



**CURRENT NEWS ON ECOLOGICAL WELLNESS AND GLOBAL HEALTH**

**Volume 6, Number 22** <https://planetaryhealthweekly.com>

**May 28, 2020**

Hi,

I've spent much of the last week (even while biking, see Endshots) worried about what is happening, during this time of COVID-19 (with now nearly 6m confirmed cases and 360,000 deaths globally and no end in sight), with the concept and discipline of global health, to which I have devoted much of my life. Working in and together with colleagues and organizations from countries around the world has been a constant source of joy and fulfillment for me since 1979. I still participate in Skype and Zoom conference calls and webinars with people from distant lands, and maintain constant email contact with many friends and colleagues from all over. I think of my work all the time, yet I feel that I am now not able to do it properly, if at all. Why? Because I'm in total doubt about when I will next be able to visit them and work together in person. Had COVID-19 not happened I'd be in Ethiopia today and Mozambique next week. A special greeting to all my friends/colleagues there and elsewhere!

The pandemic clearly demonstrates, like much of globalization, that we are all connected and inter-dependent. This has also been with other shared concerns (including previous pandemics), trade, tourism, education and other professional collaborations; but now it's mostly all being done without the miracle of air travel and personal interactions. While I've been torn between the huge ecological footprint of airplanes, I'm now being torn by their absence. How can we carry on with working towards global health equity and health for all if at least some interactions among collaborators are not in person? What an irony, what a dilemma, what a great discussion this creates. As an educator I also worry about the current lack of on-site international experiences for students. How can our current and next generations of

young global health professionals pursue their profession and the global health goals of fostering peace and security, if not in person and without the experience base like I have accumulated?

Today's ***Planetary Health Weekly*** (#22 of 2020) tries, like every week, to take you to the issues, as personally as possible, to at least be there in your mind. Beginning with:

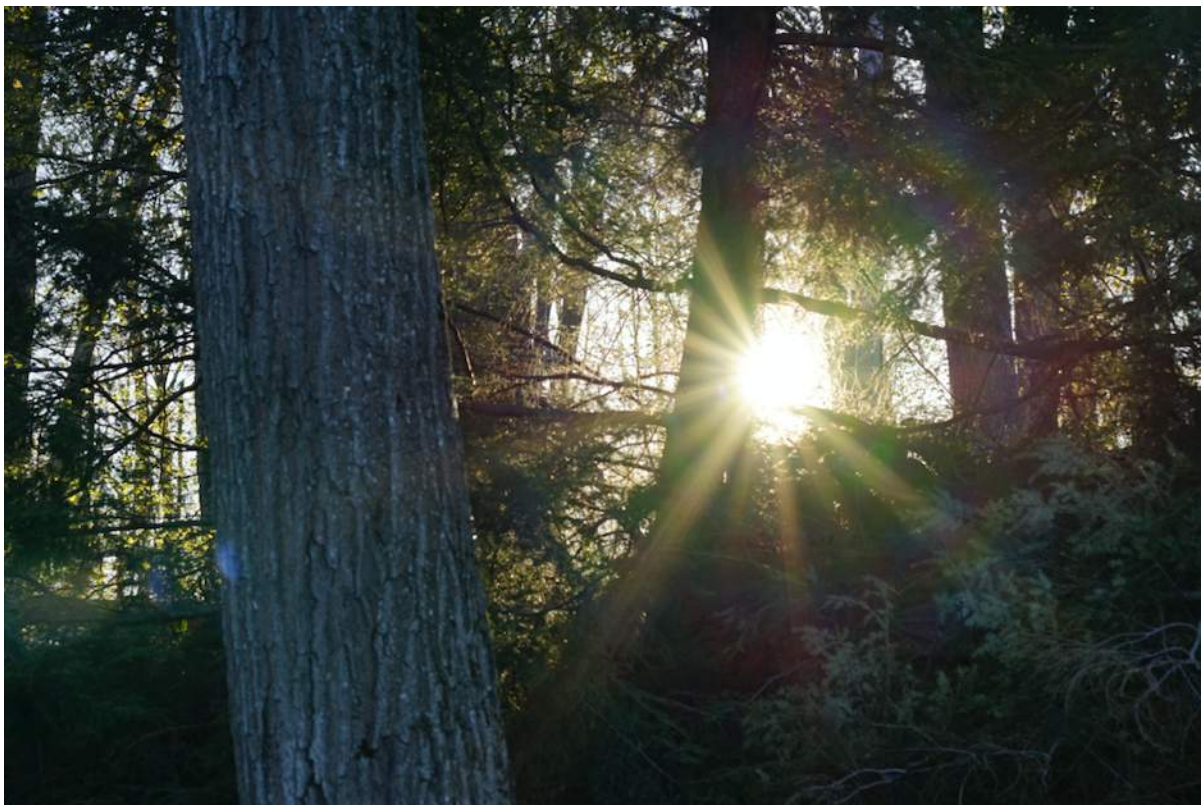
- Coronavirus updates, including:
  - Covid patients testing positive after recovery aren't infectious,
  - Fast, frugal innovations in response to COVID-19,
  - Coronavirus may never go away says WHO,
  - COVID-19 and sexual and reproductive health,
  - Early estimates of the indirect effects on MCH in LMICs,
  - A critical care doctor highly critical of Ontario's strategy,
  - 'Superspreader' events responsible for at least 80% of cases,
  - Chaotic and crazy meat processing plants around the world,
  - Have school closures been successful?
  - AstraZeneca receives \$1bn from U.S. for Oxford vaccine,
  - Hydroxychloroquine linked to greater risk of death,
  - U.K. healthcare workers begin hydroxychloroquine trial,
  - Inequalities in NHS hospitals,
  - India's fight against COVID-19 and malnutrition, and
  - Sweden is still nowhere near herd immunity; then
- Large global consultancy predicts the renewables sector is poised for a strong recovery,
- Maternal infections in health facilities,
- One billion to live in insufferable heat within 50 years,
- How Michael Moore became a hero to climate deniers,
- A re-emerging deadly virus stalking rabbits,
- COVID-19 wiping out demand for fossil fuels,
- Green hydrogen homes in Scotland; and Multibillion-pound wind farms in the U.K.,
- Finding a new normal and safeguarding our planet,
- Need of a COVID manifesto,
- Trump continuing to dismantle environmental protections,

- Increased violence against Indigenous women,
- An Indigenous medicinal plant guide,
- Virtual conference reflections by Eunice Anteh (PHW Production Manager) and U.N. Summit on Biodiversity in September in N.Y.,
- Why the media can't visualize climate solutions,
- What matters to women in the postnatal period,
- Why women live longer than men everywhere,
- New book, *Soap and Water & Common Sense: The Definitive Guide to Viruses, Bacteria, Parasites and Disease* by Bonnie Henry, and
- Five low-tech time saving ways to teach online, and finally
- ENDSHOTS

Do take a look. Keeping safe and positive...

