

Erlton Community Association Newsletter – May 2024
ErltonCommunity.com



Dry Black Henbane in Erlton – Photo by Maryse

President's Message

Neighbours,

Naturally as I prepare to write about all of our exciting summer events and projects we are staring at snow out of our windows. Welcome to Calgary I suppose. In any case, let's talk summer.

Our Community Garden will open this Saturday, May 4th and we couldn't be more excited. Our garden team has been hard at work over the winter preparing and we think it will be our best season yet.

Our Neighbour Day event will be on June 16 in Erlton Park (26th Ave SW and Erlton St.). We have a lot planned and we hope to see you there!

Also, a big thanks to Lorraine and the rest of the organizers of our Electronics Recycling Round Up this past weekend. The event was a success in both raising some funds and helping our residents with some spring cleaning. We will look to do this again, likely next spring.

We hope to see you at our May meeting and at our Summer Events!

Dylan Rayburn, President, Erlton Community Association



Black Henbane

Hyoscyamus niger (aka Stinking nightshade)

Provincial Designation:
Noxious



PHOTO: AB Sustainable Resources Development

Overview:

An annual or biennial (forming a rosette the first year) plant that reproduces by seed only. Black henbane was introduced from the Mediterranean and has been used as a medicinal plant since the Middle Ages, and was also used in ancient religious rites because of its hallucinogenic properties. It was even used as a flavoring in beer until the Bavarian Purity Law of 1516. All parts of the plant are poisonous to humans and animals when ingested – tissues contain several toxic alkaloids. Symptoms of poisoning include impaired vision, convulsions, coma, and death from heart or respiratory failure.

It is a member of the nightshade family and also called 'stinking nightshade'. A single plant can produce as much as half a million seeds in one season, which are viable for about 4 years.

Habitat:

Black henbane grows in a wide range of soil textures and pH but does require well drained soil. It does not tolerate shade.

Identification:

The entire plant is covered with greasy hairs and has a thick, fleshy taproot.

Stems: Are upright, tough – almost woody – and can be very thick. Plants can grow to 1m or taller and may be branched or unbranched.

Leaves: Are alternate, large – up to 15 cm wide and 20 cm or more long – and have a heavy, foul scent. Leaf edges are shallowly lobed (variable) and veins are conspicuous.

Flowers: Are pale yellow with deep purple veins and throats and are borne on spikes. Flowers are hermaphroditic – both male and female organs – and have a strong, unpleasant smell. The calyx (flower base) forms a 2.5 cm urn-shaped fruit with a thickened lid that pops off at maturity and spills the numerous, tiny, black-brown seeds.

Prevention:

Black henbane is not a strong competitor, so maintaining healthy vegetation should prevent establishment. Despite its toxic properties, this plant is still valued by some for its medici-

nal values. Homeopathy enthusiasts and gardeners should never grow non-native plants that could escape cultivation.

Control:

Grazing: Livestock will avoid Black henbane unless no other forage is available, therefore poisoning cases are rare. Dried plant matter in baled forage retains its toxic properties though, and will be readily consumed.

Mechanical: Mowing is effective, but difficult because of its thick, tough stem. Hand pulling is also effective – be sure to wear gloves and protective clothing to prevent rashes. Care should be taken with mature plants to avoid spreading seed – these can be burned to kill the seed.

Chemical: Currently no selective herbicides are registered for use on black henbane. Always check product labels to ensure the herbicide is registered for use on the target plant in Canada by the Pest Management Regulatory Agency. Always read and follow label directions. Consult your local Agricultural Fieldman or Certified Pesticide Dispenser for more infor-

continued next page

Black Henbane (Continued)

nation.

Biological: None researched to date.



PHOTO: AB Sustainable Resources Development.



PHOTO: AB Sustainable Resources Development.



PHOTO: AB Sustainable Resources Development.

This is a Nasty and Dangerous weed - let's do our part to prevent spread and lessen the risk to people and our pets! Please call 311 to learn about safe removal of this weed.

Spring and Summer Fun in Calgary

May 4: Calgary Bike Swap – Max Bell Arena (albertabikeswap.ca).

May 3-4-5: Janes Walk 2024– Free Walking Tours in YYC
(janeswalk.calgarycommunities.com) – walk or volunteer.

May 5: 2024 River & Pathway Clean Up & Barbeque 10:00 - 12:00 at Lindsay Park.

June 1-30: June is Bike Month in Calgary – to participate in events visit
(<https://bikecalgary.org>).

June 2: 4th Street Lilac Festival.

June 5: Cliff Bungalow– Mission Jazz Series – Wendy Lomnes Quartet.
(www.Cliffbungalowmission.com) for concert information.

June 3–9: Seniors Week in Calgary – ‘Aging is more.....’ Visit
(www.calgary.ca/seniorsweek) for event information.

