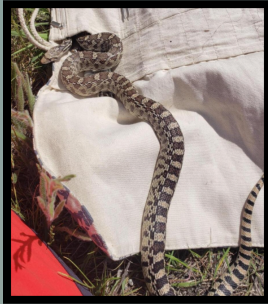




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2026 Nature Talks



Becoming Snake Smart - Saturday, July 4th

Join Nk'Mip snake biologist Kara Atkinson, PhD student at UBCO, as she talks about snake species of the South Okanagan, the role of snakes in our ecosystem, what to do in the event of a snake encounter, and how to stay snake safe. With her come special (snake) guests Hula and Hoops!

Antelope Brush and Fire - a Threat or an Opportunity? - Saturday, July 11th
Antelope brush ecosystems are one of the most endangered ecosystems in Canada, and yet their fire ecology in the Okanagan Valley is greatly understudied and often misunderstood. Join UBC PhD Candidate Miah Godek to hear about the past, present, and future of fire in antelopebrush ecosystems, including how prescribed fire and cultural burning may help transform fire from a threat to an opportunity for restoration and long-term stewardship.



The Beautiful Butterflies of BC - Saturday, July 18th

Did you know that butterflies evolved from moths, or that butterflies can remember things from their time as a caterpillar? There are currently over 18,000 known butterfly species around the world that support many plants through pollination! Join ODC Conservation Guide Eevee Burke in investigating how butterflies evolved, and how the Okanagan Valley is home to several species of special butterflies.

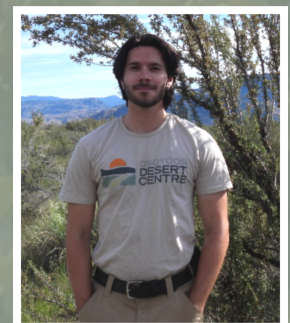
Building a Buzzing Backyard - Sunday, August 2nd
For decades the classic green grass lawn has been a standard across North America. While these grass lawns are popular, they often don't provide great habitats for native species. There are many ways to both enjoy your outdoor space and make it a hotspot buzzing with biodiversity! Join conservation guide Jaslyne Marek to discuss tips and tricks on how to make your yard work for you and the environment.



Bringing Back the Burrowing Owl - Friday, August 7th

The iconic Western Burrowing Owl is currently extirpated in BC. Lauren Meads, Executive Director of the Burrowing Owl Conservation Society, will discuss current burrowing owl conservation efforts in the Okanagan grasslands ecosystem. Special guest Pluto the burrowing owl will also be there!

Nature's Most Important Pyramid - Saturday, August 15th
How does the energy from the sun make it into our bodies for us to use? How does adding more of a species affect its prey and predators? These questions will be answered by ODC Conservation Guide Ethan Jordan as he discusses the food web and how energy flows through the ecosystem's trophic levels.



**Nature Talks start at 10:30 am
(included with ODC admission)**