Wishing you the best, david

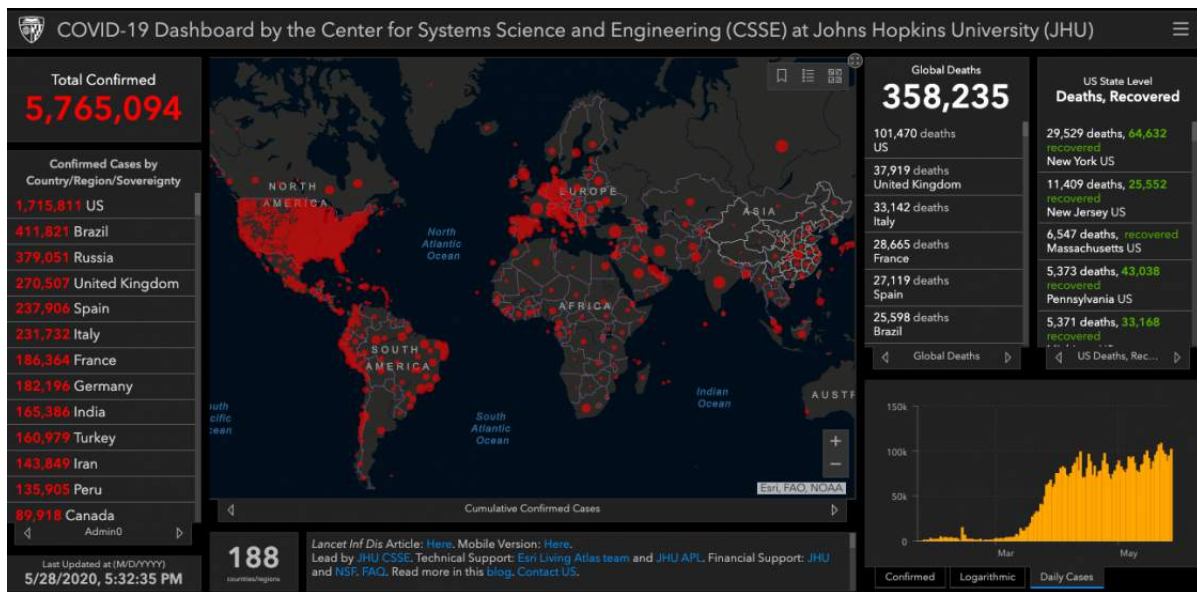
David Zakus, Editor and Publisher



**THE SUN DOESN'T DISAPPOINT**

**SARS-CoV-2 & COVID-19 UPDATES**





## Covid Patients Testing Positive After Recovery Aren't Infectious



Credits: Bloomberg

Researchers are finding evidence that patients who test positive for the coronavirus after recovering aren't capable of transmitting the infection, and could have the antibodies that prevent them from falling sick again. Scientists from the Korean Centers for Disease Control and Prevention studied 285 Covid-19 survivors who had tested positive for the coronavirus after their illness had apparently resolved, as indicated by a previous negative test result. The so-called re-positive patients weren't found to have spread any lingering infection, and virus samples collected from them couldn't be grown in culture, indicating the patients were shedding non-infectious or dead virus particles.

The research may also aid in the debate over antibody tests, which look for markers in the blood that indicate exposure to the novel coronavirus. Experts believe antibodies probably convey some level of protection against the virus, but they don't have any solid proof yet. Nor do they know how long any immunity may last. "Under the new protocols, no additional tests are required for cases that have been discharged from isolation," the Korean CDC said in a report. The agency said it will now refer to "re-positive" cases as "PCR re-detected after discharge from isolation."

[Read More at Bloomberg](#)

### SEE ALSO:

**At Nature:** [Fast and frugal innovations in response to the COVID-19 pandemic](#)

**At Health Economic Times:** [Coronavirus may never go away: WHO](#)

**At WHO:** [Coronavirus disease \(COVID-19\) and Sexual and Reproductive Health](#)

**At Lancet:** [Early estimates of the indirect effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on maternal and child mortality in low-income and middle-income countries](#)

**At Telegraph:** [‘Superspreader’ events may be responsible for 80 per cent or more of all coronavirus cases](#)

**At The Guardian:** [‘Chaotic and crazy’: meat plants around the world struggle with virus outbreaks](#)

**At JAMA Network:** [School Closure During the COVID-19 Pandemic; An Effective Intervention at the Global Level?](#)

**At Health Economic Times:** [AstraZeneca receives \\$1bn US investment for Oxford vaccine](#)

**At CNN:** [Drug touted by Trump as Covid-19 treatment linked to a greater risk of death, study finds](#)

**At Reuters:** [UK healthcare workers begin COVID-19 hydroxychloroquine trial](#)

**At The Star:** [Critical care doctor says the ‘inexcusable’ Ontario public health strategy is wasting the lockdown](#)

**At Sage Journal:** [Health inequalities: the hidden cost of COVID-19 in NHS hospital trusts?](#)

**At Health Economic Times:** [India’s fight against COVID-19 and Malnutrition](#) and [Delhi sees another big spike today with 792 new Covid-19 cases, 15 deaths](#)

