Weekly Programs (They're free! Drop-in)

BISON BACKSTAGE
Saturday/Sundays in July and August, 1 pm and 3 pm
Your behind-the-scenes VIP access:  Learn more about bison conservation at Elk Island National Park begins at the Visitor Centre Experience! A tour of the Parks Bison Handling Facility featuring hands-on activities and demonstrations. Registration required at the Visitor Centre. Maximum 20 participants per tour.

Meet our interpreters!
Visit the friendly and informative interpreters at the Astotin to learn of other exciting programs taking place at Elk Island National Park. We think that's something to celebrate!

Special Events

Canada Day Family Fun
Friday, July 1, 2016 12 - 4 pm
On Canada Day, enjoy free entry to all of Canada's National Parks, National Historic Sites and National Marine Conservation Areas. There's no better way to celebrate our heritage as Canadians than by visiting your nearest national park. Elk Island! Join us for a multicultural celebration of our nation's birthday!

Parks Day Celebration
Saturday, July 16, 2016 12 - 6 pm
Get back to nature this Parks Day at Elk Island National Park. With musical performances, children and adults alike will experience nature like never before. Try your hand at "Learn To" activities including fire building, permican making and canoeing! Come out to Elk Island National Park and experience the great Canadian tradition of a day at the park with your friends and family!

The Bison Festival
Saturday, August 13, 2016 12 - 8 pm
Bison were nearly lost from North America! But by the early 20th century, bison purchased from Montana and brought to Elk Island National Park began to slowly re-build their numbers. Today nearly every plains bison you see in southern Canada, whether in conservation or domestic herds, had an ancestor in Elk Island National Park. We think that's something to celebrate! Join us for this sensory festival celebrating all things bison, from conservation, to culture, to cuisine!

Start your discovery!

The Beaver Hills Dark Sky Preserve's 11th annual Star Party
Friday, July 1, 2016 – 8 pm
Join us for a multicultural celebration of our nation's birthday!

Group camping and backcountry camping at Oster Lake
July 14 - 16, 2016
Imagine pitching your tent nestled against an aspen forest on the shores of Oster Lake. Hike in to this secluded camping area that accommodates groups of up to 50 people but can also be reserved for smaller groups. Call 780-992-5790 for more information or to book.

Contact Edmonton Tourism for information on commercial accommodation at exploredmonton.com.

Parks Day Celebration
Saturday, September 3, 2016
Imagine pitching your tent nestled against an aspen forest on the shores of Oster Lake. Hike in to this secluded camping area that accommodates groups of up to 50 people but can also be reserved for smaller groups. Call 780-992-5790 for more information or to book.

Contact Edmonton Tourism for information on commercial accommodation at exploredmonton.com.

Parks Canada Reservation Service: 1-877-RESERVE (737-3783)
Website: www.reserve.parks.ca

Online reservations open January 15, 2016
Call 780-992-5790 for information
Online reservations open January 15, 2016
At http://reservation.parksCanada.gc.ca

Equipped camping now available at Elk Island!
Equipped Campsites provide the opportunity to go camping even if you don't have camping equipment or simply want to avoid the hassle of organizing and packing everything for your camping trip. Available upon request: Tent, sleeping pads, camping chairs, propane stove and lanterns.

1-877-737-3783 www.reserve.parks.ca

Group camping and backcountry camping at Oster Lake
July 14 - 16, 2016
Imag...
With 80 km of trails to explore, your day will be filled with unique and memorable experiences. Watch the busy beaver as it constructs its dam, listen to songbirds sing you a tune, or breathe in the fresh air as you watch the sunset over Astotin Lake. Most trails have parking, viewpoints, washrooms and garbage facilities.

Keep Safe While Exploring the Park
- Bring a map and watch for trail markers. Look for yellow diamonds to mark designated trails.
- Watch your step on slippery paths and boardwalks.
- Respect area and trail closures.
- Wildlife encounters are possible. Be alert and use caution.
- You are responsible for your own safety. Be self-reliant and tell a friend where you’re going. Trails are not patrolled.

PET OWNERS
- Join other pet owners in protecting pets and wildlife by keeping your dog on leash.

Hiking
- Haybarger Trail
- Simmons Trail
- Shirley Lake Trail
- Moss Lake Trail
- Amiek Wuche Trail
- Lakoview Trail
- Beaver Pond Trail
- Living Waters Boardwalk
- Tawiyik Lake Trail
- Shoreline Trail
- Wood Bison Trail

Information
- Parking
- Visitor Centre
- Kiosk
- Gift Shop
- Washrooms
- Outhouse
- Telephone

Accessible
- Golfing
- Hiking
- Snowshoeing
- Cross-country Skiing
- Cycling
- Playground

Exhibit
- Lookout
- Picnic Area
- Picnic Shelter
- Warmup Shelter
- Beach
- Canoe/Kayak Rental
- Canoeing

Kayaking
- Food Locker
- Restaurant
- Trailer Dump
- Interpretation
- Astotin Theatre
- Recreational Vehicles

Trailers
- Back-country Camping
- Tenting
- Group Camping
- Overflow Camping
- Firewood

Elk Island is Canada's only fully fenced national park.

Wood bison are the largest land mammal in North America, followed closely by their cousins the plains bison.

Elk Island manages Canada's conservation recovery herds for plains and wood bison.

Today at Elk Island, we have more bison within the borders of our fences than existed in the whole of North America in 1890.