

March/April 2004

Volume 11 - Number 2

Meewasin Valley Explorer

It's Time to Clean-up Saskatoon!



The **Saskatoon Credit Union** is once again partnering with **Meewasin** in hosting the **Annual Meewasin – Saskatoon Credit Union Clean-Up Campaign** from April 22nd to May 22nd, 2004.



As residents of Canada's prettiest city, this campaign offers you the chance to show your pride in keeping our city beautiful. Last year more than

19,000 people registered, cleaning away the winter debris along the river valley, in neighbourhood parks, schoolyards and along our city streets and boulevards.

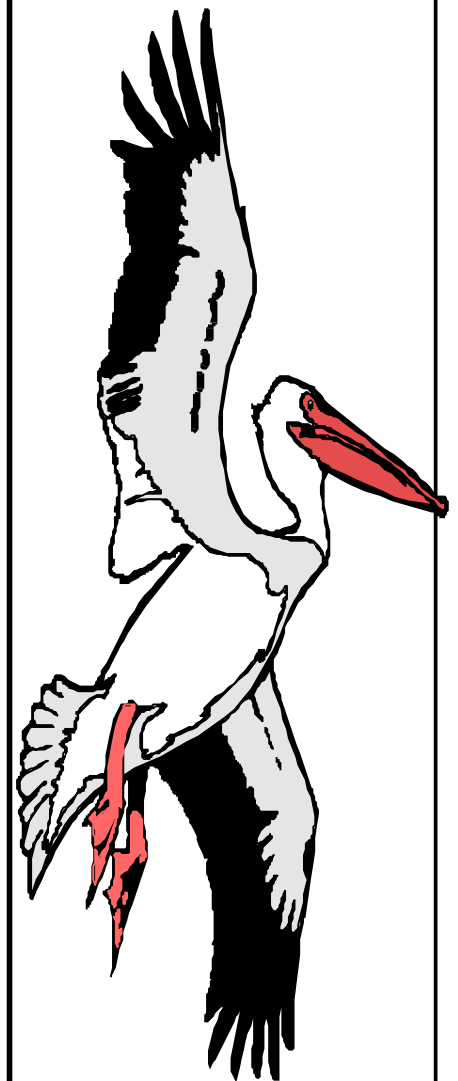
The start of the campaign will be on Thursday, April 22nd with the official kick off at St. John Elementary School. Everyone is invited to join Meewasin and the Saskatoon Credit Union as we all volunteer to beautify our "valley" for the summer.

To register and for further details about the campaign please call 665-6888, visit the Meewasin Valley Centre, any branch of the Saskatoon Credit Union or visit the web sites located at:


www.meewasin.com

or

www.saskatooncreditunion.com/cleanup.



Naturally . . .

Meewasin 

**Tax time is a good time to talk about
Planned Giving - Phone 665-6887**

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Saskatoon, SK
S7K 3G5

Phone: (306) 665-6887

Fax: (306) 665-6117

E-mail:

meewasin@meewasin.com

Website:

www.meewasin.com

Realty Executives Pelican Watch 2004!

Realty Executives are proud to sponsor Pelican Watch 2004 and invite you to guess the date and time the Saskatoon Nature Society observation team spots the first pelican at the weir. Entry is free but limited to one entry per person. The contest closes March 31. Prizes will include a mountain bike, canoe tours for four in the Meewasin nine passenger voyageur canoe and gift certificates to the Meewasin Valley Centre Gift Shop. Mail, fax or drop off your entry to:



- Any Realty Executives Open House or Agent
- Meewasin Valley Centre - 402 3rd Ave. S
- Beaver Creek Conservation Area
- or by fax to (306) 665-6117



To learn more about the American White Pelican and past arrival times, visit the Meewasin website: www.meewasin.com, check out the display at Meewasin Valley Centre or the display at Beaver Creek Conservation Area. **Hey Kids!** Students in grades K - 8 can enter a poster contest, and everyone can enter the Pelican Watch Creative Writing Contest. Great prizes to be won!

Call 374-2474 for more information

Meewasin thanks all Pelican Watch 2004 sponsors - Realty Executives Saskatoon, Saskatoon Nature Society, Sask. Lotteries, 650 CKOM News Talk Radio, C95 FM, CFQC TV, CJWW, Hot 93 FM, Magic 98.3, Rock 102FM, Shaw TV, Global Television and The StarPhoenix.



Fisheries and Oceans Canada Fish Habitat Stewardship-In-Action Spring 2004

With funds from Fisheries and Oceans Canada, the Meewasin Valley Authority is developing an environmental education program about our interaction with the aquatic habitats of the Beaver Creek Conservation Area and the South Saskatchewan River. Through hands-on displays and interactive programs, the Grade 5 Environmental Education students, youth groups and the general public will develop an awareness and understanding about the health of these ecosystems and a practical knowledge of what people can do themselves to lessen their individual impact on the aquatic habitat.

Fresh water is essential to healthy ecosystems, including human and fish populations. The emphasis of this educational program will be on individual stewardship action. Program participants can calculate their water "footprints" and plan how they can reduce their footprint impact.

For more information about the Fish Habitat Stewardship-In-Action Program, call Beaver Creek Conservation Area at 374-2474.



Wayne Wallace Tribute

The last Explorer sadly announced that Meewasin Construction Supervisor Wayne Wallace died Wednesday, November 19th at the age of 54 years. Many Meewasin friends and staff expressed a desire to commemorate Wayne. We decided that a bench at one of his favourite lookouts at Beaver Creek Conservation Area would be most appropriate. If you would like to be included, please forward donations to Celeen at Meewasin indicating it is for the Wayne Wallace Memorial. You will receive an invitation to the Meewasin Plant A Tree Ceremony June 12th. We will advise by Explorer newsletter when Wayne's Bench has been installed. Thank you.