**At CNN:** [Sweden is still nowhere near 'herd immunity,' even though it didn't go into lockdown](#)

# 'Bounce Back': EY Predicts Renewables Sector Poised For Strong Coronavirus Recovery



Credits: skyscanner

The latest Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index (RECAI) sees UK climb rankings, as analysts argue renewables could represent a 'safer-haven' for investors. The global renewables industry may have been hit hard by the coronavirus crisis, but it is well positioned to "bounce back quickly" and provide a relatively "safer haven" for long term investors as the economic recovery progresses. That is the view of consultancy giant EY, which just published the latest edition of its influential RECAI. Benoit Laclau, EY global energy leader, said that despite the coronavirus crisis the energy industry was facing a "defining and transformative moment. Stakeholders are looking to collaborate and invest in companies where climate change and sustainable development is embedded in their strategy. Energy leaders should take action to invest in renewables and related sustainable long-term projects, including energy efficiency, smart power networks and low-carbon transport infrastructure." [Read More at Business Green](#)

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## Maternal Infections In Health Facilities





Credit: UNICEF/Adriko

New research from the Global Maternal Sepsis Study (GLOSS), a major WHO/HRP initiative, shows that infection has a much larger impact on global maternal mortality and morbidity than previously thought. The results from GLOSS, published in *The Lancet Global Health*, are the first to provide data on frequency of maternal infections and sepsis across the pregnancy and post-pregnancy period, in a large number of health facilities around the world. Around 11 women per 1000 live births had an infection which resulted in or contributed to what is known as a severe maternal outcome – either they died or nearly died – during their hospitalization. Urgent improvement is needed to manage this life-threatening risk faced by all pregnant and recently pregnant women. Understanding why and how infection affects women is essential for equipping healthcare providers with life-saving knowledge and enabling health care systems to bring down global maternal mortality and morbidity. [Read More at WHO](#)

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## One Billion People Will Live In Insufferable Heat Within 50 Years



Credit: Sanjay Kanojia/AFP via Getty Images

The human cost of the climate crisis will hit harder, wider and sooner than previously believed, according to a new study that shows a billion people will either be displaced or forced to endure insufferable heat for every additional 1C rise in the global temperature. Even in the most optimistic outlook, 1.2 billion people will fall outside the comfortable “climate niche” in which humans have thrived for at least 6,000 years. Instead of looking at climate change as a problem of physics or economics, the paper, published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, examines how it affects the human habitat. This would add enormously to migration pressures and pose challenges to food production systems. Each degree of warming that can be avoided will save a billion people from falling out of humanity’s climate niche. “Clearly we will need a global approach to safeguard our children against the potentially enormous social tensions the projected change could invoke,” said one of the authors, Xu Chi of Nanjing University. [Read More at The Guardian](#)

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## How Did Michael Moore Become A Hero To Climate Deniers And The Far Right?





Credit: Alamy

Today, after years of irrelevance, the climate science deniers are triumphant. Long after their last, desperate claims had collapsed, when they had traction only on “alt-right” conspiracy sites, a hero of the left turns up and gives them more than they could have dreamed of. *Planet of the Humans*, whose executive producer and chief promoter is Michael Moore, now has more than 6 million views on YouTube. The film does not deny climate science. But it promotes the discredited myths that deniers have used for years to justify their position. It claims that environmentalism is a self-seeking scam, doing immense harm to the living world while enriching a group of con artists. This has long been the most effective means by which denial – most of which has been funded by the fossil fuel industry – has been spread.

Yes, population growth does contribute to the pressures on the natural world. Dozens of films have spread falsehoods about environmental activists and ripped into green technologies, while letting fossil fuels off the hook. But never before have these attacks come from a famous campaigner for social justice, rubbing our faces in the dirt. Read More at The Guardian

**Read Bill McKibben's rebuttal** of the movie at 350.org: <https://350.org/response-planet-of-the-humans-documentary/>

**See also:**

**At The Guardian:** [Climate experts call for 'dangerous' Michael Moore film to be taken down](#)

**At Gizmodo:** [Michael Moore's Garbage Planet of the Humans Has Been Removed From YouTube](#)

At Vox: [Michael Moore produced a film about climate change that's a gift to Big Oil](#)

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## Another Deadly Virus Is Sweeping Multiple States. At Risk Are Rabbits



Credit: Lee Eastman/Flicker

A deadly virus is threatening to wipe out entire populations across multiple states. At risk are North America's rabbits. It's a strain of Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease, and it's recently appeared in pockets of the Western U.S. If it continues to spread unchecked, it could harm all dozen-plus species of rabbits in the U.S. and the ecosystems they belong to. The highly contagious illness isn't connected to coronavirus -- only rabbits, hares and pikas, the diminutive cousin of rabbits, can spread it among each other, and humans can't become infected with it. The disease likely originated around a decade ago in European rabbits, which comprise most domestic rabbits sold in the U.S.

Rabbits aren't the only ones who'd suffer, though. If rabbit populations deplete, then the predators who prey on them would lose a valuable food source, and the plants they graze on may overgrow, sending tremors throughout the ecosystem. Rabbits tend to have a relatively robust impact on their environment because they're primary herbivores. [Read More at CNN](#)

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## GOOD NEWS

# Covid-19 Crisis Will Wipe Out Demand For Fossil Fuels, Says IEA



Credit: Lukas Schulze/Getty Images

Renewable electricity will be the only source resilient to the biggest global energy shock in 70 years triggered by the coronavirus pandemic, according to the world's energy watchdog. The International Energy Agency (IEA) said the outbreak of Covid-19 would wipe out demand for fossil fuels by prompting a collapse in energy demand seven times greater than the slump caused by the global financial crisis. In a report, the IEA said the most severe plunge in energy demand since the second world war would trigger multi-decade lows for the world's consumption of oil, gas and coal while renewable energy continued to grow.

