

The rapid decline in our Bee Population

Recently I had the good fortune to travel to Florida. For 2 very sunny mornings I partook in a sumptuous morning buffet in a lovely Greek restaurant. Lo and behold a beautiful honey comb was part of the buffet! This honeycomb was held in an upright frame, and was just oozing and dripping golden honey. It was beautiful! I was unsure what to do with it—should I cut out a piece? Was the waxen comb edible? If so, how should I eat it?

It turned out that the entire honeycomb was indeed edible, and unbelievably delicious spread on slightly buttered, hot toast. No only was it delicious, but as it turns out, also healthy.

The great pleasure that I had enjoying this honey made me think about bees, and just how important they are to us. Bees are important pollinators of our food crops. One in every 3 bites of food we consume depends upon a pollinator.

Bumblebees are among nature's hardest workers—they may carry 100% of their body weight in nectar or pollen. A beehive in summer can have as many as 50,000 to 80,000 bees. In order to produce 1 lb. of honey, about 2 million flowers must be visited. It requires 556 worker bees to gather a pound of honey. Bees fly more than once around the world to gather a pound of honey. The average worker bee makes about 1/12th of a teaspoon of honey in her lifetime. (This fact now makes me feel incredibly guilty because I ate so much of the luscious honeycomb over those 2 breakfasts!)

The rusty-patched bumblebee is an endangered species in Canada and on the verge of extinction, (but is critically endangered globally). The honey bee also is in sharp decline. Between a quarter and a third of wild bee species worldwide are at risk of extinction, thanks to climate change, insecticides and habitat loss.

We can all do our part to help bees and other pollinators by planting a 'Pollinator Garden'. A pollinator garden will not only attract bees, but will also attract other pollinators such as: butterflies, moths and hummingbirds.

A pollinator will be attracted to a flower based on a variety of characteristics, such as:

- Color and scent;
 - Flowers with bright colors like purple, blue, red and yellow are attractive
 - White flowers with a strong scent are also attractive to night time pollinators.
- The amount of nectar and pollen present
- The shape of the flower.

Since there are so many species of pollinators it is beneficial to plant a wide range of flowers. Pollinators' basic needs are identical to the basic needs of all life: shelter, food and protection from pesticides.

One does not need to have a lot of space. Plants can be planted anywhere—pots and flower boxes, to garden beds. A good idea would be to plan your plantings so there is a continuous sequence of flowering plants throughout the season. It is best to stick with native plants that will meet the nourishment requirements of bees native to our area.

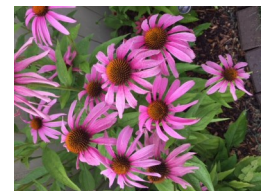
Plants to consider

Late Spring to Early Summer Blooming:

Chives; Larkspur; Poppy; Clarkia; Lupine; Alyssum; Clover; Osteospermum; Viola; Dianthus; Pea

Mid-Season Blooming:

Bachelor's Button; Basil; Black-eyed Susan; Gaillardia; Asclepias (Milkweed); Calendula; Echinacea; Cosmos; Feverfew; Foxglove; Hollyhock; Monarda (Bee Balm); Squash; Pumpkin; Thyme; Coreopsis; Yarrow; Verbena; Petunia; Nasturtium; Nicotiana; Snapdragon



Late Season:

Asters; Canada Goldenrod; Cleome; Marigold; Sage; Scabiosa (Pincushion Flowers); Sunflower; Zinnia

Pollinator Favorites:

- Black-eyed Susan
- Wood Lilly
- Wild Bergamot
- Canada Goldenrod (By the way, goldenrod is insect-pollinated and does not cause allergies -- ragweed, a wind-pollinated plant blooms at the same time and is the reason for allergic reactions in the fall.)
- Speedwell
- Aster Family
- Milkweed Family (Milkweed is the sole food of the caterpillar of the Monarch Butterfly. Sharp decline in the number of Monarch Butterfly is due to the decline of Milkweed.)
- Sunflowers
- Cherry Trees



In creating a pollinator-friendly garden one last important aspect to address is the use of pesticides. Pesticides can be very deadly to pollinators. A pesticide may kill the bug that is targeted but may very well also kill the pollinator who comes to visit the flowers. Avoid using chemical pesticides whenever possible.

The City of Leduc is hosting a "**POLLINATOR GARDEN CHALLENGE EVENT**". All you need to do is plant a pollinator garden and submit photos of your plants to: ecosmart@leduc.ca. You must register by 31 August 18. The registration form can be obtained by clicking: [Pollinator Garden Challenge Registration](#). A prize will be awarded.

EVENTS Leduc May/June 2018

Leduc Farmer's Market

Market dates for 2018 are Thursdays, May 17 to October 4th, & Saturdays, from June 30th to October 6th. (10 am to 1:30 pm) Located on the west side of the Leduc Recreation Centre parking lot.



