

# MEEWASIN EXPLORER

MARCH - APRIL 2016

VOLUME 23 - NUMBER 2

The Meewasin Valley Authority, in partnership for the 16th year with Affinity Credit Union, is hosting the 36th Annual Meewasin & Affinity Credit Union Clean-Up Campaign from April 15 to May 15, 2016.

Last year's campaign involved a new record of over 28,900 people who generously donated their time and energy to this annual event to help keep Saskatoon beautiful! This year you can participate by registering with Meewasin. Participants can choose an area to clean, or have one assigned to them. Garbage bags can be provided.

A number of dumpsters will be located throughout the city for both garbage and recycling thanks to Loraas.

A kick off of the Meewasin & Affinity Credit Union Clean-Up Campaign will be at a local elementary school in April, and the clean up will continue into May.

Everyone is welcome to participate!

Please register online at [meewasin.com](http://meewasin.com), by calling 306-665-6888, or by dropping in to the Meewasin Valley Interpretive Centre, open seven days a week.

Meewasin & Affinity Credit Union



Affinity Meewasin

## Meewasin Bench Program Celebrates 10-Year Anniversary



Meewasin Valley Authority  
402 Third Avenue South  
Saskatoon, SK S7K 3G5  
306-665-6887

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

It's hard to believe it has been over 10 years since Meewasin donors first sponsored benches as part of the 10-Year Bench Program!

This also means 10-Year sponsorships are due for renewal. If you are a bench program donor, you have a special opportunity to continue your sponsorship for the next 10 years.

Meewasin is asking those who dedicated benches between 2004 and 2006 to contact us to indicate your desire to renew or decline your sponsorship. Un-sponsored benches will be made available to other interested donors after April 30, 2016.

New bench sponsorships are also available.

*Thank you for your support and for including Meewasin in celebrating your memories!*

Meewasin

*Did you know you can get the Explorer electronically?  
Help us reduce our paper consumption and switch your paper Explorer subscription to an electronic one.*

*Phone 306-665-6887 or email [meewasin@meewasin.com](mailto:meewasin@meewasin.com) and provide us with your name and email address.*

Visit our website [meewasin.com](http://meewasin.com)

Find Meewasin on Facebook



Follow us on Twitter @meewasin



MEEWASIN VALLEY AUTHORITY - 402 THIRD AVENUE SOUTH, SASKATOON, SK S7K 3G5

PHONE: 306-665-6887 FAX: 306-665-6117 E-MAIL: [MEEWASIN@MEEWASIN.COM](mailto:MEEWASIN@MEEWASIN.COM)

MEEWASIN.COM

Meewasin

OFFICE HOURS 8:15 - NOON AND 1:00 - 4:30 WEEKDAYS  
CLOSED WEEKENDS & HOLIDAYS

# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MEEWASIN

## Meewasin Pelican Watch 2016

Saskatoon residents have special visitors each summer. April through October, American White Pelicans gather by the weir to fish. These birds, once on the endangered species list, have been a beautiful sight on the South Saskatchewan River since the late 1970s. Their arrival in Saskatoon is a harbinger of spring.

Meewasin has held a Pelican Watch Contest since 1996. Each spring, Saskatoon residents can guess the arrival time of the first pelican to land between the CPR Bridge and the weir. However, it is more than a contest; it's an opportunity to learn about the once endangered pelican.

Arrival times of the pelican have been observed by the Saskatoon Nature Society, with the earliest arrival in the past 20 years being April 4, 2012 at 7:00 a.m. The latest arrival time, to date, was April 20, 2014 at 3:15 p.m.

**Keep an eye out for the Meewasin Pelican Watch contest March 1 - March 31, 2016.**

Enter online at [meewasin.com](http://meewasin.com)

## Luc Delaney Honoured with 2016 Prairie Conservation Award

The 11th Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conference was held in Saskatoon from February 16-18, 2016. The Conference celebrates the many achievements of prairie conservation that are taking place on the landscape. The Prairie Conservation Awards, which are granted to recipients from Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba once every three years, are awarded to individuals who have made significant long-term contributions to native prairie habitat or species at risk conservation.



Photo Courtesy of Tara Mulhern Davidson

Luc Delaney, who recently retired as Meewasin's Resource Management Officer was awarded the 2016 Prairie Conservation Award for Saskatchewan. Luc was recognized by his prairie conservation peers for his 32-year career implementing effective invasive weed control programs including prescribed burning of native prairie sites, and his dedication to conserving the Meewasin Valley.

Congratulations to Luc for a fitting tribute to his dedication to conservation.

Find Meewasin on Facebook



Follow us on Twitter @meewasin

## 2016 Plant-A-Tree Ceremony

The Meewasin Plant-A-Tree Program gives opportunity for the cycle of life to continue for generations to come. The 2016 Ceremony to celebrate recipients and program donors will be held on Saturday, June 18, 2016, at 1:00 p.m. in Boomtown at the Western Development Museum.

All are welcome to attend!