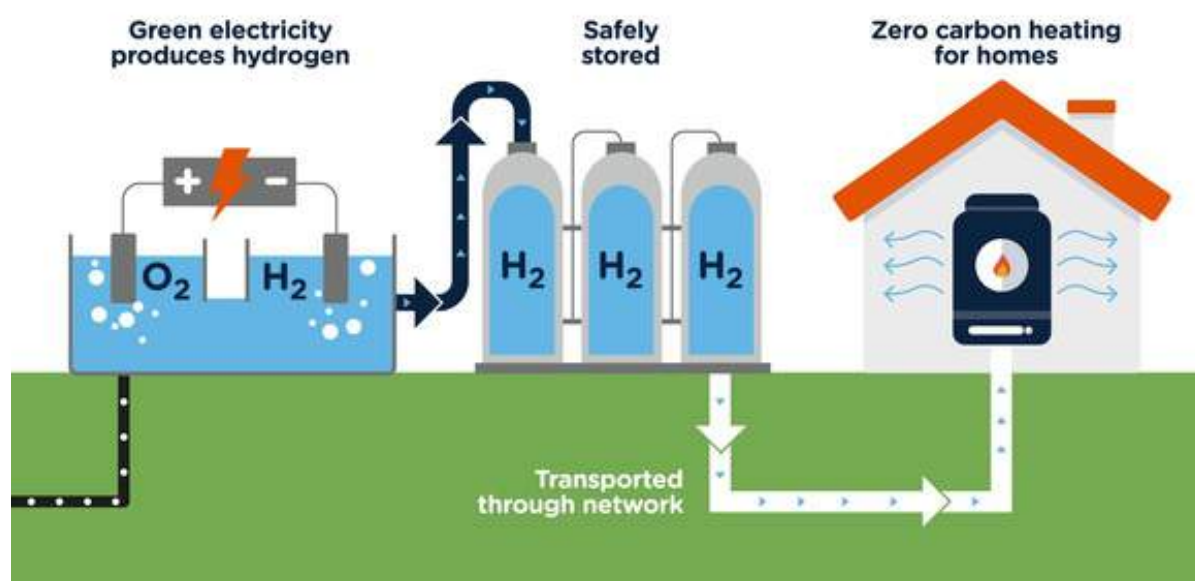
Fatih Birol, the IEA's executive director, said: "The plunge in demand for nearly all major fuels is staggering, especially for coal, oil and gas. Only renewables are holding up during the previously unheard of slump in electricity use." Renewable energy is expected to grow by 5% this year, to make up almost 30% of the world's shrinking demand for electricity. The impact of the coronavirus has triggered a crisis for fossil fuel commodities, including the collapse of oil market prices, which turned negative for the first time in the U.S. earlier this month. Global efforts to curb the spread of Covid-19 have led to severe restrictions on travel and the global economy that will

cause the biggest drop in global oil demand in 25 years. [Read More at The Guardian](#)

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## MORE GOOD NEWS

# 'World First': SGN Launches Bid For 300 Green Hydrogen Homes Project In Fife, Scotland



Credits: Credit: SGN

Cooking and heating could be powered by hydrogen produced from offshore wind as part of gas network firm's H100 project. Around 300 homes in Scotland could soon have their heating and cooking powered by green hydrogen produced from renewable electricity under proposals for "the world's first green hydrogen-to-homes network" unveiled today by SGN. The gas distribution network firm is seeking approval from energy regulator to fit an initial 300 homes with hydrogen infrastructure in Levenmouth, Fife, with construction earmarked to begin in late 2020 or early 2021, before estimated completion "within two to three years". Angus McIntosh, director of energy futures at SGN, said the project would provide critical evidence to support the development of a potential zero carbon energy source that could help inform the UK's long term climate policy. [Read More at Business Green](#)

**SEE ALSO:**



**At The Climate Reality:** [Green energy firms on track to deliver multibillion-pound windfarms in the U.K.](#)

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## OPINION

# Humanity Must Take This Chance To Find A New 'Normal' – And Safeguard Our Planet



**Credit: BRIAN STAUFFER ILLUSTRATION FOR FOREIGN POLICY**

There is a lot of talk about getting back to normal after the Covid-19 crisis is over. And yet normal – business as usual – is what has made our planet and our societies vulnerable to crises in the first place. Normal means cutting down huge swathes of forest to plant crops. Normal means overgrazing livestock, destroying natural ecosystems at the expense of habitats for wild animals. Normal is driving climate change, which increases stress in wild species and their habitats and makes people more susceptible to zoonotic diseases (which spread from animals to humans). Scientists estimate that at least six out of every ten known infectious diseases in people have spread from animals. More importantly, three out of every four new or emerging infectious diseases affecting humans come from animals.

We can, however, create a new normal with the kind of transformative changes that will enable us to re-craft our relationship with land, biodiversity and the climate system.

Battling Covid-19 is often compared to fighting a war. After wars, successful leaders reimagined and built better futures for their people. The first opportunity we have to do this together is when heads of state and government meet in September at the UN Biodiversity Summit in New York. This is the moment to set the world on the road to a more ambitious and secure future: the moment to act on a social contract for nature that recasts our fate to a healthier, more prosperous one for people and planet for generations to come. Our children deserve nothing less. [Read More at The Guardian](#)

**SEE ALSO:**

**At The BMJ Opinion:** [Covid-19 affects everything—more than a disease control plan, we need a manifesto](#)

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## SPOTLIGHT ON POLICY

# Trump Dismantles Environmental Protections Under Cover Of Coronavirus



Source: Ryan Jackson/Edmonton Journal files

The Trump administration is diligently weakening US environment protections even amid a global pandemic, continuing its rollback as the November election approaches. During the Covid-19 lockdown, US federal agencies have eased fuel-efficiency standards for new cars; frozen rules for soot air pollution; proposed to drop

review requirements for liquefied natural gas terminals; continued to lease public property to oil and gas companies; sought to speed up permitting for offshore fish farms; and advanced a proposal on mercury pollution from power plants that could make it easier for the government to conclude regulations are too costly to justify their benefits. Gina McCarthy, formerly Barack Obama's environment chief, now runs the Natural Resources Defence Council. She said the Trump administration was acting to cut public health protections while the American public is distracted by a public health crisis. Some trends are working against Trump – including states advancing environmental goals, and low-cost renewable power and natural gas helping reduce the climate footprint of the electricity sector. Even Houston, an energy hub, has issued a climate action plan. Yet such contributions are not expected to be enough to fulfill America's role in stalling the global crisis.

