THE PELEE BUZZ

Your Island Passport to Nature ~ 2019 Season
Welcome to Pelee Island

On behalf of council and the staff of the Township of Pelee, I would like to welcome you to the most southern inhabited place in Canada. Pelee Township consists of nine islands in the western basin of Lake Erie, Pelee is the largest of the islands (19 km by 6 km) and Ohio is at our southern border. Our location provides us with a rare Carolinian forest rich in biodiversity. We have two Provincial Nature Reserve Parks and multiple reserve lands of three conservation organizations on the island, teaming with birds and endangered species of wild life. The island, surrounded by Lake Erie, offers great swimming, fishing and boating. Enjoy the serenity, beauty and quiet of our friendly island.

Ray Durocher, Mayor

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge and send our gratitude to the original ancestors of Pelee Island and its surrounding waters. We recognize that these First Peoples stewarded the lands and waters and welcomed and aided new settlers from afar. We honour and respect the continuing presence of the Caldwell First Nation and the Walpole Island First Nation in this region and other indigenous communities across Turtle Island.

Pelee Island offers a large selection of over-night accommodations ranging from inns and bed-&-breakfasts, to cottages and camping. Visit our website: www.pelee.org/tourism/accommodations/
Eastern Redbud – the image on the cover, the top of this page, and this, the museum specimen documenting its 1892 occurrence on Pelee Island by the Dominion Botanist, John Macoun. As it turns out, this is the only place in Canada that *Cercis canadensis* has ever been found growing naturally, and only one tree near the shoreline, later lost. (when Linnaeus named it in 1753, the limits between “Canada” and “Louisiana” had yet to be clearly described). Today there are many planted Redbuds around the island; most are the offspring of stock collected during a 1984 expedition to a nearby natural stand in Michigan.

Cover photo:
Eastern Redbud with pollinator friends
Thanks to Carolyn Summers  www.flyingtrillium.com
2019 NATURE EVENTS CALENDAR

EARLY SPRING

Friday, March 22, 8:00pm
SALAMANDER NIGHT WALK
Pelee’s unique salamanders are active in mid-March, returning to their breeding ponds. Come out with the Trent University researchers and experience this early spring phenomenon! See www.thomashossie.ca for details of their research. Meet at the entrance to the Ivey Property on East-West Road. Dress for the weather and rough terrain; a flashlight or headlamp is a great option.
Register: http://peleebuzz.eventbrite.ca

First Ferry to the Island ~ April 4th
Weather permitting, check at: www.ontarioferries.com

April 15 – May 31
PIBO BIRD BANDING STATION
Weather permitting, small groups of visitors are welcome 7:00am-11:00am at the Fish Point PIBO Station, access from a narrow trail at the road (watch for a parked car nearby) For more details see: www.pibo.ca

Saturday, April 27
GREAT CANADIAN SHORELINE CLEANUP
Join us again for a cleanup of all the refuse that has collected on our shoreline over winter, and remove these threats to water birds, wildlife, and enjoyment of the beaches! Register, give a beach preference and then start anytime once you have signed in and received your data form and bags.
Register: http://peleebuzz.eventbrite.ca
MAY

May 1 – May 31

PIBO BIRD BANDING STATION

Weather permitting, small groups of visitors are welcome 7:00am-11:00am at the Fish Point PIBO Station. For more details see: www.pibo.ca

Friday-Sunday, May 10-12

18th ANNUAL SPRINGSONG ~ A Celebration of Birds & Birding

Friday noon to Saturday noon – 24-hour Birding Competition, register and start at the Heritage Centre.
Banquet Saturday Night - Heritage Centre Fundraiser hosted by Margaret Atwood with guest speaker Steve Burrows ~ This event sells out early!
Register for the banquet here: www.peleeislandmuseum.ca/events
Sunday 9am to noon – Garlic Mustard Pull  Join NCC staff to improve habitat for wildlife by pulling invasive garlic mustard, and sample some tasty garlic mustard pesto. Ivey property, East-West Rd. For more info to register: www.natureconservancy.ca/en/what-you-can-do/conservation-volunteers
Sunday 1-3pm  Join the conversation with the birders for a fund-raising BBQ at the Pelee Island Bird Observatory, south end of Stone Road: www.pibo.ca
In observation of World Migratory Bird Day we’ll make this a "Plastic Free Picnic" – please bring your reusable plate, cup and cutlery.

Wednesday, May 22: INTERNATIONAL DAY OF BIODIVERSITY

Pelee Island Bird Observatory (PIBO) is a non-profit charitable organisation devoted to the study and conservation of birds. It conducts intensive migration-monitoring research and breeding bird studies on Pelee Island.