Saskatoon Nature Society and the Birds of Beaver Creek

The Meewasin Valley Authority and Beaver Creek Conservation Area would like to thank the Saskatoon Nature Society for providing funds to purchase bird feeders and seed to help our feathered friends through the winter season. Feeding stations were placed along several of the hiking trails, drawing birds into view from the trails edge. During the Grade 5 Environmental Education Program, students delighted in the experience of having Black Capped Chickadees land on the students shoulders and hands while standing quiet beside the feeding stations.



Meewasin Valley Centre and Gift Shop

402 Third Avenue South ~ 665-6888

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

Conservation Concerns in March at MVC

March 7 - "The Pelican Show" - For Everyone (2 pm)

A wonderful presentation to help everyone learn more about Pelicans as part of "Pelican Watch 2004". After the presentation you will get a chance to make your own pelican. Please call 665-6888 to register. Parents/guardians must accompany their children.

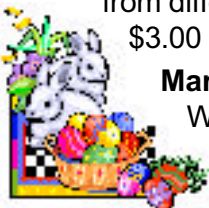
March 14 - "Celebrating Beauty" by the Saskatoon Painters Club (2 - 4 pm)

Come and join some Saskatchewan artists who know how to celebrate the landscapes and seasons of Saskatchewan by capturing its beauty through their paintings. Refreshments will be served.



March 21 - Soil Conservation - For children ages 6 - 12 (2 pm)

Join us to learn about soil and soil conservation practices. We will "build" our own "soil horizons" from different edibles and then eat our creations. Please call 665-6888 to register. Cost is \$3.00 per child. Parents/guardians must accompany.



March 28 - Easter Growing Basket - For Children ages 6 - 12 (2 pm)

With Easter just a few weeks away, we have a great program to share! Not only will we learn about Easter in the past, but we will also make a unique Easter basket. Call 665-6888 to register. Parents/guardians must accompany.

Earth Appreciation is Focus of Meewasin in April

April 4 - Xeriscape Workshop For Adults (2 pm - 4 pm)

Less water, less work and a beautiful landscape! **Patricia Hanbidge** will be on hand to help you learn how to plan, manage and maintain a landscape that is more sustainable. This knowledge will benefit you whether you are urban or rural, have an existing landscape or a brand new lot. Refreshments and planning materials included. Cost \$10 per person or \$15 per couple. Please call 665-6888 to register.

April 11 - Seventh 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.



April 12 - 16 Spring Break For Pioneers - For Kids Ages 6 - 12 (2 pm)

Each day, Meewasin Valley Centre offers a different program that celebrates spring in pioneer days. Please register by calling 665-6888. Cost is \$3.00 per child. Adults must accompany.

Mon. April 12 <i>Kites</i>	Tues. April 13 <i>Yarn Dolls</i>	Wed. April 14 <i>Suncatchers</i>	Thurs. April 15 <i>Pincushions</i>	Fri. April 16 <i>Wagons</i>
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April 18 - Join us for Earth Day - For Kids Ages 6 - 12 (2 pm)

Help us celebrate Earth Day with an earth scavenger hunt. After we will make a fossil using materials collected on the scavenger hunt. Please call 665-6888 to register. Adults must accompany.



April 24 - Clean-Up Campaign - For Everyone (All Day)

Stop by the Meewasin Valley Centre today to register your family or group for the Clean-Up Campaign. You'll help keep Saskatoon beautiful as well as get some fresh air. For more information, see the article on front page, or call 665-6888.

April 25 - Water Conservation - For children ages 6 - 12 (2 pm)

Water is a vital requirement for life and our need to care for our water supply is increasing. Learn how simple water filters work as you discover nature's water filters. Please call 665-6888 to register. Parents/guardians must accompany.

Beaver Creek Conservation Area

Invites You to Explore...

Trail Detectives and Cunning Carnivores March Sundays @ 2: 30 p.m.



All animals have unique adaptations that help them survive in their habitat. Predators must be cunning to find their prey and the prey must be ever alert and quiet. Come out to Beaver Creek and discover what predators and their prey are up to while searching for clues and playing some predator/prey games.

Spring Wings and Wild Awakenings April Sundays @ 2:30 p.m.



Check out the new spring arrivals of Beaver Creek Conservation Area as animals awaken after a long winters nap and birds return from their southern winter homes to find mates and raise their new broods.

Easter Bunny Count



Sunday April 11, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m.

Celebrate Easter and search for camouflaged Snowshoe Hares along the “Animal Signs” trail.

Moonlight Mysteries - March 6 & April 3 (7:30 to 9:30 pm)

Discover the activities of nocturnal animals and unravel the mysteries of the night-time world. Bring your friends and family out to Beaver Creek Conservation Area on Saturday, March 6 for ‘Crow Moon’ and on Saturday, April 3 for ‘Little Frogs Croak Moon’ from 7:30 to 9:30 pm. A moon craft and snack included.

Cost is \$5.00/person. Call 374-2474 to pre-register. Maximum 20 participants per moon hike.

Beaver Creek Conservation Area
Follow Lorne Avenue South
13km on Highway #219
Email: meewasin@meewasin.com
Website: <http://www.meewasin.com>
Chip’s Hotline: 374-2474



Open Monday - Friday 9-5 pm
Weekends & Holidays noon to 5 pm
Easter Break April 12 - 16

Meewasin 