Christopher Cook, the environment chief for Boston, said Trump's efforts had been "incongruous with all the actions that major cities are taking...The thing I would ask most Americans to consider when they're supporting stronger regulation is that this isn't about what we're protecting against, this is about who we're protecting," noting that places with more pollution are faring worse under the coronavirus pandemic. "Covid has been a dry run for the climate crisis. We've seen the populations that Covid affects because it attacks the respiratory system. We can't continue with bad air in America." [Read More at The Guardian](#)

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## SPOTLIGHT ON INDIGENOUS WELLNESS

# Violence Against Indigenous Women During COVID-19 Sparks Calls For MMIWG Plan



Credit: Nic Meloney/CBC

With reports of a sharp rise in violence against Indigenous women as COVID-19 restrictions keep families stuck in their homes, concerns are being raised about whether the pandemic could delay the promised June delivery of a national action plan on missing and murdered Indigenous women. The Native Women's Association of Canada has been conducting a series of nation-wide, grassroots consultations with their local member offices and with Indigenous women to determine how COVID-19 has been affecting First Nations, Inuit and Metis women in Canada. The preliminary results reveal a deeply concerning spike in the number of Indigenous women who say they are facing more violent incidents since the pandemic began, often by an intimate partner. Also, the preliminary results of this survey and two additional consultations suggest more of these women are concerned about domestic violence in the midst of this pandemic than they are about the virus. A survey of more than 250 Indigenous women found one in five reporting they've been a victim of physical or psychological violence over the past three months. [Read More at Native Women's Association of Canada](#)

### SEE ALSO:

At Rainy River First Nations: [Medicinal Plants Guide](#)

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Photo by Demetrius Freeman for The New York Times

## Quote Of The Week

**"If our society looks the same after the defeat of Covid-19, it will be a Pyrrhic victory. We can expect a sequel, and not just one sequel, but many, until we reach the finale: climate catastrophe. If our fumbling of the coronavirus is a preview of how the United States will handle that disaster, then we are doomed."**

Viet Thanh Nguyen, U.S. author of "The Ideas That Won't Survive the Coronavirus  
- Covid-19 is killing off the myth that we are the greatest country on earth"

[Read More at New York Times](#)

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## Upcoming Events

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- June 16th - 18th: [Cities In A Changing World: Questions Of Culture, Climate And Design](#) (Virtual/ New York, USA)
- September 22nd - 23rd: U.N. [Summit on Biodiversity](#) (New York City, USA)
- November 9th-19th: [2020 UN Climate Change Conference](#) (UNFCCC COP26) (Glasgow, Scotland) - **Postponed until later 2021**

AND

**REFLECTIONS on the 2020 Unite For Sight Virtual Global Health & Innovation Conference (April 11-13, 2020)**

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**FYI#1 SPOTLIGHT ON MEDIA:**

**Why Can't The Media Visualise Climate Solutions?**



The hunger for images that show new and existing solutions to the climate crisis continues to grow exponentially as our collective awareness deepens. But relevant and engaging imagery is hard, or even impossible, to source. As a career photojournalist Toby Smith has focused on environmental stories - researching, finding, chasing and shooting climate solutions is a provocation and frustration I have wrestled with personally for over a decade. Since last year, he has also been consulting and editing professionally as I head-up the Climate Visuals programme (part of the non-profit Climate Outreach) that researches, advises and curates climate photography. Working with news editors and journalists on a topic that is under-reported at best has helped him better understand why climate solutions imagery is so stubbornly absent from the news stream.

One of the key takeaways: News and social media using high quality, relevant photography increases viewer engagement, saliency and likely its onwards sharing. Many accepted and actionable climate solutions rely on personal or societal behaviour change, much of which is reductionist or physically subtle. It is tempting, in conclusion, to suggest the need for a radical overhaul, a new way of working or a magic bullet funding model to reinvigorate or democratize photojournalism at large.

[Read More at Climate Visuals](#)

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**FYI #2**

## **What Matters To Women In The Postnatal Period?**



Credit: UNICEF/Vishwanathan

Each pregnancy is unique and clinical needs can change across the pregnancy, childbirth and postnatal periods. One thing that never changes is the right to a positive experience at every stage. WHO is developing new guidelines for a positive experience of postnatal care, due to be published next year. To inform these guidelines and ensure that postnatal services can better meet the needs of women and their babies, WHO undertook a qualitative systematic review on what matters to women in the postnatal period. There is limited research about values and preferences in the postnatal period, defined by WHO as the first six weeks after childbirth. Studies have often focused on the results of specific postnatal interventions, rather than on the individuals who use them.

‘What matters to women in the postnatal period: A meta-synthesis of qualitative studies,’ published in PLOS ONE, gives long-overdue respect to the authority of women’s own experiences. The authors review first-hand data from 15 countries and 36 studies published after the year 2000 relating to women’s beliefs, expectations and values at this significant time of life. WHO has recently released recommendations on antenatal care for a positive pregnancy experience, and on intrapartum care for a positive childbirth experience.

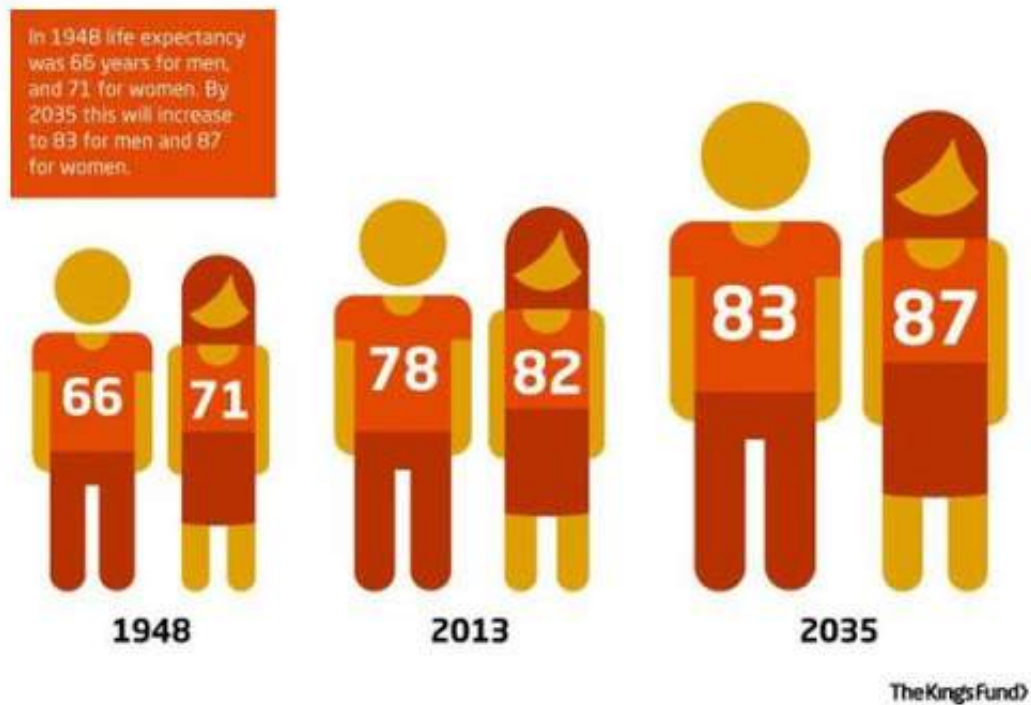
[Read More at WHO](#)