Mandate:
• Long-term migration monitoring research on Pelee Island as a member of the Canadian Migration Monitoring Network (CMMN).
• Long-term studies of Pelee's significant breeding bird communities.
• Serve as an educational centre for the public, school groups and the community, and to promote participation in local conservation projects.
• To highlight the importance of Pelee Island's unique natural heritage.

Connect with us: www.pibo.ca/en  www.facebook.com/PeleeIslandBirdObservatory twitter.com/PeleeIslandBird  www.instagram.com/peleebird

Bloodroot in Spring  photo J. Ambrose
Saturday, June 1: **PELEE ISLAND WINERY HALF MARATHON** (sold out)

Saturday, June 8, 9:00am
**HUMMINGBIRDS – PELEE’S SMALLEST VISITORS**
Everyone loves hummingbirds and there is much that we need to learn about these flying jewels. Join Cindy Cartwright, one of Canada’s foremost hummingbird researchers, to have your questions answered.
Register: [http://peleebuzz.eventbrite.ca](http://peleebuzz.eventbrite.ca)

Saturday, June 15, 11:00am-1:30pm
**FOREST BATHING WALK**
A sensory-based mindful walk in nature, with Ben Porchuk, a certified forest therapy guide and recovering scientist. This event features a slow-paced walk with five or six sitting breaks stretched over only 2.5 km., recommended age between 12 and 112.
For details: [www.giftoftheforest.com](http://www.giftoftheforest.com)  Meet at the Fish Point parking lot.
Register: [http://peleebuzz.eventbrite.ca](http://peleebuzz.eventbrite.ca)

Every Saturday, June 15-Aug. 31, 10am-1pm
**FARMERS’ MARKET AT THE QUARRY** ~ East-West Rd. across from the winery

Saturday, June 22, 3:00pm-5:00pm
**COMMUNITIES, TREES & WILDFLOWERS OF THE STONE ROAD ALVAR**
Join Gerry Waldron (author of *Trees of the Carolinian Forest*) for a walk through Ontario Nature’s Stone Road Alvar Nature Reserve. This is an exceptional ecosystem with very high biodiversity, from the exposed limestone bedrock, to prairie-like vegetation and dry woodlands of Carolinian trees and shrubs. Hopefully some members of the alvar fauna will make an appearance. Meet at the Carolinian Canada sign mid-way down Stone Road on the west side, parking along the road.
Register: [http://peleebuzz.eventbrite.ca](http://peleebuzz.eventbrite.ca)
**Sunday, June 23, 1:30pm-3:30pm**

**ORGANIC FARMING ON PELEE ISLAND**

The Heritage Centre sponsored *Meadowlark Farm* as a trial organic farm almost 20 years ago, since then the *Pelee Island Winery* has started an organic line of wines, *Swallow Haven Farm* has been trialing different organic techniques and crops for the island, *Harrow Organic Farms* has been growing crops here and other initiatives are in the works. Might this be part of the future of agriculture on Pelee? Come for a tour and discussion, share your thoughts and try samples from the different farms. Meet at *Swallow Haven Farm*, 285 West Shore. [Register: http://peleebuzz.eventbrite.ca](http://peleebuzz.eventbrite.ca)

---

**Sunday, June 23, 30 - 6pm, doors 5:30pm, $15**

**STONE & SKY MUSIC SERIES IN THE QUARRY**

**Hear Here!** Recognized by Canadian Heritage as a nationally significant cultural tradition, *Stone & Sky* is an eclectic series of curated artistic events encompassing a Greek Revival Theatre Festival, multi/inter-art concerts, *Festiva Regionalista*, and a grand finale performance featuring music, dance, puppets and kites. Hosting more than 75 resident professional artists, musical guests performing in *The Quarry* represent everything from big band swing and acid jazz, to Inuit throat singing. *Stone & Sky is a big tooth in the smile that is Pelee Island.*

**CONCERTS EVERY SUNDAY, JUNE 23RD - AUGUST 18TH**

For event schedules and further details: [www.stoneandsky.org](http://www.stoneandsky.org)

---

**Saturday, June 29: ‘ANNUAL JULY 1ST PARADE’**

---

**JULY**

- **Saturday, July 6, 11am-3pm:** ARTWORKS UNCORKED & 5-8pm: LOBSTERFEST
- **Saturdays in July, 10am-1pm:** QUARRY MARKET
- **Sundays in July, 6pm:** STONE & SKY
Sunday, July 7, 10:00am-12:00pm
**INTRIGUING INTERACTIONS OF POLLINATORS & PLANTS ON THE STONE ROAD ALVAR**

Pelee Island’s unique habitats support a wide variety of insect pollinators, especially wild bees. Come for a walk with the team from the University of Toronto Scarborough, learn about the ecology and diversity of bee species visiting different flowers and the important relationships. For additional details on the research team, see [www.macivorlab.ca](http://www.macivorlab.ca) Meet by the Carolinian Canada sign on Stone Road. Long pants, socks and closed-toe shoes or boots recommended.

