



THE PARK PRESS

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Heat Can Kill



This is not a safe place to leave me!

With the warm weather returning we thought we would issue a reminder not to leave pets (or children) in parked cars even for “just a minute”. Despite being parked in the shade with the windows partially open the inside of a vehicle can quickly rise to a dangerous level capable of causing serious illness or even death. Dogs and cats cannot sweat so they cool themselves by panting and releasing heat through the pads of their paws. They cannot do this when left in a car where the air and upholstery reach high temperatures. If it is 26 degrees outside, the inside of the car (even with the windows cracked) can reach 37 degrees in 10 minutes and 43 degrees in 20 minutes.

The Signs of Heatstroke are:

Heavy panting, bright red gums and a dark tongue, thick saliva, obvious anxiety (restlessness, staring, whining), lethargy (exhaustion, weakness), lack of coordination, rapid or erratic pulse/ heartbeat, vomiting, diarrhea, convulsions and loss of consciousness.

Emergency Treatment:

If your pet shows signs of heatstroke, immediately get them to a cool place (shade or air conditioning). Give them cool water to drink. Spray or soak them with cool water (do not use ice as this constricts blood flow). Fan them or place them in front of an electric fan to increase evaporation, which cools the blood. Take them to see your veterinarian.



Follow Sam on Twitter
@ShubenacadieSam



Featured Park Friend: Eurasian Lynx



Eurasian Lynx

Staff Photo

Name: Eurasian Lynx

Scientific Name: *Lynx lynx*

Size:

Body Length – 85-130cm (2.8'-4.3')

Weight – 15-29kg (33-64 lbs)

Colour: Reddish-brown in summer and more grey in winter with a variable pattern of dark spots or lines. Their underbelly is white and they have long black tufts on their ears, a shaggy face, large paws and a short black-tipped tail.

Lifespan: 10-12 years

Habitat: Temperate mixed and boreal forests.

Range: One of the widest ranging of all the wild cats stretching across Europe, Russia, Siberia and into Central and Eastern Asia.

Feeding: They are carnivores, hunting roe and red deer as well as wild pigs, birds, rabbits and other rodents. They can kill prey 3-4 times their own size.

Breeding: These normally solitary animals will get together to mate from February to April. The gestation period lasts 67-74 days when the female will find a secluded den to give birth to 1-4 kittens. The babies are weaned around 3 months but stay with their mothers until winter.

Fun Facts: They are the largest of the four lynx species and Europe's third largest predator (after brown bears and wolves).

Their hind legs are longer than their front legs allowing them to forcibly spring at prey.

They were hunted to near extinction particularly in Europe where some subspecies are still endangered.



Eurasian Lynx

Staff Photo

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<http://wildlifepark.gov.ns.ca>

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Upcoming Events

Moth and Butterfly Life Cycles



Sat June 28
1 - 4pm

Come help us seek and identify moths and butterflies at the park. Learn about their life cycles and how to tell moths from butterflies. Make a butterfly craft.



Be Free, Butterfly!



Tues July 1
2 and 3pm

Celebrate Canada Day with us! We have been raising butterflies and they are ready to fly! Imagine how it would feel to go from a caterpillar to a sleeping cocoon to a flying creature. Releases will happen at 2 & 3pm.

Frog and Toad Day



Sat July 5
1 - 4pm

How can you tell the difference between toads and frogs? You can ask us and hunt for some in their habitat. Learn about their life cycles up close. View the toads and frogs on display at the wetland centre. Come explore our pseudo pond and make a craft.

Regular Park Admission Applies
For more info call: (902) 758-5316
e-mail: legacycentre@gov.ns.ca

What's New Around The Park?



Grey/Timber Wolf

Staff Photo

Once again we had a busy winter and spring bringing a few new additions and changes to the Park. We have successfully introduced two young Eurasian Lynx with our more elderly Canada Lynx adding a new species to our animal collection. We also have three young Timber/Grey Wolves in the new wolf enclosures we completed last spring. Our Coyotes have once again had pups this spring and some goslings have already hatched. The rest of our swans, geese and ducks are still busy nesting getting a later start this year due to the cool spring weather. Work continues on the Bighorn Sheep enclosure (where the wolves used to be) and a new Red Fox enclosure (by the new wolf enclosures). We're also working on a new Snowshoe Hare enclosure by the Ornamental Fowl.

Be sure to 'Like' us on Facebook!



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Upcoming Events

Moonlight Night Tour

**Sat July 12
9 - 10:30pm**

Have you ever heard wolves howl at night? Join us in an easy, guided, moonlit walk and get a nocturnal view of the Park and its inhabitants. The fee is \$6 per person. Cash only. This event is recommended for ages 6 and up. Please bring flashlights, insect repellent, dress for the weather and wear good walking/hiking shoes. **Pre- registering is required.** You must receive a confirmation to be eligible for this event.

Peacock Party!



**Sat July 19
1 - 4pm**

Celebrate Parks Day with us! Put on your most colourful clothing and try to outshine our proud peacocks. Discover the ways our peacocks survive their freedom in the park and use their adaptations to keep safe. Make a peacock craft and imitate their call.

Animal Pen Enrichment Day

**Sat July 26
1 - 4pm**

Here is an opportunity to watch the Park animal's behavioural response to something new added to their pens. We will use organic items such as watermelon to enhance the habitat in some animals' pens and discover if they will interact with the introduced item. This should prove to be a window into the minds of some of our wildlife.

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Did you know?

♦ One of the many uses of **Stilbite** (Provincial Mineral of NS) is to clean-up oil spills due to its absorptive abilities.

- ♦ **American Robins** eat mostly worms in the morning but switch to fruit and berries in the afternoon.



- ♦ The **Mayflower** (Provincial Flower of NS) attracts butterflies particularly the Hoary Elfin which lays its eggs on the leaves and the plant then hosts the larva.



- ♦ A baby **Swan** is called a Cygnet, a baby **Snowshoe Hare** is called a Leveret and a baby **Porcupine** is called a Porcupette.

Just 4 Fun!!

Match the Baby Animals to their Parent:

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Fawn | Butterfly _____ |
| 2. Cub | Duck _____ |
| 3. Tadpole | Sheep _____ |
| 4. Gosling | Deer _____ |
| 5. Lamb | Horse _____ |
| 6. Caterpillar | Bear _____ |
| 7. Colt | Fox _____ |
| 8. Duckling | Moose _____ |
| 9. Kit | Frog _____ |
| 10. Calf | Goose _____ |

Answers: 6, 8, 5, 1, 7, 2, 9, 10, 3, 4