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## FYI #3

# Everywhere In The World Women Live Longer Than Men. Why? A New UN Report Has Some Answers



Credit: TheKingsFund

Everywhere in the world – but especially in wealthy countries – women live longer than men. Why? According to the latest World Health Statistics Overview just published by the World Health Organization (WHO), uneven access to health services is a major reason. The WHO has been publishing the *World Health Statistics Overview* every year since 2005. But this is the first year it has broken down the statistics by sex. “Breaking down data by age, sex and income group is vital for understanding who is being left behind and why,” said Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, the WHO’s director-general.

According to the report, the 73 million baby boys who will be born this year will have an average life expectancy of 69.8 years. Meanwhile, the 68 million girls will have an average life expectancy of 74.2 years. The report reveals that in cases where men and women face the same disease, men forgo available health services more often than women.

[Read more at Undispatch](#)

## FYI #4

# The Inclusive Internet Index 2020



**Credit: Daily Morocco**

The *Inclusive Internet Index*, commissioned by Facebook and conducted by The Economist Intelligence Unit, returns for its fourth year. The index provides a rigorous benchmark of national-level Internet inclusion in 100 countries across four categories: Availability, Affordability, Relevance and Readiness. This year's index, which covers 91% of the world's population, is published for a third year alongside the Value of the Internet Survey, which polled 4,953 respondents from 99 countries, to gauge

perceptions on how Internet use affects people's lives and livelihoods. This executive summary presents the index and survey highlights.

Key findings:

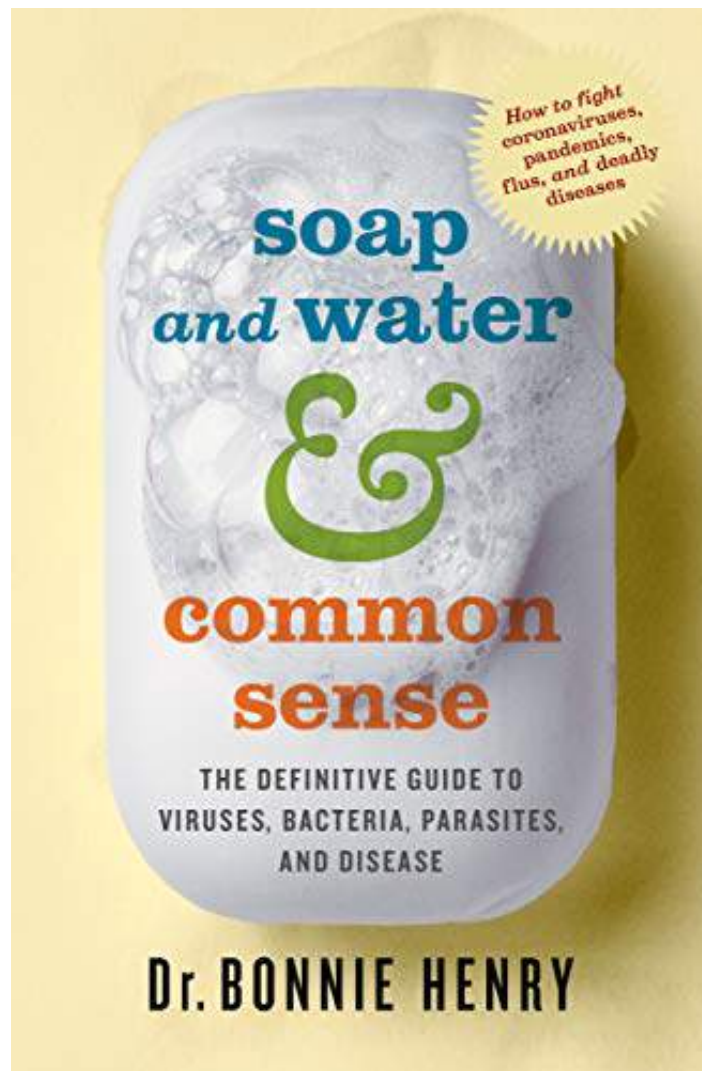
Internet access is increasing globally, but vast disparities remain and the rate of uptake is slowing in the hardest-to-reach areas. Mobile data has been a game-changer for lower-income groups, but access is still too expensive. Although narrowing, the gender gap in access remains stubbornly wide, particularly in low- and lower-middle-income countries. The Internet is facilitating people's management of their money and finances and their inclusion in the broader economy. People are going online to prepare for the technology-intensive jobs of tomorrow.

[Read more at The Inclusive Internet](#)

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## **FYI #5: SPRING READING: Newly Revised Book by Dr. Bonnie Henry**

**Soap and Water & Common Sense:  
The Definitive Guide to Viruses,  
Bacteria, Parasites, and Disease**



Credit: Dr. Henry, Bonnie

The definitive guide to fighting coronaviruses, colds, flus, pandemics, and deadly diseases, from one of North America's leading public health authorities (and the Chief Medical Officer of British Columbia), now updated with a new introduction on protecting yourself and others from COVID-19.