*Register: [http://peleebuzz.eventbrite.ca](http://peleebuzz.eventbrite.ca)*

Saturday, July 13, 1:00pm
**WALKING TOUR OF A WETLAND & MEADOW HABITAT COMPLEX**

*David Kraus*, an Essex District Biology and Science teacher, will take you on a tour of his impressive created ponds and habitats on what was flat farmland only a few years ago. Hear how and why different features of this site were built, look at important plants for restoration and think what you could do on your own land! Hear about and observe the wildlife the site has attracted. There is a mowed path but be prepared to go off path with suitable footwear. Meet 1pm on Victoria Rd. just south of Homeward Rd.

*Register: [http://peleebuzz.eventbrite.ca](http://peleebuzz.eventbrite.ca)*

Saturday, July 20, 11am-2pm: **THE LEGION MARKET**

Sunday, July 21, 9:00am-12:00pm
**BUTTERFLY IDENTIFICATION WORKSHOP**

Can you tell a monarch from a viceroy? Join *Ontario Nature* and expert biologist *James Kamstra*, as we lead you on a hike through *Stone Road Alvar Nature Reserve* to learn about Ontario’s butterfly species. You will learn to identify common species found in the area and how to make your own backyard more pollinator-friendly. Wear long pants and sturdy closed-toe shoes; we will be walking off trail for a portion of the event. Meet at the *Carolinian Canada* sign mid-way down Stone Road on the west side, park along the road.

*Register: [http://butterflyworkshop.eventbrite.ca](http://butterflyworkshop.eventbrite.ca)*
Monday, July 29, 9:00am
21st PELEE IS. BUTTERFLY COUNT
Participate in this count that has a long history, novices welcome! Meet at The Heritage Centre. Register with Bob Bowles: rbowles@rogers.com

Tuesday, July 30, 9:00am
22nd PELEE IS. BUTTERFLY COUNT
Participate in this count that has a long history, novices welcome! Meet at The Heritage Centre. Register with Bob Bowles: rbowles@rogers.com

Wednesday, July 31, 9:00am
19th PELEE IS. DRAGONFLY COUNT
Same registration as above.

AUGUST

Sunday, August 11, 1:30pm
TREE & SINGING INSECT CYCLING TOUR
Come out and see some of the amazing trees of this island, learn about their ways and how to tell them apart; with John Ambrose, who first came to Pelee Island in the late 1970’s because of the high tree diversity. Ron Tiessen, Curator Emeritus of The Heritage Centre, will help us in a quest to document Pelee’s big trees. Rob Tymstra will join us to identify singing insects such as cicadas, grasshoppers, crickets, and katydids. The tour will cover the north end of the island from Sheridan Point to Lighthouse Point. Would you rather see the trees by car? – please indicate that.
Register: http://peleebuzz.eventbrite.ca

MEDICINE WALK ~ time & date to be confirmed. To be led by a member of the Caldwell First Nation. *Watch for a later announcement.

Sunday, August 4,11,18 – STONE & SKY MUSIC SERIES @The Quarry
Saturday, August 17 – 9TH ANNUAL CHILI COOKOFF @Winery Pavilion
August 15 – October 31

PIBO BIRD BANDING STATION
Weather permitting, small groups of visitors are welcome 7:00am-11:00am at the Fish Point PIBO Station. For more details see: www.pibo.ca

SEPTEMBER

Friday-Saturday, September 6-7: 12TH ANNUAL HERITAGE WEEKEND

Friday-Saturday, September 13-15
FALL FLIGHT & HARVEST WEEKEND
A weekend packed with nature events and the 11th Annual Harvest Dinner, including a special speaker, Scott MacIvor, a University of Toronto conservation ecologist with an interest in sociocultural factors, who will speak on his studies on the Stone Road Alvar ~ “Wild bees in rare places: Pollinator conservation on Pelee Island”. *Check for the detailed program later.
Register for the dinner at: www.peleeislandmuseum.ca/events

LATE FALL

October 1 – November 1
PIBO BIRD BANDING STATION
Weather permitting, small groups of visitors are welcome 7:00am-11:00am at the Fish Point PIBO Station. For more details see: www.pibo.ca

Saturday, October 19, 26, & November 2
OWL NIGHTS AT PIBO STATION
AT THE SOUTH END OF STONE ROAD Join neighbours and visitors, learn about migrating owls and see the ones caught for banding. Check for details later in the season: www.pibo.ca (rain dates Sunday).