2018 Leduc Black Gold Days Parade

June 2nd at 10 a.m. The parade makes it's way along 50 Street, from 65th Avenue to Black Gold Drive. There will be dozens of beautiful floats, bands and exhibits.

Arbour Day 2018

Saturday, May 12th (rain or shine)

From: 11 am to 3 pm

At: NW of Fred Johns Park ball diamonds & South of 50th Ave.

Wear old clothes and bring a shovel. Go to:

Leduc.ca for further details, or call: 780-980-7107

Celebrate Leduc's trees and green spaces



Leduc 50th Black Gold Pro Rodeo



Rodeo Week is May 31st to June 3rd, at the Leduc Recreation Centre

For a full event schedule visit:

[Black Gold Pro Rodeo & Exhibition Schedule](#)

Spring Bird Count 2018

Sunday June 3—Saturday June 9th

1. Call the Eco Smart Hotline (780-980-7107) or click [Spring Bird Count Tally Form](#) to obtain your Tally Sheet.

2. Watch for birds for at least 30 mins (or all week long) anywhere in the Leduc, Beaumont or Kavanagh Region and record your sightings.

3. Return your completed tally sheet no later than Sunday June 17th to ecosmart@leduc.ca.

All participants who submit a completed Tally Sheet will be entered into a random draw for a bird feeder and bird seed. For more information: Leduc.ca or call: 780-980-7107



Seniors' Week 2018—June 3rd to June 9th

Seniors' Week is a time to come together to celebrate the contributions that seniors make to our Community. Whether it is of their time, talent or life experience, seniors' contributions are at the heart of many of our Community programs and charitable organizations that improve quality of life for residents of Leduc. Leduc seniors are an active and engaged group. Leduc values each and every senior member of our Community.

EVENTS at TELFORD HOUSE

◆ Tuesday, June 5th—MUSIC JAM ENTERTAINMENT

Seniors are invited to bring their music instruments and talent to spend some time together singing, dancing and having fun.

Times: 1:30—4 pm and 7:00—10 pm

COST: \$3 per event

◆ Wednesday, June 6th—SENIORS' STRAWBERRY TEA

Time: 1:30—3:30 pm Cost: \$5.00

◆ Thursday, June 7th—"DAYS GONE BYE"

A full day of fun.

9:00 am—Coffee will be on

11:30 am—Dinner Bell Rings Cost: \$13 per person

12:15—12:45—Entertainment

12:45—Baking Auction

◆ Friday, June 8th—FREE PANCAKE BRUNCH

Sponsored by FCSS, City of Leduc

Come out and have some fun (and of course, some good food)

Time: 11 am—12:30 pm



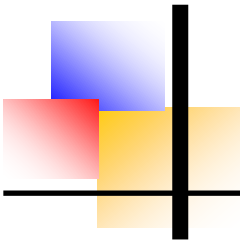
Submissions to the Panorama

If you would like to submit an article or have a suggestion please submit a copy to Lucrecia at FCSS by the following deadline: June 15, 2018 by 4:30 pm. Mailing Date for July/August 2018 edition: June 28, 2018. [We welcome your Views and Input!](#) Call Lucrecia at: 780-980-7115

The views expressed in the pages of "Panorama" do not necessarily reflect the views of the editor or City Hall. The contents of this publication cannot be reprinted without prior expressed permission.