Dr. Bonnie Henry, a leading epidemiologist (microbe hunter) and public health doctor at the forefront of the fight against the worldwide COVID-19 coronavirus outbreak, has spent the better part of the last three decades chasing bugs all over the world — from Ebola in Uganda to polio in Pakistan, SARS in Toronto, and the H1N1 influenza outbreak across North America. Now she offers three simple rules to live by: wash your hands, cover your mouth when you cough, and stay at home when you have a fever.

From viruses to bacteria to parasites and fungi, Dr. Henry takes us on a tour through the halls of Microbes Inc., providing up-to-date and accurate information on everything from the bugs we breathe, to the bugs we eat and drink, the bugs in our backyard, and beyond. *Soap and Water & Common Sense* is the definitive guide to staying healthy in a germ-filled world.



[Read More at Amazon](#)

## FYI#6: SPOTLIGHT ON EDUCATION

# Five Low-Tech, Time-Saving Ways To Teach Online During Covid-19



Credit: Getty Images

Failing forward is a concept that is particularly resonant now, a month into academe's shift to remote instruction. That's because, for many faculty members new to online teaching, much of what they resolutely tried in the early days of the Covid-19 pandemic is going badly. How to do better? Here are five low-tech, time-saving asynchronous techniques that will make your remote pedagogy easier and more interesting for you and will help your coronavirus-stressed students successfully

complete this semester.

**No. 1: Post static content for students to read and watch.**

**No. 2: Use the quiz and assignment functions in your campus LMS to make sure they're "doing the reading."**

**No. 3: Wake up to the learning potential of asynchronous text discussions.**

**No. 4: Create a routine, reliable weekly schedule.**

**No. 5: Make frequent, strategic, and highly visible appearances online.**

[Read more at Chronicle](#)

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## ENDSHOTS

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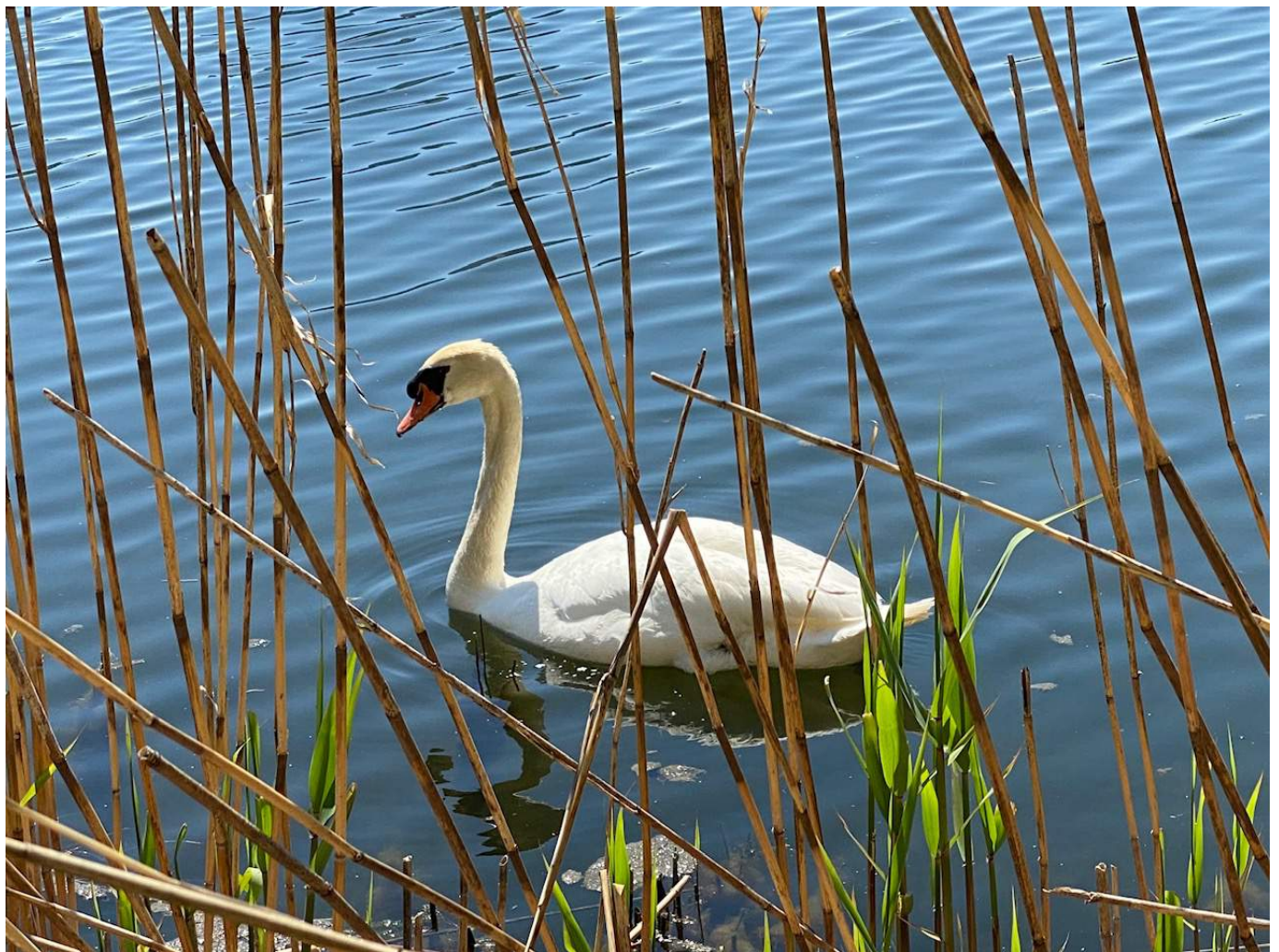
**BIKING AROUND THE CORNER**