June 15: Erlton Community Association Neighbour Day Party

Readers Garden Café: Your ECA membership entitles you to a 10% discount on drinks at the Café. Present your membership email confirmation at Readers Garden to receive the discount.



Erlton Garden Opening Day is - SATURDAY, May 4th



Erlton Community Garden

GROW WITH US!
LOCATED ON THE CORNER OF
ERLTON RD & 24 AVE SW



ERLTONCOMMUNITY.COM

Please contact ErltonParks@gmail.com, Erltoncommunications@gmail.com or erltonmembership@gmail.com if you would like to join us!

Traffic Safety Reminder for the Month of May is Motorcycles:

And so it begins that we must become more aware of those quick and tinny 2 wheeled objects. However, this awareness must be for both drivers.

As a rider, we must re-tune our riding skills from the lost months of winter while watching out for the debris on the roadway. And as a motorist, we must remember that the bike is a smaller object that can accelerate and stop faster than most cars.

A rider MUST have a class 6 license to ride on their own and obtaining this takes two tests, an aptitude and a practical. As a first-time inexperienced rider looking for a bike to buy don't extend your skills and get a large bike, start off and gain that important experience on a smaller one.

Like cars and trucks, the motorcycle must have the license plate clear and visible (NOT TUCKED UNDER THE SEAT), signal and brake lights are NOT to be as one unit the signal lights must be separated and defined as separate. A helmet must be either ECE, DOT, or SNELL approved which will be clearly marked.

Possible charging sections for license or equipment violations.

- Operate M/V without proper license 51(b) \$324.00*
- Turn signals not mounted latterly as possible 23(3)(b) \$81.00*
- Helmet does not comply with standards 108(1) \$162.00*
- Fail to keep license plate visible 71(1) \$162.00*

(Submitted by Dave Greszczyszyn - Director of Traffic - Erlton Community Association).

CALGARY BIKE SWAP – May 4 2024



*This program was started by two people to provide a safe place to **buy, sell and donate** bicycles. The bikes are inspected for safety, serial numbers are checked through software to verify ownership. This program is supported by the Calgary Police Service and RCMP.*

BikeSwap also works with over 30 groups to rebuild donated bikes and has built strong relationships with 80 partners.

If you have an unused or have outgrown a bike, we have a partner that would recondition that bike for re-use. We have added Children's bikes to our swap to assist local families.

Bikeswap funds cycling information through [CAN-BIKE](#), which is the only recognized cycling education program in Canada. To learn how to bike safely, check our site [Alberta Bike Swap CAN-BIKE](#).

If you would like to learn more about us, we have facebook pages for [Alberta Bike Swap](#) and [Calgary Bike Swap](#), [Instagram](#) and [Linked-In](#).



“Bring beauty, joy, whimsy and hope. Art doesn’t have to be political or serious. Introduce whimsy, surprise and joy to your community”

Earlier this year, we were awarded a grant from the Calgary Arts Development Community-Run Public Art Microgrant Program 2023. The grant will be used to pay for an outside mural project at this seating area in Lindsay Park.

Our mural will be painted by local artist Schux of Schux Design in late Spring 2024. We will be asking our members to choose their preferred design from several potential options. Each ECA member will receive an email with a Survey Monkey link and a QR code to respond. The Survey should be available within the first week of May. Please let us know if you need assistance to access the survey.

The Erlton Community Association Board of Directors would like to thank the CADA Community-Run Public Art Microgrant 2023 committee and the Citizens of Calgary. We feel very privileged to receive this grant.

2024 Erlton General Meetings at the MNP Riverview Room at 7pm

May 2024: May 14th

June 2024: June 11th.

July / August 2024: No meetings

September 2024: September 10th

October 2024: October 8th

November 2024: November 12th

December 2024: December 10th

Have you seen the Erlton Community Website? It's a great place for:

- ✓ ***Board of Directors Roles and Contact***
 - ✓ ***Membership Information***
 - ✓ ***Planning and Development***
- ✓ ***Important Community and City of Calgary Contact Information.***
 - ✓ ***Upcoming Events***

Calgary is currently under a water reduction advisory – this means we are being asked to reduce our water use and “Make every drop count”.

DID YOU KNOW? Calgary has four stages of outdoor water restrictions to ensure there is enough water to meet out essential needs during a supply shortage?

YUP! The stages are outlined at calgary.ca/water/programs/draught.html

*2024 Elbow River & Pathway Clean Up & BBQ– Sunday May 5th
10:00 - 12:00. at Lindsay Park – Volunteers Needed*

The Erlton, Cliff Bungalow-Mission and Rideau-Roxboro Community Associations are joining together for the City of Calgary's Annual Clean-up of our pathways and river shore on Sunday May 5th. The clean-up will start at 10:00 and finish with a BBQ at 12:00.

