

Happy Bird Day - Saturday, May 13
Creemore BIA invites you to celebrate International Migratory Bird Day

Spring is coming to Creemore and so are visitors from all over North, South and Central America. These visitors are the feathered kind including bobolinks, hummingbirds and warblers. The Creemore BIA invites you to come to downtown Creemore too, on Saturday, May 13, to celebrate these visitors during International Migratory Bird Day.

“Happy Bird Day” celebrations are currently being finalized but BIA organizers know they will include talks by local bird enthusiasts, a birdhouse decorating contest, family crafts and activities as well as bird-based promotions at various Creemore retailers. A local hiking map and birding suggestions will also be available throughout the village and online.

“Ultimately, the goal of IMBD is to connect people to nature through birds,” says Laura Koloski, Program Coordinator for Environment for the Americas who spearheads the transcontinental Bird Day effort.

“Helping Birds Along the Way” is the theme for the only international education program that celebrates the migration of nearly 350 bird species between their nesting habitats in North America and wintering grounds in Latin America, Mexico, and the Caribbean. The focus for 2017 is on the importance of stopover sites, crucial refuges where birds rest and refuel before continuing their remarkable journeys. Because these flights can stretch thousands of kilometers across continents and oceans, the birds depend upon resource-rich and strategically located habitats, of which Creemore is one.

“The Creemore BIA knows that our area is a special stopover site – for both birds and people,” says President Jackie Durnford. “We want to raise awareness of the habitat that makes us all want to be here, and help educate our community on how we can preserve and enhance the environment to help our feathered friends. We also want to encourage people to visit and enjoy our village and the surrounding country side in a healthy respectful manner.”

The BIA chose to be part of International Migratory Bird Day, now in its 24th year, coordinated by [Environment for the Americas](#), because of the breadth of educational materials and information provided by the organization as well as the shared goal of inspiring children and adults to get outdoors, learn about birds, and participate in their conservation.

“This is our first year being involved with this initiative. We hope that by working with an international organization we, as a very small group, can be part of something much bigger,” says Durnford. “It is just a fledgling celebration this year, but we hope the idea will really take flight.”

For more information about International Bird Day visit experiencecreemore.com. Participants, volunteers and local businesses are encouraged to contact sara@creemore.com to get involved or for more information.