

Friends of Dallas-Barnhartvale Nature Park

A group dedicated to the continued well-being of a valued community resource.

GET TO KNOW The Flowering Plants of Dallas-Barnhartvale Nature Park



Plant Catalogue Available Online

Paul Handford, retired Evolutionary Biologist, is quickly becoming our go-to person for local plant identification.

Recently moved to Barnhartvale from Stratford, Ontario, Paul has expanded a life-long interest in bird life to include the local plants he sees on his daily walks with his Labradoodle, Beckett. He appreciates the wide variety of plant life to be found in **Dallas-Barnhartvale Nature Park** and surrounding area.

To give himself a winter project, he set out to chronicle the arrival of each different plant, photograph and identify it, and monitor its development through its season.

The result is a remarkable month-by-month catalogue of wild-flowers that live, grow and die in our semi-arid climate each year.

The 2014 edition has well over 100 plants, identified by common name, species and family.

Paul applies a well-trained scientific eye to the various species he observes and captures in his superb photographs. As a result, he has discovered many interesting facts. For example, did you know there are two different kinds of lemon-weed growing here? Or two kinds of Saskatoon Bush?

Paul has made contact with Jamie Fenneman, UBC Botanist, who maintains the website *e-flora*, an electronic atlas of the flora in B.C.. In their correspondence, they constantly refine their identification of each plant. This is particularly exciting work, as the taxonomy of plant identification is currently changing as experts learn more from DNA testing and other tools.

Paul has made his catalogue available for all of us. You can find it

on our Park website by going to the Downloads section and opening the file **[Dallas-Barnhartvale Plants 2014.pdf](#)**. Or, you can download it to your computer or cell phone for a handy reference at home or in the field.

Be sure to check in occasionally for updates. Paul is hard at work on the 2015 edition, and informs us that his catalogue is growing, with new plants added each year.

The serious enthusiast may also wish to download the companion file **[Alphabetical plant list by genus, species.pdf](#)**. This list references the page number of the plant in the catalogue, and is particularly useful if you wish to find more information on *e-flora*. You can note the Scientific Name of the plant, enter it in the *e-flora* site search engine, and learn much more!

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JUNE
2015

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