

UPCOMING COURSES, WORKSHOPS and EVENTS

VNHS Botany Night

November 20th 7:30-9:00pm

Ecosystems on the Edge – Restoring coastal sand ecosystems on Sidney Island with Pippi Lawn
Swan Lake Christmas Hill Nature Sanctuary

Saanich Native Plants & HAT

Nov 30th 10:00am-3:00pm

Create a frog friendly space with plants workshop

This is a free event, but space is limited and registration is required. Please email Volunteers@hat.bc.ca to secure a spot.

ALBERTA PLANT STUDY GROUPS

- **Northern Plant And Ecology Study Group (NPESG)**

Location: Field-based, operating in the Wood Buffalo National Park Area
For more details: Marsha Hayward, wildloonart@mcsnet.ca

- **Peace Region Plant Study Group (Peace River)**

Location: NAIT Boreal Research Institute, 8102 – 99 Ave, Peace River
Date: First Wenedays of the month (October to May)
Time: 6:30pm to 8:30pm
For more details: Melanie Bird, mbird@nait.ca

- **Medicine Hat Rare Plant Study Group**

Location: Medicine Hat College Herbarium (L155)
Date: Last Saturday of the month (October to March)
Time: noon to 3:00 PM
For more details: Cathy Linowski, Clinowski@mhc.ab.ca

Southern Alberta Plant Study Group (Calgary)

Location: University of Calgary Herbarium, Biological Sciences Basement
Date: FIRST Saturday of the month; (October to April)
Time: noon to 4:00 PM
For more details: Jen Muir jen.muir@gmail.com

Central Alberta Rare Plant Study Group (Edmonton)

Where: University of Alberta Herbarium, Edmonton
Date: Last Wednesday of every month (October to April)
Time: 6:30-8:30pm
For more details: Varina Crisfield, vcrisfield@gmail.com

WEBSITES AND PUBLICATIONS

The second edition of **Rare Vascular Plants of Alberta** book is currently being prepared. If you have any quality photos of rare plants species currently being tracked ACIMS, please check out www.anpc.ab.ca They have the list of species still requiring photos, instructions and release forms on the website. The rare vascular plant committee has spent the last year concentrating on getting new species descriptions written and updates prepared for the existing species accounts. Twenty-seven wonderful volunteers agreed to help write species descriptions. Most of the new species were distributed and 52 new species descriptions have been received so far (we expect the remainder to come in after the field season as most of our volunteers are professional botanists).

Forty-nine of the species in the original book have been re-examined for phenological/habitat changes (species account updates). We still have a few species descriptions outstanding (eg. 2 Onagraceae species, 2 Portulacaceae species, 3 Isoetaceae species, 2 Fabaceae species, 1 Polygonaceae species, 1 Hydrocharitaceae species, 1 Campanulaceae species). If you are interested in volunteering to write up any of these species, please contact us at ABRarePlantBook@gmail.com.

The next step in the process is to get the species descriptions reviewed. Forty-one species descriptions have been reviewed internally, and two species have been reviewed and edited by a taxonomic expert. This project initiated the development of a new ANPC policy that will provide a process for us to engage taxonomic experts to review the species content. With this new policy in place, we are positioned to submit new species descriptions to taxonomic experts this fall/winter.

The complete set of North American distribution maps have been compiled. Permission to use the Flora of North America illustrations has also been obtained and we are working on permissions to use illustrations from the Illustrated Flora of BC.

We have a "wish list" of photos on the ANPC website (ABRarePlantBook@gmail.com), as well as instructions for photograph submission (<http://anpc.ab.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Instructions-for-Photographers-2017-11-22.pdf>). Please consider providing photographs you have of identified rare plants that are on the list.

LINKS AND ITEMS OF INTEREST

Volunteer with Parks Canada

November 22nd Sand Dune Restoration Day (Sidney Spit, Gulf Islands National Park Reserve)

Nov 24th Removal of St. John's Wort (Fort Rodd Hill)

Dec 8th Discovering Dunlins and Daphne Demolition (Fort Rodd Hill)

Email frh.volunteer@pc.gc.ca to RSVP

The Alberta Recreation and Parks Association (ARPA) is hosting an educational/professional development event in early April at Olds College. They are looking for potential panel member on the topic of Native Plants and Species and Climate Change. They are anticipating other panel members would be from the University of Calgary and Olds College. Please contact Bill at wwells@arpaonline.ca if you have any questions or are interested.

If you have anything of interest or any events that you think would be suitable for Plant Happenings please email me or respond to this email.

If you would like to be removed from the email list, please contact me at amozolik@gmail.com