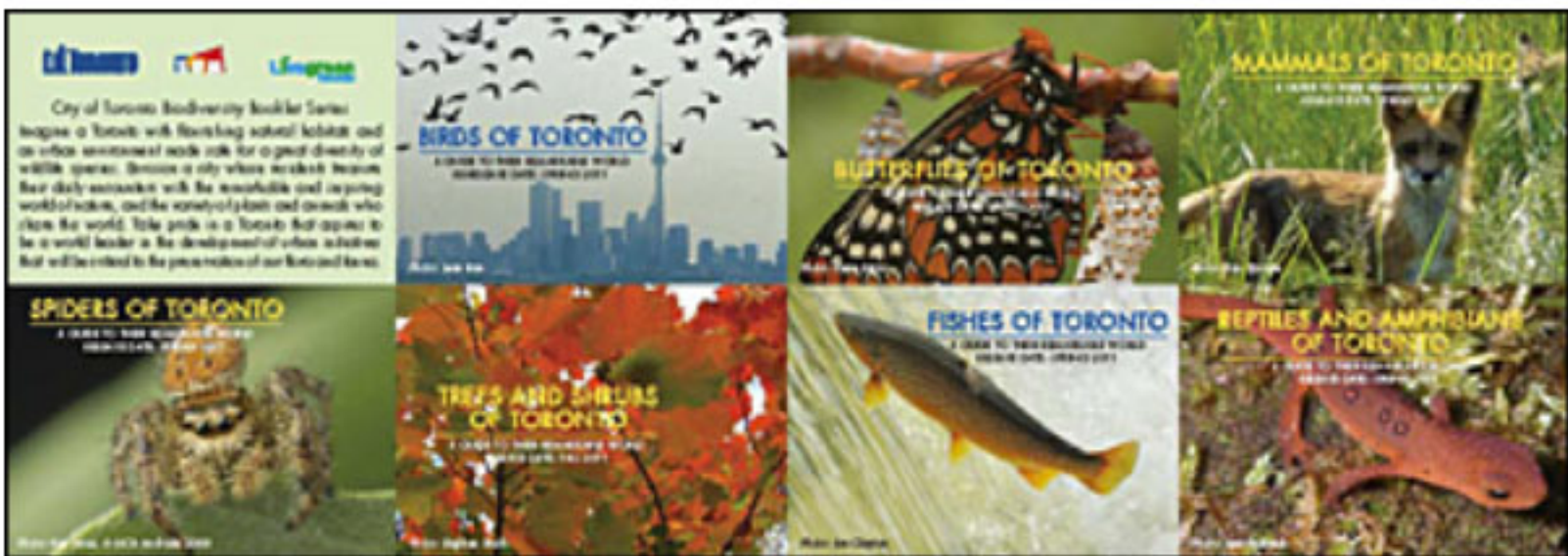


City Planning

- Sections
- Community Planning
 - Policy & Research
 - Urban Design
 - Transportation
 - Zoning&Environment

- Planning Services
- About Us
 - Application Forms
 - Committee of Adjustment
 - Application Information Centre
 - Development Guide
 - Heritage preservation
 - Housing
 - Official Plan
 - Official Plan Review
 - Planning Fees
 - Projects, Studies & Guidelines
-
- A - Z Index
 - Agenda, Reports & Minutes
 - Contact us

Biodiversity in the City



Imagine a Toronto with flourishing natural habitats and an urban environment made safe for a great diversity of wildlife species. Envision a city whose residents treasure their daily encounters with the remarkable and inspiring world of nature, and the variety of plants and animals who share this world. Take pride in a Toronto that aspires to be a world leader in the development of urban initiatives that will be critical to the preservation of our flora and fauna.

A number of the non-human residents of Toronto will be profiled in booklets. It is hoped that despite the severe biodiversity loss due to massive urbanization, pollution, invasive species, habitat loss and climate change, the Biodiversity Booklet Series will help to re-connect people with the natural world, and raise awareness of the seriousness that biodiversity loss represents and how it affects them directly. The Series will help cultivate a sense of stewardship in residents; inform the City of the current state of local biodiversity and how current City policies, procedures and operations can be enhanced, altered or revised in order to help mitigate local biodiversity loss. The booklets will be available at your local City of Toronto Public Library branch.

Biodiversity Booklet Series

Spiders of Toronto: 2012
A female jumping spider (*Phidippus clarus*) lands on the edge of a milkweed leaf. Males defend females from rival males using a combination of visual and vibratory signals, and these interactions occasionally escalate into direct combat, and fights between females over refuges are even more intense.

Birds of Toronto (Revised Edition): 2012
A flock of Whimbrel viewed from Colonel Samuel Smith Park on 23 May 2007 frames the Toronto skyline. In a short stretch of May, literally thousands of Whimbrel migrate past Toronto each spring between their South American wintering grounds and their breeding grounds on the tundra coast of the Hudson Bay Lowlands.

Trees and Shrubs of Toronto: 2012
A view skyward through the Fall leaves of a black maple tree (*Acer saccharum* ssp *nigrum*) as they turn from green to golden. Black maple is one of the six maples that are native to Toronto. It grows primarily on flood plains of the Rouge, Humber and Don Valleys, but is sometimes also planted as a street tree.

Butterflies of Toronto: Released Fall 2011
The exquisite orange, white and black markings of the Baltimore Checkerspot make this one of the most vibrant and beautiful butterflies to behold. It is found in wetland areas where its caterpillar host plant turtlehead occurs. This image captures the beauty of both the newly-emerged adult and chrysalis in all their glory.

Fishes of Toronto: 2012
A migrating Brown Trout attempts to jump a weir near the Old Mill Bridge, just north of Bloor Street. These weirs are barriers to fish migration and were modified (notched) to enable at least the larger jumping fish to migrate upstream to their spawning grounds. The removal of these migration barriers is a significant component of the restoration efforts being made to restore the extirpated (locally extinct) native Atlantic Salmon.

Mammals of Toronto: 2012
The Red Fox is an integral part of Toronto's wildlife community, occupying diverse habitats from the lakeshore to ravines and woodlots and even people's backyards on occasion. It is well adapted to live in the city.

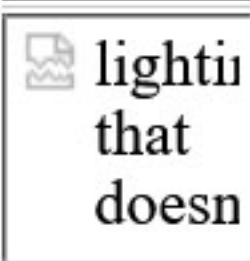
Reptiles and Amphibians of Toronto: 2012
A red eft (*Notophthalmus viridescens*) discovered in May 2009. The red eft is the second and only terrestrial life stage in the three-part post-hatching life cycle of the Red-spotted Newt (a type of salamander). The red eft develops from the aquatic larval stage and will become the aquatic adult after a few years of living on land. The bright red skin of these animals is a warning that they are toxic and that would-be predators should stay away.

Future issues will consider: moths; dragonflies and damselflies; beetles; bees; wasps; ants; wildflowers; mosses and lichens; mushrooms and other fungi; ferns and grasses; and possibly other taxonomic groups.

Questions?
If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Snow of the City of Toronto's Environmental Planning section at: ksnow@toronto.ca



Lights Out Toronto!



Bird-Friendly Development Guidelines



Symposium on Bird Conservation

- Related links:
- Bird photo gallery