**The deadline for sponsorships of trees, bricks and benches for dedication in the June 2016 ceremony is March 31, 2016.**

*Preserve your memories through Meewasin.*

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



OPEN 9:00 TO 5:00 WEEKDAYS - 12:00 TO 5:00 WEEKENDS & HOLIDAYS

# MEEWASIN VALLEY INTERPRETIVE CENTRE

INTERPRETING SASKATOON'S BUILT CULTURAL HISTORY



**On Display at the Meewasin Gallery from March 6, 2016 to April 30, 2016 "Different Strokes Art Group Exhibit" by Members of Different Strokes Art Group**

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Follow us on Twitter @meewasin

## March

**March 6 - Art Show Opening for - "Different Strokes Art Group Exhibit" - (1:30-3:30 p.m.)**

Come down to the Meewasin Valley Interpretive Centre to view the newest exhibit by this group of local artists. This exhibit will be on display in the Meewasin Gallery for March and April.

**March 12 & 13 - Explore the MVC - (1-4 p.m.)**

Come down to the Meewasin Valley Interpretive Centre and explore our galleries. Dress up and play on our stage, watch short presentations about our history, and have fun! Take some time to check out some new photos on display, and the anchor from the S.S. City of Medicine Hat.

**March 19 & 20- Pelican Weekend - For Everyone - (1-4 p.m.)**

Drop in to discover some fascinating facts about pelicans, do a scavenger hunt, play pelican games, and make a pelican craft! You can also watch a short informational video about these spectacular birds.

Enter the Pelican Watch Contest while you're here by trying to guess when they will return to Saskatoon. You can also enter your guess online at [meewasin.com](http://meewasin.com)

**March 26 - April 3 - Easter Break Programs - For Everyone (1-4 p.m.)**

Get ready for Spring at the MVC with crafts that will bring our river valley into this new season! Drop in daily this week to make a craft to take home and participate in our collaborative bird project by decorating and leaving a bird behind to help liven up our river valley.

For more information about our programs please call 306-665-6888.

Please note:  
Program cost is by donation to help cover supplies, unless otherwise stated.

## April

**April 9 & 10 - Sturdy Structures Through Time - For Everyone - (1-4 p.m.)**

Pop by for this drop-in activity all about Saskatoon's famous sturdy structures and experiment with everyday fun materials to make your own.



**April 16 & 17 - Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Clean Up! For Everyone - (1 - 4 p.m.)**

This weekend, learn about Earth Day and what you can do to take care of our unique river valley in and around Saskatoon. Make a craft from recycled material and test your knowledge about conservation. Also, don't forget to register for our annual Meewasin & Affinity Credit Union Clean-Up Campaign! We will have information and bags ready to go. Visit [meewasin.com](http://meewasin.com) for more information and to register.

**April 23 & 24 April 30 & May 1**

**Growing Buddies - For Everyone - (1-4 p.m.)**

Make your own grass growing buddy and decorate to give your friend a special personality. Learn about how different plants change through the seasons and what is 'waking up' from winter!

*Above programs are for the general public.  
If you wish to book a group program please call 306-665-6888.  
A nominal fee may be charged for group bookings.*

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# BEAVER CREEK CONSERVATION AREA

INTERPRETING SASKATOON'S NATURAL HISTORY

## Beaver Creek Programming March and April

### March Marvels - Sundays @ 2:30 p.m.

Wish winter away with an interpretive led program beginning at 2:30 p.m. at the Beaver Creek Conservation Area Interpretive Centre. Are you able to switch coats out like the snowshoe hare? Are you out of 'cache' like the beaver? An interpreter will share some 'wild' facts about spring happenings.

### April Antics - Sundays @ 2:30 p.m.

Spring is a time to get moving. Are you more like a deer, a coyote, or a snowshoe hare? Join in the challenge with an interpreter to discover how you measure up! Program begins at 2:30 p.m. in the Beaver Creek Conservation Area Interpretive Centre.

### Nature Craft - Saturdays and Sundays 1 - 4 p.m.

Come out and discover another way to appreciate nature by creating a nature inspired craft. Craft cost is by donation.



#### *Did you know?*

*The snowshoe hare is one of our most common forest mammals and is found only in North America. It is one of two species of hares found here at Beaver Creek. The misnamed jack rabbit, our second species of hare, prefers the open prairie.*

### Easter Week at the Creek - March 28 - April 1

Take time to come out to the Creek this week to hike a nature trail, take an "Eye Spy" challenge, or explore the SaskTel Beaver Pond Room inside the Interpretive Centre. Ask an interpreter for some seed to try your hand at feeding the Black-capped Chickadees or take a track card to see who is out and about.

During Easter week a come-and-go craft will be offered from 1 - 4 p.m. Ask an interpreter for details.



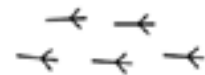
#### **Easter Bunny Count**

**March 26 - April 3**

*Search and count the camouflaged snowshoe hares at the creek.  
Enter your count for a chance to win a Folkmanis puppet!*



## About Beaver Creek Conservation Area



Beaver Creek Conservation Area offers the general public and schools opportunities to discover the wonders of nature year round. Hands-on activities in the Interpretive Centre offer children the opportunity to learn more about Saskatchewan's flora and fauna. Everyone can enjoy a hike along a selection of four nature trails. Beaver Creek is an ideal place to come out to enjoy the art of wildlife watching.

## A Creek Forming A Valley; A Valley Forming Habitats

BEAVER CREEK CONSERVATION AREA - FOLLOW LORNE AVENUE SOUTH 13 KM ON HIGHWAY #219

CHIP'S HOT LINE: 306-374-2474 FAX: 306-665-6117 E-MAIL: MEEWASIN@MEEWASIN.COM

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