PHEASANT HUNTS ~ Thursdays-Saturdays, 8am-5pm
Oct. 24,25,26 – Oct. 31, Nov. 1,2 – Nov. 7,8,9
**Pelee Island Heritage Centre & Museum**

Established in 1988, our museum houses a superb collection of island treasures. Focusing on Pelee Island’s human and natural history, exhibits include our geology, early Paleo-Indian culture, early settlers and their stewardship of the island, ship-wrecks, crossing the ice, wine history and much more ~ Browse our bookstore for original publications.

*Open daily May to October, 10:00am-5:00pm*

Located directly across from the ferry terminal.

519-724-2291  www.peleeislandmuseum.ca

---

**The Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC)**

is Canada’s leading land conservation organization. Since 1962, NCC has helped to protect more than 2.8 million acres of ecologically significant land nationwide. On Pelee Island, NCC owns and manages over 1,000 acres of conservation land, focussing on invasive species removal, restoration, and wetland creation to improve and expand habitat for native plants and animals. Most of our properties are open to the public for pedestrian access via our trail systems.

For hunting or research permits, or for more information, please contact us.

**Website:** www.natureconservancy.ca/ontario?  **Toll-free:** 1-866-281-5331 Ext. 0

---

**MID-DECEMBER**

**CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT**

Check for details and exact date on PIBO Facebook or: www.pibo.ca

---

**Last Ferry ~ Mid-December**

Winter daily flights from Windsor begin.

Check with: www.ontarioferries.com

---

*Pelee Island western shore at dusk*  photo S. Hughes
a very special thanks to all our conservation partners...

The Gosling Foundation
www.goslingfoundation.org
**COMFORTech Bicycle Rental**

**Rentals, Retail, Repairs**

**2 Locations on Pelee Is.**

1023 West Shore Rd. (519) 724-2828
or Scudder Marina (619) 428-6680

[Contact Information]

**The Wandering Dog Inn**

**Rooms and Suites Available**

May - November

thewanderingdoginn.com

1060 Eastwest Rd.

Pelee Island

**PELEE AERO / PELEE MOTORS est. 2006**

519-724-2086

Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (M1, M2)
Auto Service Technician (RSE)

Aircraft - AOG, Annual Inspections, Modification, Pre-buy, Import.

Auto, Construction, Industrial, Agricultural - Brakes, Suspension, Driveline, Batteries, Tires, Electronic Diagnostics. Service calls for lock outs, flats and boosts.

**ZODIAC TOURS & WATER SPORT RENTALS**

519-428-6680
www.peleeislandcharters.com

Scudder Marina . North Shore Road

Dean Robillard
Captain
info@peleeislandcharters.com

**PELEE ISLAND CHARTERS**
STONE HOUSE 1891 is the only island location to offer both the island's delicious craft beer & Pelee Island wine, in addition to tasty farm-to-table meals, hand-made cocktails & gourmet chocolate, fascinating history, awesome views & relaxed friendly service.

ARRIVE • REVIVE

• Microwave? Never heard of it. We cook everything in our rotating 180° wood burning oven because everything just tastes better that way! Plus, we have an expanded menu in 2019!

• Fresh farm-to-table ingredients for delicious dining. Eat in or take out. Staying on the island? Catering available!

• Kick up your feet and relax in the shade on our elevated lake front deck with amazing views of Lake Erie and the American islands.

• Dine in our Fancy Barn made from vintage materials and island antiques.

• Enjoy the only ice-cold beer made with Pelee Island ingredients, Pelee Island Wines or a handcrafted cocktail in the historic bar, circa 1891.

• Play games and or just sit back and enjoy great music on our lower lakefront patio.

• Shop in our Vintage Mercantile Store for Stone House 1891 apparel and handmade gourmet chocolate, Vin Villa souvenirs and unique island gifts.

• Conveniently located between the Ferry Terminal and the Pelee Island Winery for you to lunch and linger without fear of missing the boat.

Only ATM Machine on Pelee!

1115 West Shore Rd. Pelee Island, ON
TOUR GROUPS WELCOME

AODA COMPLIANT

admin@stonehouse1891.com • 519-724-1100 • www.stonehouse1891.com
Our pavilion is the hub of activity on the island during the Spring, Summer and Fall. Join us for an interactive wine tour, wine tasting at our tasting bar and browse our gift shop where you can purchase unique items including gift baskets ready to go or custom made.

Relax in our outdoor wine garden with a glass of wine while you enjoy the surroundings of our vineyard overlooking Lake Erie. Light snacks and “you BBQ” items available at our Deli Hut will compliment your wine of choice while you enjoy live entertainment every Saturday and Sunday afternoon.

We welcome coach tours & groups and offer banquet facilities for weddings & special events. Please contact us for more information.

www.peleeisland.com  1-800-597-3533

@PELEEWinery