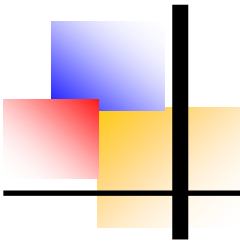


Family and Community
Support Services



MAY 2018 EVENTS

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	1	2	3	4
	9:00 Dup Bridge (TH) 10:00 Sight Seekers (TH) 1:00 Crib (TH) 7:00 Music Fest	10:00 Qigong (TH) 1:00 Curling (TH) 2:00 Guitar (TH) 7:00 Duplicate Bridge (TH)	9:00 Knitting (TH) 11:30 Lunch (TH) 9:30 Board Meeting 7:00 Crib (TH)	10:00 Exercises (TH) 1:00 Euchre (TH) 1:00 Guitar (TH) 1:00 Fun Bridge (TH) 7:00 Darts (TH)
7	8	9	10	11
10:00 Exercises (TH) 1:00 Curling (TH) 7:00 Guitar (TH)	9:00 Dup Bridge (TH) 1:00 Crib (TH) 7:00 Stroke Recovery (TH)	10:00 Qigong (TH) 1:00 Curling (TH) 2:00 Guitar (TH) 7:00 Duplicate Bridge (TH)	9:00 Knitting (TH) 11:30 Lunch (TH) 1:00 Fun Bridge (TH) 7:00 Crib (TH)	10:00 Exercises (TH) 1:00 Euchre (TH) 1:00 Guitar (TH) 7:00 Darts (TH)
14	15	16	17	18
10:00 Exercises (TH) 10:00 Alzheimer's Meeting (PL) 1:00 Curling (TH) 7:00 Guitar (TH)	9:00 Dup Bridge (TH) 1:00 Crib (TH)	10:00 Qigong (TH) 1:00 Curling (TH) 2:00 Guitar (TH) 7:00 Duplicate Bridge (TH) 7:00 Karaoke (TH)	9:00 Knitting (TH) 11:30 Lunch (TH) 1:00 Fun Bridge (TH) 7:00 Crib (TH)	10:00 Exercises (TH) 1:00 Euchre (TH) 1:00 Guitar (TH) 7:00 Darts (TH)
21	22	23	24	25
10:00 Exercises (TH) 1:00 Curling (TH) 7:00 Guitar (TH)	9:00 Dup Bridge (TH) 1:00 Crib (TH) 7:00 Music Jam (TH) 6:30 Parkinson's Mtg. (TH)	10:00 Qigong (TH) 1:00 Curling (TH) 2:00 Guitar (TH) 7:00 Duplicate Bridge (TH)	9:00 Knitting (TH) 11:30 Lunch (TH) 1:00 Fun Bridge (TH) 7:00 Crib (TH)	10:00 Exercises (TH) 1:00 Euchre (TH) 1:00 Guitar (TH) 7:00 Darts (TH)
28	29	30	31	
10:00 Exercises (TH) 1:00 Curling (TH) (last day—no Curling June) 7:00 Guitar (TH)	9:00 Dup. Bridge (TH) 1:00 Crib (TH)	10:00 Qigong (TH) 2:00 Guitar (TH) 7:00 Duplicate Bridge (TH)	9:00 Knitting (TH) 11:30 Lunch (TH) 1:00 Fun Bridge (TH) 7:00 Crib (TH)	



JUNE 2018 EVENTS

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1 10:00 Exercises (TH) 1:00 Euchre (TH) 1:00 Guitar (TH) 1:00 Fun Bridge (TH) 7:00 Darts (TH)
4 10:00 Exercises (TH) 7:00 Guitar (TH)	5 9:00 Dup. Bridge (TH) 10:00 Sight Seekers (TH) 1:00 Crib (TH) <u>SENIORS' WEEK:</u> 1:30 Music Jam Entertainment 7:00 Music Jam Entertainment	6 10:00 Qigong (TH) 2:00 Guitar (TH) 7:00 Duplicate Bridge (TH) <u>SENIORS' WEEK:</u> 1:30 Strawberry Tea	7 9:00 Knitting (TH) 9:30 Board Meeting 11:30 Lunch (TH) 7:00 Crib (TH) <u>SENIORS' WEEK:</u> "DAYS GONE BYE" 9:00 till early afternoon	8 10:00 Exercises (TH) 1:00 Euchre (TH) 1:00 Guitar (TH) 7:00 Darts (TH) <u>SENIORS' WEEK:</u> Free Pancake Brunch 11:00 am –12:30 pm
SENIORS' WEEK				
11 10:00 Exercises (TH) 10:00 Alzheimer's Meeting (PL) 7:00 Guitar (TH)	12 9:00 Dup Bridge (TH) 1:00 Crib (TH) 7:00 Stroke Recovery (TH)	13 10:00 Qigong (TH) 2:00 Guitar (TH) 7:00 Duplicate Bridge (TH)	14 9:00 Knitting (TH) 11:30 Lunch (TH) 1:00 Fun Bridge (TH) 7:00 Crib (TH)	15 10:00 Exercises (TH) 1:00 Euchre (TH) 1:00 Guitar (TH) 7:00 Darts (TH)
18 10:00 Exercises (TH) 7:00 Guitar (TH)	19 9:00 Dup Bridge (TH) 1:00 Crib (TH) 7:00 Music Jam (TH)	20 10:00 Qigong (TH) 2:00 Guitar (TH) 7:00 Duplicate Bridge (TH) 7:00 Karaoke (TH)	21 9:00 Knitting (TH) 11:30 Lunch (TH) 1:00 Fun Bridge (TH) 7:00 Crib (TH)	22 10:00 Exercises (TH) 1:00 Euchre (TH) 1:00 Guitar (TH) 7:00 Darts (TH)
25 10:00 Exercises (TH) 7:00 Guitar (TH)	26 9:00 Dup. Bridge (TH) 1:00 Crib (TH) 6:30 Parkinson's Mtg. (TH)	27 10:00 Qigong (TH) 2:00 Guitar (TH) 7:00 Duplicate Bridge (TH)	28 9:00 Knitting (TH) 11:30 Lunch (TH) 1:00 Fun Bridge (TH) 7:00 Crib (TH)	29 10:00 Exercises (TH) 1:00 Euchre (TH) 1:00 Guitar (TH) 7:00 Darts (TH)