Taking a Lichen to Nature (Guided Adult Walk) – 18 years+ Francis/King Regional Park (Saanchich)

Join guest naturalist Juliet Pendray and a CRD Regional Parks naturalist to discover the often-overlooked lichens of the forest along the accessible Elsie King Trail.

Meeting place: Nature Centre near the Beaver Beach parking lot. BC Transit #70, #72 or #75

Trail Description: 800 m; boardwalk and compact surface; slight incline; accessible nature centre and cabin, wheelchair accessible and stroller friendly.


Sunday, January 18 | 1:30-3pm

Magnificent Mosses (Guided Walk) – All Ages Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park (Saanchich)

Spend your afternoon in the forest with a CRD Regional Parks naturalist to discover the wonderful world of mosses and what makes them so magnificent.

Meeting place: The Nature Centre off Munn Road.

Trail Description: 400 m; boardwalk and compact surface; slight incline, wheelchair accessible.



Taking a Lichen to Nature



From Plant to Pigment

Saturday, January 24 | 2-4pm

From Plant to Pigment (Guided Adult Walk) – 18 years+ Francis/King Regional Park (Saanchich)

Discover the magic of creating colour with nature. In this hands-on workshop, a CRD Regional Parks naturalist will guide you through the process of creating natural pigments using ethically harvested plants.

There is no fee for this program but you must pre-register as space is limited. Visit www.crd.ca/parks-events.

Trail Description: 400 m; boardwalk and compact surface; slight incline, wheelchair accessible.



What's that Evergreen?

Sunday, January 25 | 1:30-3pm

What's That Evergreen? (Guided Walk) – All Ages Witty's Lagoon Regional Park (Metochosin)

Come take a closer look at the survival strategies of our local evergreen plants.

Meeting place: Teaching Shelter, off the Lagoon Trail. Park at the main parking lot off Metochosin Road and proceed down the main trail, turning left onto the Lagoon trail.

Trail Description: 800 m; gravel and soil surface; steep incline.

Saturday, January 31 | 10-11:30am

Magnificent Mosses (Guided Walk) – 8 years+ Thetis Lake Regional Park (View Royal)

Spend your morning in the forest with a CRD Regional Parks naturalist to discover the wonderful world of mosses and what makes them so magnificent.

Meeting place: The information kiosk at the Main Beach. BC Transit #53

Trail Description: one km, compact dirt with roots and rocks; moderate inclines


Saturday, January 31 | 1:30-3pm

Exploring Indigenous Perspectives (Guided Walk) – All Ages Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park (Saanchich)

Join CRD Regional Parks Indigenous cultural programmer, Leslie McGarry, for a walk to discover a human history spanning thousands of years.

Meeting place: The Beaver Lake Picnic Shelter at the Filter Beds parking lot. BC Transit #70, #72 or #75

Trail Description: 800 m walk; variable trail surface; slight incline.



Magnificent Mosses

February

Sunday, February 8 | 10-11:30am

Superb Owls of Mill Hill (Guided Walk) – All Ages Mill Hill Regional Park (Langford)

It's Superb Owl Sunday! Experience the bone-crushing action of these fast-paced predators. Join a CRD Regional Park naturalist to learn about the habits and adaptations that make owls impressive competitors in the animal world.

Meeting place: The information kiosk in the parking lot off Atkins Avenue. BC Transit #53

Trail Description: 600 m; compact surface with roots; steep incline.



Superb Owls of Mill Hill

Saturday, February 14 | 10am-2pm

Family Fun in the Park (Drop-in Event) – All Ages Francis/King Regional Park (Saanchich)

Come celebrate Family Day Long Weekend in the park with family and friends. Enjoy crafts, storytelling, displays and more in the Francis/King Nature Centre.

Meeting place: The Nature Centre off Munn Road.

Trail Description: 800m; boardwalk and compact surface; slight incline, accessible nature centre, wheelchair accessible and stroller friendly.



Family Fun in the Park



Family Fun in the Park

Sunday, February 15 | 10am-2pm

Family Fun in the Park (Drop-in Event) – All Ages Francis/King Regional Park (Saanchich)

Come celebrate Family Day long weekend in the park with family and friends. Enjoy crafts, storytelling, displays and more in the Francis/King Nature Centre.

Meeting place: The Francis/King Nature Centre off Munn Road.

Trail Description: 800 m; boardwalk and compact surface; slight incline; accessible nature centre; wheelchair accessible and stroller friendly.

Saturday, February 21 | 1:30-3:30pm

Magnificent Mosses with Power to Be (Guided Walk) – All Ages Francis/King Regional Park (Saanchich)

Spend your afternoon in the forest with a CRD Regional Parks naturalist and Power to Be on the accessible Elsie King trail.

There is no fee for this program, but you must pre-register as space is limited.

Trail Description: 800 m; boardwalk and compact surface; slight incline, wheelchair accessible and stroller friendly.



Magnificent Mosses with Power to Be

February

Saturday, February 21 | 11am-12pm

Exploring Indigenous Perspectives through Storytelling (Guided Walk) – 5 years and under Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park (Saanchich)

On this interactive program, we invite participants to roll or stroll to explore the cultural significance of birds and animals, through a First Peoples lens.

Meeting place: The Beaver Lake Picnic Shelter at the Filter Beds parking lot. BC Transit #70, #72 or #75

Trail Description: Approximately 800 m walk with trail surface ranging from compact gravel to cement driveway to grassy field and compact soil with tree roots.



Exploring Indigenous Perspectives

Sunday, February 22 | 1:30-3pm

Look Who's Talking (Guided Walk) – All Ages Mount Work Regional Park (Saanchich)

All creatures need to communicate, they just have different ways of doing it.

Meeting place: The Durance Lake parking lot off Durance Close, off Willis Point Rd.

Trail Description: Two km; compact gravel and compact dirt with roots; slight inclines.

Saturday, February 28 | 1-3:45pm

Road Trip to Bears with City of Victoria (Guided Walk) – All Ages Francis/King Regional Park (Saanchich)

Catch a ride on the City of Victoria's Recreation Bus and then join a CRD Regional Parks naturalist and CRD Indigenous cultural programmer on a walk to learn all about winter's sleeping beauties - bears!

Trail Description: One km; compact dirt with roots; steep incline.



Look Who's Talking