Meet in Lindsay Park (south of MNP Centre) to register and receive your supplies.

Volunteers are needed for Set-up and Clean-up, Registration, Lunch Prep/ Grill and Service. Please reply directly to Robin at cbmca.environment@gmail.com if you would like to help. This event is sponsored by the MNP Sports Centre and The City of Calgary.



If you love to read, the Reset Society of Alberta is holding their 20th Anniversary Donated Book Sale on May 2-5th and 10 -12th at the Outpost Tent at Crossroads Market. This is the largest fundraising event of the year and has a really positive impact on women and children in the program. The books are in great shape and very reasonably priced. This is a definite Win-Win for everyone. Visit

<https://resetcalgary.ca/calgary-book-sale/>.



Calgary in May



Average Low Temperature: 7°C
Average High Temperature: 17°C

Sunrise on May.1st at 6:08 AM and Sunrise on May.31st at 5:27 AM

Sunset on May.1stst at 8:59 PM and Sunset on May.31st at 9:41 PM



ERLTON NEIGHBOUR DAY

Saturday, June 15
5-9pm



Sidewalk Chalk

Campfire

Buskers

Marshmallows

Yard Games

Fire Truck

Food Truck

Police Motorcycles



Erlton Park
(25th Ave & Erlton St SW)



Back by
popular
demand!



Our volunteers have been working so hard to make sure this day is fun for everyone. We could use help with planning, setting up and /or cleaning up. Please email erltonsocialcommittee@gmail.com

How to Help and Who to call?

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overnight services• Daytime services• Warming locations	<p>CCEWR Resource List - Calgary Homeless Foundation [calgaryhomeless.com]</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Human-Centered Engagement Liaison and Partnership (HELP) <p>*Formally known as the DOAP Team</p>	<p>If you see someone who needs help, you can call (403) 998-7388</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 911	<p>If someone is unresponsive, call 911 and not HELP</p>

Alpha House is in need of seasonal clothing and personal care items for their Shelter / Rehabilitation and Housing / Outreach Programs. Have a look at the "How You Can Help" Page for a complete list of needed items to help these people. (www.Alphahousecalgary.com).



The Cliff Bungalow – Mission Community Association sponsors a monthly jazz concert series the community hall which features some of Calgary’s best jazz musicians and ensembles. Visit www.cliffbungalowmission.com for concert information.



The City of Calgary Initiatives, Community Projects

Calgary River Valleys Project – Engagement Information:

*The City of Calgary is planning for the future of our river valleys, including our flood hazard areas, through the **Calgary River Valleys Project**. The Calgary River Valley Project has launched Stage 2 engagement, we will look at floodplain policy and land use decisions, with a focus on location-specific regulations and flood mapping.*

Calgary’s draft updated Flood Hazard Area map will be an important tool to help guide engagement conversations, the map reflects the latest understanding of a 1:100 (1 per cent chance) flood risk and includes a new approach to flood hazard area mapping. Visit floodhazard.alberta.ca [alberta.ca] to learn more about draft updated Flood Hazard Area maps for Alberta.

Visit calgary.ca/rivervalleys [calgary.ca] to learn more about the Calgary River Valleys Project.

Emergency Preparedness Week – May 5-11 2024 ***(ca/getready or [Calgary.ca/getready](https://calgary.ca/getready))***

“Emergencies can happen anytime and anywhere. Knowing what to do before a disaster strikes can go a long way in assisting you, your family and your community during an emergency”.

Emergency Preparedness Week is May 5-11th 2024. This annual event takes place across Canada every May to highlight the importance of getting prepared for emergencies before they happen.

Mission Bridge Rehabilitation Project [Calgary.ca/MissionBridgeRehab](https://calgary.ca/MissionBridgeRehab) [\[calgary.ca\]](https://calgary.ca).

(This information was provided to the ECA by a representative of the Public Space Delivery, Bridges and Structures, City of Calgary.)

“The Mission Bridge rehabilitation project will begin in Spring 2024. The work involved will be repairing various bridge components (railing, approach slabs, piers, and abutments). The anticipated repairs will mainly address the concrete deterioration across the structure and will also give us an opportunity to redesign the bridge cross-section and improve mobility for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists.”

“The main objectives of the project are to extend the bridge service life by 35 years, and to improve the overall mobility for pedestrians, cyclists, and motorists. Please visit engage.calgary.ca/missionbridge [\[engage.calgary.ca\]](https://engage.calgary.ca) to view the cross-section design concept, key themes, and detailed engagement results in the What We Heard Report. “

“The project webpage at [Calgary.ca/MissionBridgeRehab](https://calgary.ca/MissionBridgeRehab) [\[calgary.ca\]](https://calgary.ca) is now live and should serve as a great resource for the most up to date information about the project, traffic impacts and a link to subscribe to receive e-newsletter updates. “

Use your water meter to **check your home for leaks.**

(www.Calgary.ca/waterguide)

Together we can make every drop count during this draught. Using your water meter to check for leaks, inside and outside the home, is one way you can do your part to use water wisely.

