



Meewasin Valley Authority
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NEWS RELEASE

for immediate release

Webinar to Help Community Connect with Nature

February 8, 2021

While the world is being advised to stay local and socially distant, Meewasin provides ideas for safe opportunities to connect with nature and others.

When you head outdoors for a local escape to get fresh air, along the way you may notice some interesting tracks in the snow, hear a bird's singsong call, or you may even spot a small creature scurry across the ice. These small encounters may be exciting moments, but taking these observations a bit further can help local conservationists in a major way!

Take it from local conservation expert, Renny Grilz, who is hosting Meewasin's webinar on February 10, 2021 about getting involved in local nature projects, wherever you are on the map! The main topic of the webinar is about Citizen Science, which is a term that refers to public participation to scientific research.

"Getting outdoors and learning about the world around us is not only beneficial for our own mental and physical health, but is an easy way to give back to nature! Anyone can support Meewasin's conservation efforts, and it's a lot simpler than you may think." Says Renny Grilz, Meewasin's Resource Management Officer and webinar presenter.

Meewasin and other conservation-focused organizations can utilize information recorded on databases such as iNaturalist to inform and direct future conservation efforts. For example, if a rare or endangered species was recorded in an area of the Meewasin Valley, future work will reflect these observations, with extra efforts to conserve this space or habitat.

Tune in to the webinar by [registering ahead of time](#) and learn the tips and tricks to setting yourself up for success outdoors and collecting information about the world around you. All you need is to use is your senses, get outside (or look out your window) and a smartphone to identify and record your observations.

Contact Renny Grilz at Meewasin at (306) 665-6887 or rgrilz@meewasin.com for more information, an interview or questions.

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About Meewasin Valley Authority

The Meewasin Valley Authority exists to ensure a healthy and vibrant river valley, with a balance between human use and conservation by:

- *Providing leadership in the management of its resources;*
- *Promoting understanding, conservation and beneficial use of the Valley; and*
- *Undertaking programs and projects in river valley development and conservation,*

for the benefit of present and future generations.

There are 67 square kilometers of land and over 90km of established trail, which has seen up to 1.65 million trail visits per year, in the Meewasin Valley. The area also features sites that help people to connect to nature through experiences such as Beaver Creek Conservation Area, the Northeast Swale, Saskatoon Natural Grasslands, the River Landing Spray Area, and the Cameco Meewasin Skating Rink @Nutrien Plaza. Meewasin is a non-profit organization that relies on donations and volunteers for sustainability. To get involved or learn more visit www.meewasin.com

