

# Buffalo Pound Nature Conservancy of Canada



The **Nature Conservancy of Canada—Buffalo Pound property** includes 7 kms along the north shore of Buffalo Pound Lake through native prairie grasslands. **Enjoy a hike in this unique ecosystem!**



Photo Credit: Jason Bantle



Parking Area

Travel northwest on Highway 11 to Chamberlain, then head south on Highway 2. Follow the highway until you arrive at the Qu'Appelle Valley and turn right onto the approach just before you reach the lake.

Another option: travel west on Highway 1 to Moose Jaw, then turn north on Highway 2. Follow this highway until you reach Buffalo Pound Lake. Cross over the lake on the highway and, immediately after the lake, turn left onto the approach to the property.



The most **flowers** in a native prairie grassland **bloom in June and early July!**

The Buffalo Pound property provides **habitat for fish, waterfowl and other migratory birds as well as at-risk species**, such as American badger, Bobolink, Burrowing owl, Northern leopard frog and Sprague's pipit.



Northern leopard frog's are often called "**meadow frogs**"! After breeding between late April and early June, native prairie grasslands close to water are an **important habitat for this at-risk species.**



Photo Credit: Jason Bantle

Burrowing owl



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A pathway runs the length of the property and is approximately 2 km one way.

Buffalo Pound consists of 866 hectares (2,140 acres) of native grasslands, which is **one of the most endangered ecosystems in the world.**



**Nature Conservancy of Canada** is Canada's leading national land conservation organization. A private, non-profit organization, they work to **protect natural areas and connect you with nature.** Stay connected! Follow them on social media at [facebook.com/natureconservancy.ca](https://www.facebook.com/natureconservancy.ca), [twitter.com/NCC\\_CNC](https://twitter.com/NCC_CNC) or [Instagram.com/NCC\\_CNC](https://www.instagram.com/NCC_CNC) for daily updates and nature breaks.



**iNaturalist** is a free app! A crowdsourced way to identify **plants, insects, animals** including **birds and/or fungi** with the help of experts!



Photo Credit: Jason Bantle

Head to [inaturalist.ca](https://inaturalist.ca), create an account, download the free iNaturalist app, take pictures of nature and find out what you spotted!

The native grasslands around the lake help **keep this water clean, trap carbon and hold back flood waters.**



Photo Credit: Jason Bantle



Buffalo Pound supports fish, waterfowl and other migratory birds and is part of a **critically important wildlife habitat corridor** that stretches across southern Saskatchewan.

American White Pelican are a waterbird with a long yellow bill and an extendable pouch to scoop fish out of the water. The **“bump” on the bill** indicates it is a **breeding adult!**



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Bobolink's weigh about the same as 8 quarters and travel up to **20,000 km** during migratory season!

Bobolink's use the **earth's magnetic field** to guide them during migration thanks to iron oxide bristles in their head. Find out more at [www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Bobolink/overview](http://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Bobolink/overview)

Photo Credit: Jason Bantle

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Sprague's Pipit breed in short grass native prairie. They **forage** mainly on the ground among grasses for **insects and seeds**.



Photo Credit: Jason Bantle

Many birds breed and nest in native prairie grasslands.



**Western Thatching Ants** are an important **food source for birds and other insects**. They also eat the outer coating of seeds, **transport seeds** to their thatch and then transport them to other areas!



Look for animal tracks! **American badger?**



Photo Credit: Jason Bantle



**Why is there a fish head in the field?**  
Our hypothesis is that a bird of prey was fishing in the nearby lake!



Take a moment to find a **"sit spot"** and take in the quiet and beauty all around you!



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Search & Find

June to early July



Pincushion Cactus flowers last for about 7 days once they open! Their fragrant scent attracts hummingbirds and other pollinators.



White-flower Beardtongue is appropriately named. Take a close look to see why it is named that!



Take a close at the native prairie grasslands. How many different types of insects can you spot? Insects are an important part of this ecosystem!



Scarlet Globemallow is recognized by pollination ecologists for attracting large number of native bees.



Bring your binoculars and take a close look at Buffalo Pound Lake! Many different types of water birds and waterfowl make this area home.



Many birds use Fringed Sagebrush for making nests!



You will smell them before you see them! Look carefully along the shoreline for Wild Rose Bushes.



Silverberry bloom between May and June. The bark of the Wolf Willow was traditionally used for medicine and to make rope.



Try to find rocks from every colour of the rainbow. How many colours of rock can you spot?



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