



Nature Miramichi

An Invitation to Join

by Peter Gadd – Nature Miramichi



Members of Nature Miramichi Observing a Bank Swallow Colony at Metepenagiag Heritage Park

We welcome you to check out our club!

The Miramichi Naturalists' Club (also known as Nature Miramichi) is made up of members of the general public who have one thing in common: they enjoy being in nature. There is no other requirement needed. Members can, if they wish, take advantage of learning about various parts of nature from fellow club members, at meetings or during outings, from guest speakers and from shared on-line resources. They can also share in the enthusiasm for the natural world by others, as the club is informal, welcoming and friendly.

This past year starting in September 2022 we had **expert speakers each month** on these topics: Breeding Birds of Beaubears Island, Wildflowers of NB, Healthy NB Coastlines, Wild Turkeys of NB, Nelson Sparrow Population of Tantramar, The work of the Marine Animal Response Society, Spruce Budworms of NB, The Impact of Climate Change on the Boreal Forest and lastly the Bat Population in NB.

Some of our **field trips** involved short hikes in local parks to see the plants, to look for and record birds and to observe the nearby ecology. Specifically, a recent outing involved seeking and identifying spring wildflowers on the trails of the Metepenagiag Heritage Park. Also, this spring we held two Warbler Walks at



Club members participate in field trips such as a recent outing to identify spring wildflowers at Metepenagiag Heritage Park

French Fort Cove, during the narrow time gap between when migrating birds return and when the hardwood trees leaf out and reduce visibility.

The club and club members are active in other areas such as participating in three local Christmas Bird Counts and offering guided tours for interested members of the public. We also help to monitor conditions at local nature preserves with annual inspections and reports.

Two free smart phone apps which are very popular with those exploring nature are: 1) **iNaturalist**, used for help in identifying many elements of nature and contributing to a world-wide database as a citizen scientist, and 2) **Merlin**, which suggests the names of birds the app hears calling and singing or captured in a photograph. Club members would be more than happy to help explain how these apps work (both are available through the app store on your phone).

Nature Miramichi meets monthly from September to June on the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm at the Nelson Senior Citizens Centre at 26 Sutton Rd. Nelson. Typically, we start with a guest speaker for about 75 minutes then have a snack and a chance to chat amongst ourselves to share recent experiences, sightings and so on, sharing a social and informative time.

Remote meeting participation is possible through Zoom. There is a Nature Miramichi Web Site. www.miramichinaturalistclub.com and a Facebook page. We also communicate through an email list. For more information email gadd1313@nb.sympatico.ca.

All are welcome.



The Scarlet Tanager is not seen very often in our area. We are at the very northern tip of its range which extends across the Eastern US to the southern states. We were lucky to have it visit our home in May - Peter Gadd.



The Miramichi Naturalists' Club (Nature Miramichi) took part in the City Nature Challenge using iNaturalist, a mobile app for identifying, recording and sharing observations of nature with a global social network of naturalists, citizen scientists, and biologists.