

March/April 2008  
Volume 15 - Number 2

# Meewasin Valley Explorer

## Meewasin and Affinity Credit Union Invite You to Clean Up Saskatoon!

Affinity Credit Union is once again partnering with Meewasin in hosting the **Annual Meewasin – Affinity Credit Union Clean-Up Campaign** from **April 22nd to May 4th, 2008.**

As residents of Canada's prettiest city, this campaign offers you the chance to show your pride in keeping our city beautiful. Last year thousands of people registered to help clean away the winter debris along the river valley, in neighbourhood parks, school yards, and along our city streets and boulevards.



The campaign will commence on Tuesday, April 22nd, with the official kick off at a local school. Everyone is invited to join Meewasin and Affinity Credit Union as we volunteer to beautify our "valley" for the summer. This year there will also be a public clean-up day on **Sunday, April 27th** in Meewasin Park. Join us that afternoon as we turn "spring cleaning" into a party.

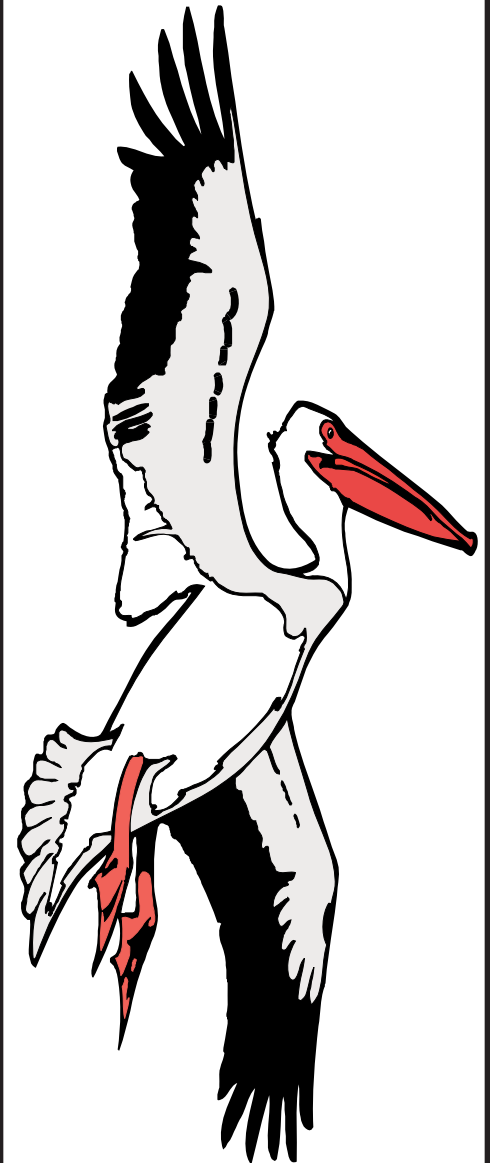
To register and for more information, please call 665-6888, visit the Meewasin Valley Centre, any branch of Affinity Credit Union, or visit the web sites:

[www.meewasin.com](http://www.meewasin.com)

or

[www.affinitycu.ca](http://www.affinitycu.ca)

(then click on FirstSask, from there follow the links to "Community", "Environment", and "Clean-Up Campaign")



Meewasin Valley Authority  
402 Third Avenue South  
Saskatoon, SK. S7K 3G5

Phone: (306) 665-6887

Fax: (306) 665-6117

Email: [meewasin@meewasin.com](mailto:meewasin@meewasin.com)

Website: [www.meewasin.com](http://www.meewasin.com)

## You Can Own a Piece of the Riverfront!!

LAST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST NAME \_\_\_\_\_

C/O \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, PROV/STATE \_\_\_\_\_

POSTAL/ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

DAY PHONE # \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Brick \$250    Bench \$3000    Seating Block \$5000

A tax receipt will be issued for a portion of the cost.

Payment method:  MONEY ORDER/CHEQUE enclosed

Please charge my:  Visa    M/C    American Express

CARD # \_\_\_\_\_

EXPIRY DATE \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your cheque or money order payable to:

Meewasin Valley Authority  
402 Third Avenue South  
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7K 3G5

YES, you may use my name publicly as a campaign supporter

As the Riverfront at River Landing becomes a reality, Meewasin is pleased to offer a way for those who treasure the riverbank to leave a legacy for the benefit of future generations. Sponsor a seating block, bench or commemorative brick to honour the memory of a loved one, to pay tribute to a close friend or relative, or to mark a special occasion. Engraved bricks are made of Laurentian green granite and can be inscribed (up to 25 characters) with a printed name or message. Benches are made of lpe wood, a forest stewardship project, and seating blocks are fashioned from concrete. Both have a 4-inch round commemorative plaque that can be engraved.

The Cameco Riverfront Campaign was launched in August 2006 with a goal to raise \$2MM for the completion of the Riverfront. We have surpassed the \$1.6MM mark and are looking to you to help us hit our goal. By making a donation or sponsoring a feature at the Riverfront, you help to build this exciting riverbank project. Many opportunities are still available including:

Benches - \$3000   Seating Blocks - \$5000   Bricks \$250

For information about sponsorships, please call the Campaign office at 477-9134 or visit our website at [www.meewasin.com](http://www.meewasin.com)



"Geese in Flight" by Ed Gibney. Photo by Peter Christensen.

## Meewasin's 2nd Annual Winter White

Meewasin Winter White is an outdoor winter celebration of art, community and warmth that provides an opportunity for local artists to showcase their snow sculpture and ice carving skills while representing the flora and fauna of our South Saskatchewan River Valley. Although the public program had to be modified on February 9 due to extreme weather conditions, the event was still a success.

Thank you to the participating artists: Elgin Ambrose, Lee Baker, Peter Fogarty, Ed Gibney, Darren Gowan, Kevin Quinlan, Anita Rocamora, Doug Taylor, Elizabeth Yonza, and Meewasin Artist in Residence Laura Hale. Also, thank you to event photographer Peter Christensen and Jack Getzalf of Performance Production.

Thank you to the following festival sponsors: Affinity Credit Union, City of Saskatoon, Dakota Dunes Casino, SIGA, Saskatchewan Lotteries, Sask Culture, Saskatchewan Arts Board, and Sasktel Pioneers. Thanks also to our partners: Allan Construction, Auto Clearing Motor Speedway, Brad's Towing, City of Saskatoon Public Works Branch, CTV, Dutch Growers, Fire & Ice Creations, Golf's Carwash, Kettle Korn Kitchen, Mary's Pie Wagon, Mondrian Printers, National Film Board, Pelican Media, Persephone Theatre, Fire and Protective Services, Saskatoon Media Group, Saskatoon Police Service, SCYAP, St. John Ambulance, Toon Town Hash House Harriers, The Partnership, The Rent-it Store and Tourism Saskatoon.

The public is encouraged to take photographs of Winter White and submit them by March 7, 2008 to our website ([www.meewasin.com](http://www.meewasin.com)) for a chance to win a Meewasin Interpretive Canoe tour for ten (10).



# Meewasin Valley Centre *and Gift Shop*

402 Third Avenue South ~ 665-6888

Open 9:00 to 5:00 Weekdays - 12:00 to 5:00 Weekends & Holidays

## March means spring is almost here

### Held Over by Popular Demand in March & April - "Saskatchewan Alive and Beautiful, Naturally"

Brent and Judy Terry are nature photographers with a love for birds. Be sure to make time to visit the Meewasin Valley Centre to view this unique display.

#### March 2 - "Open House" - For Everyone (2 - 4 pm)

The Meewasin Valley Centre is hosting an Open House today to showcase the art of Brent and Judy Terry. Come visit the exhibition and our own displays. Refreshments provided.

#### March 9 - "Falcons on the Rise" - For Everyone (Every Half-Hour)

This program begins with a fascinating short video on the majestic Peregrine falcon that were brought back from dangerously low population levels right here in Saskatoon. Call 665-6888 to register.

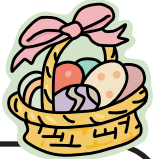


#### March 16 - St. Patrick's Day Program - For Children (2 - 4 pm)

Help us find the parts of your very own dancing leprechaun (and maybe a pot of gold too) while learning more about the history of St. Patrick's Day. Call 665-6888 to register. Cost is \$2/craft.

#### March 23 - 11th Annual Easter Scavenger Hunt - For Everyone (All Day)

Meewasin Valley Centre staff have developed 3 outdoor scavenger hunts. Complete a hunt and return to MVC for an Easter treat. Call 665-6888 to register.



