

Celebrating Earth Day – Bio Blitz

Saturday and Sunday - April 24th and 25th

The Rotary Club of Southborough is encouraging residents of our community to get personal with the wide diversity of creatures great and small living among us here in town. Earth Day is coming and what better way to celebrate this special day than getting to know who is living with you. Rotarians understand that the whole world is their backyard. Rotary is dedicated to causes that build relationships, create a better world, promote peace and improve the environment. So start a new relationship with another living creature, get out your mobile phone and join the Rotary Club in a Bio Blitz of Southborough.

How do you Bio Blitz? You download the “iNaturalist” app (free) on your phone and go outside to find out who is growing, crawling, flying, slithering, munching, etc steps away. Alternatively you could get adventurous and wander around in the woods and fields looking for something to discover.



The primary goal of iNaturalist is to connect people to nature...get people to feel that the non-human world has personal significance, and is worth protecting. The iNaturalist app will help you identify what it is you have discovered by using the “what did I see” option. You get a list of likely suspects, which you can use to identify what is the creature or plant you have captured in your phone. Having done this you “Share” your discovery with the world. The app also allows you to read about the life your discovery leads with the appropriately labeled “About” option.

When you share your discovery, a “real” naturalist can validate whether or not you got it right. If they agree with you, your observation becomes “research” grade data and “voila”, you are a citizen scientist. And no, you don’t need to identify some rare or endangered species for this to happen. Most any plant, bug, spider, worm, mushroom, tree, caterpillar, bird, flower, or animal is all that is required. A dandelion on the lawn is a good place to get your feet wet in this pursuit.

The Southborough’s Bio Blitz is going to take place on Saturday and Sunday, April 24th and the 25th. It is the perfect individual contribution you can make during these pandemic times to celebrate Earth Day. You identify stuff, share it between these dates and the Rotary Club counts how many species got tagged between these two dates. There are hundreds of species out there just waiting for you to know who they are there. So, be friendly and get to know who lives on this planet right next to you.

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See How to Blitz