It's easy: Turn off all the taps and water using appliances – inside and outside your home.

2. Watch the flow register on the face of the meter. The register could look like a gear or a needle depending on the model of meter you have.
3. If it keeps turning, you have a leak somewhere in your home.
4. Check all water devices, such as your toilet, taps, humidifier, hot water heater and water softener.

Conversation Guide

A message for Parents & Caregivers

Children learn by watching others, so your own safe travel behaviours can be one of the best ways to teach children about traffic safety skills. Children do not perceive traffic in the same way as adults. Their ability to understand and make decisions about when, where and how to travel safely changes as they grow and develop.

Did you know?

Not following the rules of the road could result in a fine or someone getting hurt. Below are just a few key practices to remember:

	<p>Always look in all directions before crossing a street, crossing at an intersection or crosswalk. It can be unsafe to “jaywalk” or cross in the middle of a block without a designated crossing.</p>
	<p>People cycling have the same rights and responsibilities as a person who drives. It is the law for children under the age of 18 to wear a helmet when riding a bicycle. Children under the age of 14 may ride on the sidewalk.</p>
	<p>The default, unposted speed limit for driving in Calgary is 40 km/hr; always yield to people crossing at intersections, even without crosswalks. Do not drive, walk or ride while distracted. Always pay attention to your surroundings and look out for others.</p>
	<p>Do not park within 5 metres of a crosswalk; this blocks the visibility of children crossing and increases the risk of a collision. Watch for children crossing the street near schools, bus stops and in playground zones.</p>





How to use the Mobility Safety Activity Book

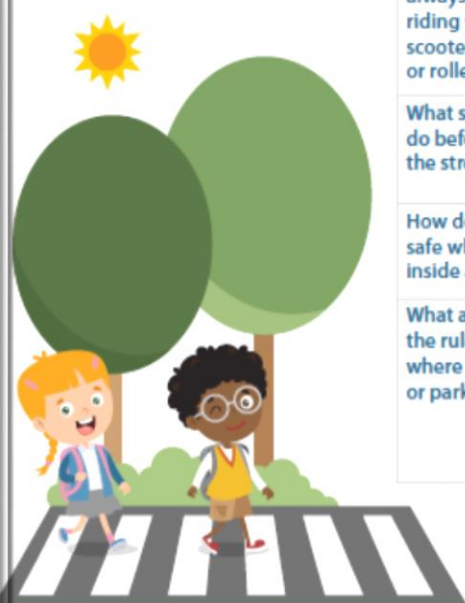
Ask questions. Ask children about their understanding around topics such as bicycle safety, how to cross the street, and/or jaywalking.

See below for question ideas.

Make real world connections. Give children a chance to observe and experience scenarios from this book in real life.

Lead by example. Children learn by observing others. Show children how you practice safe travel behaviours when out and about.

Practice. Just as new drivers need to practice their skills under supervision before travelling independently, so too must children practice safe walking and wheeling skills. The best way for children to learn is by repeating safe travel skills under the supervision of a trusted adult.



Where is it safer to cross the street?	It is safer to cross the street at an intersection or in a crosswalk.
Where are some places that would be unsafe to cross the street?	It is unsafe to cross the street in the middle of the block (jaywalking), or between parked cars.
What should you always wear when riding your bike, scooter, skateboard or rollerblades?	Always wear a helmet when riding or wheeling! Other safety equipment like gloves, knee pads, wrist guards and elbow pads can help reduce the severity of injury when it occurs.
What should you do before you cross the street?	Always stop and look in all directions, including behind you to ensure that approaching traffic or turning vehicles have come to a stop before crossing. Try to make eye contact with drivers before crossing. Look for walk signals at traffic lights.
How do you stay safe while travelling inside a vehicle?	Always wear your seatbelt. Do not hang your head, hands or feet out the window.
What are some of the rules around where cars can stop or park?	People driving may NOT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Park in a crosswalk or intersection. • Park within 5 metres of a crosswalk, intersection, or stop sign. • "Double park" alongside other vehicles already parked on the street. • Stop or park in a bus zone. • Anywhere a sign says "No Parking" or "No Stopping."

For more information and to see the complete Mobility Safety Education toolkit, visit calgary.ca/StreetSafeKids

Erlton Community Electronics Round-Up – Saturday April 27th



Thanks so much to Anthem Properties for lending their space to us during the event and Shanks Electronics for volunteering their staff and equipment for the day.

The Roundup was supported by members of the Erlton and Mission Communities



Together, we collected over 1400 lbs of items for recycling. The Erlton Board Of Directors would like to extend their Appreciation to everyone who supported this event



That's it for this month – go check your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors!