

Nature Canada is Building the Nature Nation

Thanks to the support of thousands of Canadians who care about nature, we are building the Nature Nation:

- We invested in more than 150 grassroots projects to protect important bird habitat and developed conservation plans for 136 Important Bird Areas in Canada.
- In the first two years of our Parks and People program close to 30,000 children hiked, camped or explored the outdoors with experienced volunteer naturalist mentors.
- Nature Canada was instrumental in getting a strong *Species at Risk Act* passed in 2003, and we are working to ensure effective delivery of this important legislation.
- Through our NatureWatch suite of "citizen science" monitoring programs volunteer observers are collecting data on water quality, air quality, biodiversity, climate change and much more.
- Over the years, Nature Canada has led efforts to protect critical wildlife habitats – 63 million acres and counting.
- Because birds know no boundaries, Nature Canada actively supports conservation projects in South American communities where unsustainable economic development poses an imminent threat to wildlife.



Canada's nature is truly a global treasure and we need to protect it. Everyone can play a part — including you.

The Source of our Success is People

We are sustained as an organization by the passion and efforts of individuals in every province and territory. Our family of nature lovers – birders, gardeners, activists, parents, grandparents, volunteers and community groups – are at the core of what we do and the foundation of who we are.

Find out more about protecting nature in Canada, from your own backyard to some of this country's wildest places.

Become a Part of the Nature Nation

Contact Nature Canada

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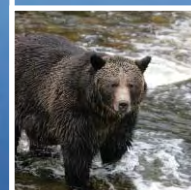
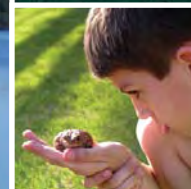


Nature Canada protects nature, its diversity and the processes that sustain it. Founded in 1939, we are a member-based non-profit nature conservation organization whose network includes 40,000 supporters and more than 350 naturalist organizations across Canada.



BirdLife International is a global alliance of conservation organizations working together for the world's birds and people. Nature Canada and Bird Studies Canada have been Canadian co-partners in BirdLife International since 1996.

naturecanada.ca



BUILDING THE NATURE NATION





Canadians Live in a Land of Immense Natural Wealth

Canada is endowed with majestic mountains, vast forests and prairies, some of the world's wildest rivers and an incredible diversity of plant and animal life.

Consider: 20% of the planet's wilderness lies within our borders. So does 20% of the world's fresh water and 30% of its boreal forest. This natural bounty makes us the envy of the world.

And yet, this natural wealth is not infinite.

Unsustainable development, reckless recreational use and climate change are threatening our fragile ecosystems. Many species have been lost. Others are on the brink.

But all is not lost.

Across the country, Canadians are adopting a nature ethic – a respect for nature, an appreciation for its wonders, and a will to act in nature's defense. They are joining Nature Canada in building a Nature Nation, where threatened species and ecosystems are protected, common species are conserved, ecological integrity is maintained and people's mental and physical health are enriched by nature.

Nature Does So Much For Us

We all depend on healthy, natural ecosystems to provide us with services that are impossible to duplicate. Clean water, healthy soil, pest control, the regulation of our climate and habitat for animals are just some of the gifts nature provides. Without them, we would not survive.

Now, as global warming advances, what we do in the next few years will determine not only the fate of countless species of animals and plants, but the fate of humanity itself. Preserving our natural wealth for future generations is more than an ethical choice; it's in our own self-interest.

Imagine what a Nature Nation would be like.

A Brighter Future for Birds, and for Humans

Birds are symbols of freedom and spirituality in almost every culture. They also signal the future; the health of bird populations indicates the health of the planet, making our own well-being indelibly linked to that of birds.

In a Nature Nation, governments, scientists, birders and grassroots organizations work together to champion birds and their habitat, protecting rare species and keeping common birds common.

People Connecting With Nature

Nature is deeply embedded in our culture. And yet as Canadians become increasingly urbanized, we're losing touch with the things that make us unique.

In a Nature Nation, people gain a better understanding of nature and the role Canadians can play in protecting it.

Through education, volunteerism and hands-on conservation, we can put nature back into our culture.

Recovery over Extinction for Endangered Species

Every year, more of Canada's treasured animals and plants are threatened with extinction. For most species, the loss and degradation of their habitat – their home – is the central cause of their endangerment.

In a Nature Nation, we can reverse this trend by learning about the plight of Canada's species at risk, pushing for effective laws and supporting programs to protect endangered species and their habitat.



Safe Havens for Animals

National parks, Migratory Bird Sanctuaries, National Wildlife Areas – each one is a haven for precious wildlife to live in relative safety. Without a home free from development and the negative impact of humans, there is little hope for the long-term survival of any species.

In a Nature Nation, we can keep a constant watch on government plans to create protected areas and work to safeguard individual parks from threats to their ecological integrity. Because every animal needs a home.

People Protecting Nature

Passionate, informed, motivated nature lovers from all walks of life and every part of the country are working together to protect and restore nature in Canada. They recognize that people must act in nature's defense.

In a Nature Nation, all who care for, have a passion for and celebrate nature can become the voice for nature in this country.

There's a place for you
in the Nature Nation.

