

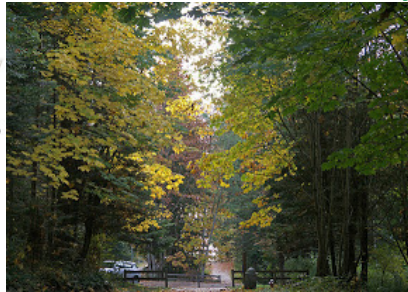
Vancouver Island Nature Viewing Region

Comox Valley Area

Lerwick Nature Park, Hawk Greenway, Hurford Hill Nature Park



Northern Flicker:
Bill Heybroek drawing



Lerwick Park entrance: Terry Thormin photo



Mallard Creek headwaters meadow: Terry Thormin photo

[Photo Gallery](#)

Lerwick Nature Park, Hawk Glen Park, Hurford Hill Nature Park, and Valleyview Greenway form an interconnected greenway in East Courtenay that protects vital forests, streams and wetlands in close proximity to residential areas. In Lerwick Nature Park, enter a mature second growth forest with an understory of salal, Oregon-grape and sword fern. From the west side, continue on a 500m paved path along the Sheraton Trail and turn west down Hawk Drive to Hawk Glen Park. Or, from Lerwick Park, cut through the woods to the west of the Sheraton Trail and wander through the open meadow and wetland of the Mallard Creek headwaters. Cattails, sedges and rushes are features of the headwaters meadow, and look for Common Snipe, Red-winged Blackbirds, sparrows and finches. Black-tailed Deer and Red Squirrels are common.

From Hawk Glen Park, 400 m north along Hobson Ave. brings you to 10.8 hectare Hurford Hill Nature Park, where there is a field and woodland bordering Glen Urquhart Creek. The forested areas of the parks are good for woodland birds such as Northern Flicker, Chestnut-backed Chickadee and Pacific Wren. Another connection is eastward, along Valleyview Greenway, following Glen Urquhart Creek upstream for 1 km. Lerwick, Hawk Glen and Hurford Hill can be combined in a four km circuit - all the more reason to leave the car at home.

[Site Map](#)

Geographical Description	Lerwick Nature Park : 2nd growth wooded area Mallard meadow: wetland draining into the Duck Slough on Comox Rd. Hurford Hill Nature Park: wooded area & lawn; on Glen Urquhart Creek.
Area/ Trail Length	Lerwick Nature Park: 8 ha., 700 m. longest trail, flat. Mallard meadow: 12 ha. meadow, 500 m. rough path across. Hurford Hill Nature Park: 10.8 ha., 500 m. longest trail, flat. 400 m. along street between Hawk Greenway & Hurford Hill: 4 km circuit to connect all areas.
Habitat	Lerwick Nature Park & Hawk Greenway: 2nd growth forest, wetland, meadow. Hurford Hill Nature Park: 2nd growth forest, riparian, grass lawn.
Highlights	Series of connected small parks & greenways. Headwaters meadow is a stormwater management area for headwaters of Mallard Creek.
Best Season	Year-round for woods.
Main Access	Lerwick Nature Park & Mallard Creek headwaters meadow: north end Sheraton Rd. Hurford Hill Nature Park: south end Glen Urquhart Dr.

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Secondary Accesses	Lerwick Nature Park: Lerwick Dr., Blue Jay Pl. Hawk Glen Park: Hawk Dr. Mallard meadow: Back Rd. Hurford Hill Nature Park: Hobson Ave., Valleyview Dr.
Cautions	Vehicles use Glen Urquhart driveway. Mallard meadow may flood.
Jurisdiction	Lerwick & Hurford Hill: City of Courtenay Parks. Mallard meadow: City of Courtenay development area.
Birds	Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Merlin, Downy Woodpecker, Common Raven, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Chestnut-backed Chickadee, Pacific Wren, Golden-crowned Kinglet, White-crowned Sparrow, Golden-crowned Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Song Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Spotted Towhee, American Robin, House Finch. Bird List
Mammals	Black-tailed Deer, Red Squirrel.
Reptiles	
Amphibians	
Fish	
Insects	
Trees	Lerwick Park: mostly Douglas-fir, some western hemlock, bigleaf maple, red alder, bitter cherry. Mallard meadow: cottonwood, crab apple. Hurford Hill: Sitka spruce, grand fir, Douglas-fir, redcedar, bigleaf maple, red alder.
Shrubs	Lerwick Park: salal, trailing blackberry, twinflower, baldhip rose, oceanspray. Both parks: Oregon grape, rose sp., snowberry, salmonberry, red huckleberry.
Flowering Plants	Mallard meadow: dock, cattail, thistle sp., grass sp., rush sp., burdock, scouring rush. Both Parks: vanilla leaf, Hooker's fairybells, wall-lettuce.
Ferns, Lichens, Mosses	Sword fern, bracken fern. Ramelina sp., lungwort.
Other Species	
Invasive/Non-native species	Invasive: holly, Scotch broom, daphne laurel, cutleaf blackberry, Himalayan blackberry, creeping buttercup. Yellow archangel (<i>Lamiastrum galeobdolon</i>) in Hurford Hill Park. Non-native: English oak, mountain-ash.
Mushrooms	Witches' butter; polypore sp., russula sp.
Geology	
Regulations	Dogs on leash, no motorized vehicles.
Facilities	Dog bags at several trailheads.
Other Features	Stormwater management infrastructure at Hawk Glen Park and Mallard meadow wetland.
Other Connections	
FMI	City of Courtenay Parks City of Courtenay Official Community Plan K'omoks Important Bird Area Comox Valley Land Trust Glen Urquhart Creek Watershed Map pdf Mallard Creek Map pdf Fish Species in the Courtenay River Estuary and Baynes Sound 2001 pdf eBird Hotspot