

CARDEN CHALLENGE



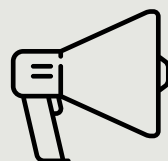
Thank you for registering for the 18th annual Carden Challenge! We are so excited to have you involved and helping us protect this rare gem. We are getting back to a bit of normalcy and are welcoming participants back to the Carden Alvar OR inviting people to take part from home! The goal of the Carden Challenge remains the same: Raise money to support the stewardship of Carden's Alvar and habitats by counting as many species as possible during a 24-hour period. Here's your impact from last year:

ACRES



10,000 acres of Alvar stewarded!

PROTECTED



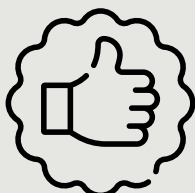
1,500+ new acres acquired in 2021 with partners

IMPACT



\$33,000+ raised by Challenge last year!

SPECIES



191 species counted during last Challenge

MONITORING



12+ Community Science monitoring sites in Carden

HOME



Hundreds of species call the Alvar home

CARDEN CHALLENGE

MAY 27 - 28

An Eastern Loggerhead is named for its disproportionately large – or “logger” – head, the loggerhead shrike is a medium-sized songbird, slightly smaller than a robin.



<https://wildlifepreservation.ca/loggerheadshrike/>

HOW TO TAKE PART:

- Register your team with Tanya Clark
- Download species list, fundraising info from the Conservancy's website
- Set up a team / participant fundraising page(s).
- Make your own gift to kick things off
- Join the Facebook group to connect with others (shared via email)
- SHARE, SHARE, SHARE! Get the word out that you are taking part in this event and why it matters to you
- Start studying your species & plan your route

DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE GREAT PRIZES & TROPHIES!

IF IN GARDEN:

- Meet at the cabin (117 Wylie Road) for the 6pm kick off!
- Get out on the Alvar to count as many species as possible
- Pull together your results (species total, dollars raised) for May 28 at 6:30pm in person
- Join us at 88 Childs Road, Sebright (thanks Jenkins fam!) for dinner and the results!
- Send your favourite 5 photos from the event to Tanya!
- Join us on Zoom for the full recap on Tuesday, June 7 at 7pm

IF AT HOME:

- Join us on Instagram (@couchconserv) for the kick off at 6pm
- Submit your results (species total, dollars raised) by Sunday, May 29 at 3pm to Ron Reid (ronreid@couchconservancy.ca)
- Send your favourite 5 photos from the event to Tanya!
- Join us on Zoom for the full recap on Tuesday, June 7 at 7pm

CARDEN CHALLENGE

MAY 27 - 28

Adult Red Admiral Butterflies have an open wingspan that ranges in size from 1 3/4 - 3 inches. Males are highly territorial, which is why they are commonly encountered chasing each other from their preferred roosting spots.



U.S. Forest Service

COUNTING & CONDUCT:

This is all **honour system** based. Two team members should confirm species. Count birds, mammals, odes, leps, reptiles, amphibians. All species counted must be alive, wild and unrestrained. Scouting in advance of the count is helpful, and sharing of information with other teams is encouraged.

Each participant is required to **maintain proper birding ethics**. Nesting birds should not be disturbed, or the location of nests revealed. Refrain from using bird recordings to seek out species by eliciting a response. Use of iPods or other device (with headphones or at low volume) are still permitted to confirm a species you have just heard. We also have no objection to the use of electronic sonar detectors to identify bat species, since this does not involve attraction or disturbance of the bats.

Do not trespass and be aware of your surroundings. Don't block roadways.

Your safety is important. Please ensure someone else knows where you are going and what time you expect to be back.

Connect remotely with teammates throughout the Challenge to confirm species and help each other out. If you live within each other's radius, it is up to you if you bird and blitz together at a safe physical distance, keeping in mind whatever Covid-19 restrictions are in place at the time. You can also connect on Facebook if you have an account with our Facebook group.

And of course, have fun! Fingers crossed for good weather.

TROPHIES!

For teams in Carden:

The team with the highest number of species counted in the Competitive category will win the **Carden Cup!**

The team with the highest number of species counted in the Recreational category will win the **Loon Trophy!**

For any team:

The team or participant with the best team spirit, extra effort, etc wins the **Teeter Ass Trophy** (determined by Tanya & Ron - it's a very detailed decision making system)!

CARDEN CHALLENGE

MAY 27 - 28

The average life span of a painted turtle is 20 to 30 years old but they've been known to live over 50!



Credit Valley CA

FUNDRAISING

All money raised from this event help us care for thousands of acres of alvar with our partners. By taking part and raising money, you make so much possible! The money you donate and/or raise helps power efforts to acquire more Alvar, work with local landowners, maintain trails and fencing, coordinate volunteers and much more.

We are going to use a new platform to take online donations, called SimplyK. With this platform, 100% of the donation goes to us, and people have the choice to make a voluntary contribution to support the platform, help pay bank fees etc.

Your passion for protecting this place is so inspiring and we are so appreciative of your efforts!

Set up your fundraising page. There is no fundraising minimum - typically teams set a goal of \$200 - \$2000. Why does protecting nature matter to you? Do you have a memory in nature that matters to you? What is your favourite species, or Challenge memory? Who do you protect nature for?

Get creative! Make a video, crafts, etc - have fun with your love of nature

MAKING FUNDRAISING EASY

- SimplyK online donation page
- E-transfer to info@couchconservancy.ca with the password Carden
- Send cheque to Box 704, Orillia, ON L3V 6K7
- Collect cash

PRIZES!

Raise at least \$100 and receive a special Challenge patch

For every \$300 you raise, you are entered to win a weekend at the Adams cabin near Washago plus a brunch box from Eclectic Cafe

Prize package for the top individual fundraiser

Prize packages for the top fundraising team

QUESTIONS?

I'm here to help! Email me at tanya@couchconservancy.ca or call/text me at 705-309-3861 (my personal cell).