### Easter Break Programs (March 24-28) All programs are at 2 pm.

Each day during this week, Meewasin will offer nature themed programs. For information and to register please call **665-6888**. **Cost is \$2 per child. Adults must accompany.**

Monday, Mar. 24 - Easter Growing Basket

Tuesday, Mar. 25 - Butterfly Bonanza

Wednesday, Mar. 26 - Come Fly Away (kite making)

Thursday, Mar. 27 - Alternative Energy

Friday, Mar. 28 - Tricks of Nature

\*\*\*Programs are for the general public. If your group wishes to participate, please call 665-6888 to book a separate time. A nominal fee may be charged.

#### March 30 - "Pelican Show" - For Everyone (Every Half-Hour)

A wonderful presentation to help everyone learn more about Pelicans as part of "Pelican Watch 2008".

## April is a month of "Earth Days"

#### April 6 - Garbology - For Everyone (2 pm)

Learn more about what can be found in our garbage and how we can reduce that amount. We'll play a game and show you some fun crafts that can be made with reusable items. Please call 665-6888 to register. **Cost is \$2/craft.**



#### April 13 - Bicycle Program - For Everyone (2 pm)

Another season of cycling is about to begin! In order to get ready, we'll teach you about the history of bikes, the rules of the road, and simple maintenance. Please call 665-6888 to register.

#### April 20 - Environmental Video - For Everyone (2 pm)

Join us for a viewing of some environmental videos followed by a discussion. Films are appropriate for all ages. Call 665-6888 for more details.

#### April 27 Clean Up Campaign Public Event - For Everyone (2 pm) - Meewasin Park (along Whiteswan Drive)

Join us at Meewasin Park as we Clean-Up our Community. Cleaning can happen anytime during the day with the event starting at 2 pm. Call 665-6888 for details and check out our website.

# Beaver Creek Conservation Area

**Invites You to Explore...**

## **... and take a walk on the wild side!**

Throughout March and April Spring springs forward until it has sprung. In March owls hoot at dawn and dusk as they hatch and rear their owlets. As the snow melts Richardson's Ground Squirrels emerge from their winter sleep and provide the owl's some breakfast, lunch, or dinner. In April pussy willows and furry crocuses are seen while meadowlarks and robins can be heard. From high overhead is the screech of migrating hawks looking for food and a tree in which to build a nest.



**On March & April Sundays at 2:30 pm enjoy a guided walk at Beaver Creek Conservation Area and look for signs of spring.**



**Easter Bunny Count - Saturday, March 22**  
**Count the number of camouflaged Snowshoe Hares along the trail and enter your name to win your own hare!**

**During the spring school break March 24 - 28, 2008**  
**Beaver Creek Conservation Area is open 9:00 am to 5:00 pm**

## **Meewasin Pelican Watch Contest**

Each Spring Saskatoon residents can guess the arrival time of the first pelican to be seen landing on the river between the CP Bridge and the weir. The Saskatoon Nature Society observation team verifies the official landing. There are great prizes to be won!

Enter a guess by listing date and time. (ie. April 15, 2007 at 4:00 pm) and drop it off or mail it to Meewasin Valley Authority. Entry is free and limited to one per person. Contest entries accepted March 1 - 31, 2008. For more information visit the Meewasin website or call Beaver Creek Conservation Area 374-2474, or Meewasin at 665-6888.

Following are past arrival times the pelicans have been observed by the Saskatoon Nature Society: April 15, 2007 at 4:00p.m., April 13, 2006 at 5:15 p.m., April 15, 2005 at 6:30 p.m., April 12, 2004 at 5:11 p.m., April 18, 2003 at 4:25 p.m., April 12, 2002 at 6:43 p.m., April 13, 2001 at 5:15 p.m., April 8, 2000 at 1:55 p.m., April 9, 1999 at 4:34 p.m., April 16, 1998 at 8:51 a.m., April 17, 1997 at 12:10 p.m., April 8, 1996 at 12:35 p.m.

**Beaver Creek Conservation Area**  
**Follow Lorne Avenue South**  
**13km on Highway #219**  
**Email: [meewasin@meewasin.com](mailto:meewasin@meewasin.com)**  
**Website: <http://www.meewasin.com>**

**Chip's Hotline: 374-2474**



**March & April**  
**Weekdays 9 am - 5 pm**  
**Weekends & Holidays noon to 5 pm**

**Meewasin**