# The Volontary Rangers of the MONTEVECCHIA and VAL CURONE REGIONAL PARK present: "GUIDED WALKS 2014"

All year round the Park's Volontary Rangers (or GEV) organize guided walks to the prettiest and most interesting spots in the protected area. Adults wishing to join such walks are required to pay a small fee of 3 Euros each (no fee for children) and are strongly advised to book by email. In addition to providing a wealth of interesting information, our website always highlights possible programme changes or additional suggestions related to our guided walks. Participants are advised to wear suitable trekking clothes and walking boots. English-speaking Park Rangers are also available for organized groups for specific guided tours. Numbers are limited for the guided visits marked with an \*; the relevant departure point and fee will be communicated to confirmed participants only. For additional information send an email to <u>gev.curone@libero.it</u> or consult the GEV www.gevcurone.it website.

# Sunday 19 January 2014 Bird-watching in Winter

# Montevecchia, Cascina Butto car park, 9am

It's cold but breakfast is served, strictly for the birds! Our hide provides the perfect cover for us to watch and recognize the various species feeding. After that, a pleasant walk will give us a chance to see additional species, learn how to spot them and observe the basic rules of bird-watching.

# Sunday 16 February 2014 Animal tracks

#### Montevecchia, Ca' Soldato, 9am

A morning devoted to discovering the best hidden and most indecipherable signs of animals that may have crossed our path a moment before.....revealing a living, breathing presence, right next to us, of which we knew little or nothing.

# Sunday 23 March 2014

**Spring Flowers** 

#### Montevecchia, Cascina Butto car park, 9am

A walk in the woods where wild flowers are busy preparing to blossom and bear fruit before the leafy tree canopy shuts out the sunlight.

# Sunday 6 April 2014

#### Pond and brook

# Missaglia, car park next to the Valle Santa Croce pond, 9am

A trail in search of the animals and plants that thrive in our ponds and streams; we will see where hundreds of red frogs lay their eggs every year. From there we walk uphill into the rugged high valley of the Molgoretta brook.

# Sunday, 13 April 2014

# Discover the park by bike

# Osnago, railway station, 9am

An unprecedented guided tour for keen cyclists. The route will be easy and will take us to some appealing spots in the park. The event is organized in partnership with the Osnago Town Council.

# Sunday, 27 April 2014

# **Trekking along the "SENTIERONE" trail** in partnership with the "MONTE DI BRIANZA" association.

# Olgiate Molgora, railway station car park, 9am

A one-day trek along "Sentierone" path number 1 will take us up to the top of San Genesio via the green expanse of Monte di Brianza and down again, in the afternoon, to Airuno to board the train back to Olgiate Molgora. In due time, details will be posted on www.gevcurone.it. Bring a packed lunch.

# Sunday, 11 May 2014

# A food and wine-tasting trail round the Curone Valley

#### 9am \*

A mouth-watering walk from one farmhouse to another along the time-honoured paths of the Curone Valley to taste typical local products. Book early as numbers are limited .

# Sunday, 25 May 2014

#### "From Park to Park": Petrifing Springs, Wet Woods, Dry Meadows Montevecchia, Park Visitors' Centre, 9am

Montevecchia Park features three habitats protected by the European Union. This Sunday's walk explores all three, revealing intriguing springs gradually turning into stone, damp woods shrouded in mystery and the rich colours of the dry meadows.

# Sunday 8 June 2014

# A weed by any other name would smell as sweet...

# Perego, cemetery car park (Via A Volta), 9am

Call us weeds if you like, but don't just root us out and chuck us away. We live humbly in unattended fields, at the edge of trails, ditches and on dry stone walls, always ignored or despised, but that doesn't mean we are useless. Just think for a moment about our important role in biodiversity. Butterflies, bees and numerous other insects love us. Join this guided tour, find out what we do and... give us a second chance!.

# Saturday 21 June 2014 Creatures of the night

# Rovagnate, 9pm \*

The night has a thousand eyes: so venture out in the dark with us and listen to the sounds and subtle movements of the Park's nocturnal animals. Book early because numbers are limited.

# Saturday 12 July 2014

# Perceptions of infinity in the moonlight

#### Perego, 9pm \*

A nocturnal stroll contemplating nature, enjoying the silence and breathtaking landscape in the light of a full moon. Book early because numbers are limited.

# Sunday 10 August 2014

Catch a falling star

#### Montevecchia, Cascina Butto, 9pm

If the night is clear, we'll be looking out for "shooting stars" from the natural terrace behind Cascina Butto, along with the "Villasanta Friends of the Sky". Their powerful telescopes will help us explore lunar craters and far-away stars. The Visitors' Centre will be open for the occasion.

#### Sunday 31 August 2014

# Micro-safari at the Park's dry meadows III

# Rovagnate, Spiazzo car park, 9 am

The third "safari", on a slightly modified route, will focus on our area's most interesting insects, including dragonflies, praying mantises, beetles, butterflies, grasshoppers etc.

#### Sunday 14 September 2014

# Isn't it funny how bees like honey?

# Montevecchia, School Car park ,Via del Fontanile, 9am

Find out where, how and what bees eat, how closely they are involved in our environment and agriculture and how vital they are as bio-indicators. Visit to an apiary and honey workshop.

# Sunday 28 September 2014 Mushrooms, nice and nasty Montevecchia, Ca' Soldato, 9am

Mushrooms are the hardest to find of all our woodland species, and although their different shapes, colours and flavours attract us, we have to treat them with due caution and respect. An unmissable Autumn meeting with our friends from the Missaglia mycological group!

# Sunday 12 October 2014 Trekking through falling leaves Missaglia, cemetery car park, 9am

One-day excursion. Bring a packed Lunch

An Autumn walk among the hedgerows, farmhouses and hamlets in the most pristine part of the Park.

# Sunday 9 November 2014

# Mondonico

#### Olgiate Molgora, La Squadra di Mondonico,9am

A history trail through a small village with a great past, in partnership with the "Monte di Brianza" association.