**GRENADIER POND, HIGH PARK, TORONTO**

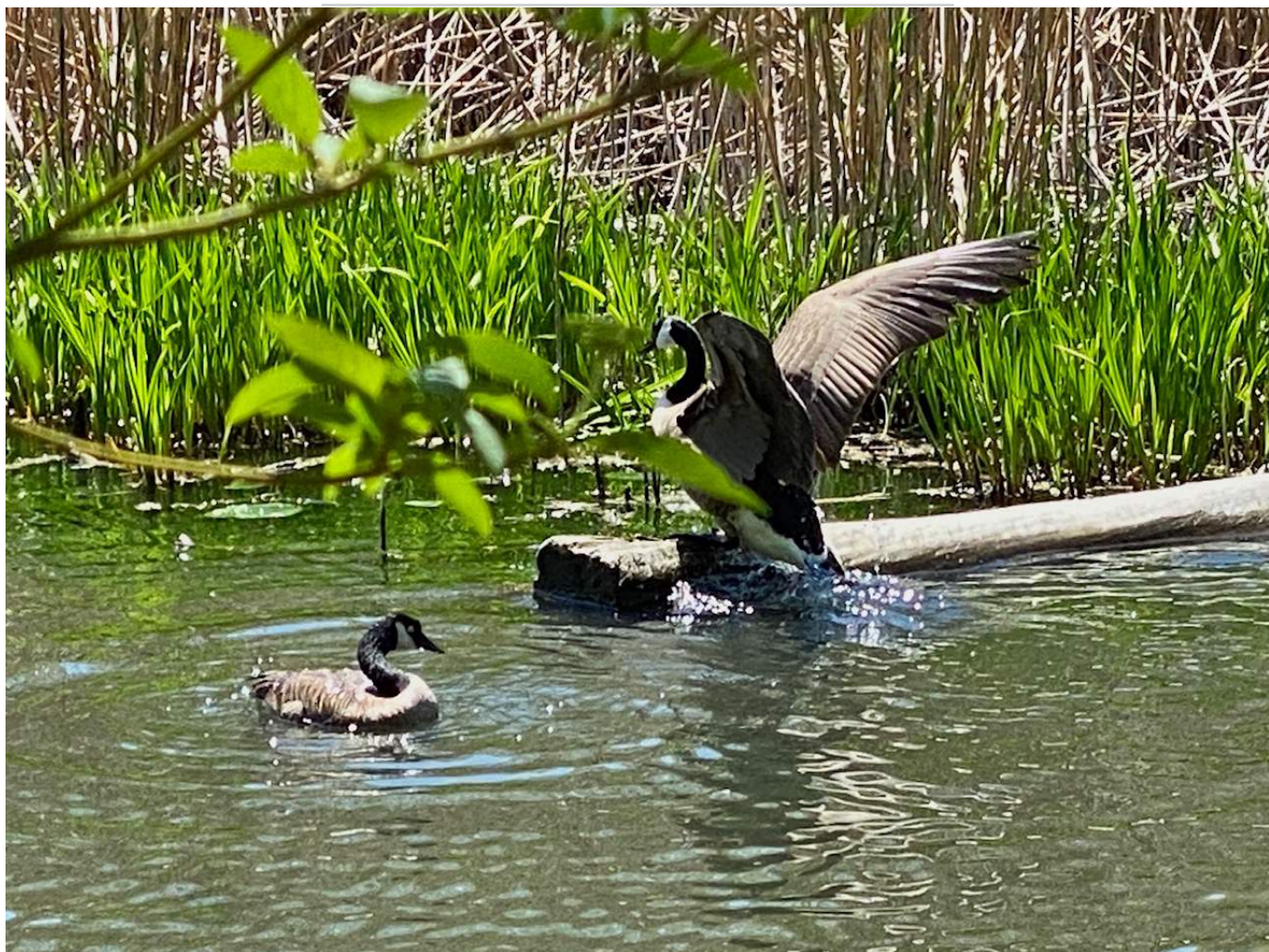
**MAY 26, 2020**

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# NOTICE OF PROJECT

ISK

## Grenadier Pond Phragmites Management



## Grenadier Pond Invasive Species Management

### What is an invasive species?

Invasive species are non-native species that out-compete native species and invade and disrupt the ecosystems they colonize.

### What is European Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*)?

European Common Reed, commonly known as Phragmites, is an invasive perennial grass that was transported from Eurasia for ornamental use and is causing severe degradation to wetlands, shorelines, waterways and beaches in North America.

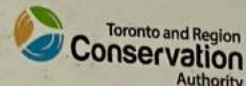
### Why does it need to be managed?

Phragmites invades wet or moist areas and threatens biodiversity. It thrives in disturbed habitats and is often one of the first species to colonize an area. Phragmites changes the biochemistry of the soil by releasing toxins from its roots, stopping the growth of neighbouring plants. It can lower water levels and change nutrient cycles in wetlands. It forms dense stalks that create a wall around wetlands and decreases the area for native plants, thus reducing habitat for wetland birds, amphibians and reptiles.

### How will this impact Grenadier Pond?

Fall 2018 terrestrial Phragmites was targeted along the shores of Grenadier Pond. Working with the City of Toronto, TRCA will develop a long-term management strategy for Grenadier Pond that will see the control of terrestrial and aquatic Phragmites over the next 3 to 5 years. We do not expect to completely eradicate Phragmites in the short term, but we expect to reduce the number and density of the plant so that the shoreline and wetland areas can be successfully restored with native plant communities.

Call 311



ERIN + MANNY

# NATURE'S ENGINEER

No other animal – except humans – quite compares to the beaver (*Castor canadensis*) when it comes to modifying the landscape. They cut down trees to build dams, raising water levels and creating ponds where they can feed and build their lodges.

The beavers' activities may result in new wetlands, more regulated water flow and improved habitat for fish and other wildlife – but they are not always welcomed by people. That's why you may notice some trees wrapped in wire to protect them from gnawing teeth, as well as others that are now just a stump with a pointy end. Fortunately, beavers prefer to eat trees like willows and poplars that grow back quickly.

Beavers are North America's largest rodent. They have two different kinds of feet: small front paws with sharp claws to grasp twigs and dig mud, and bigger webbed hind-feet to use as flippers for swimming. Their large flat paddle-shaped tail serves as a support for standing on land, a rudder for swimming, an alarm when slapped on the water, and a reserve of fat for the winter.

To learn more about beavers and other High Park wildlife, visit [www.highparknature.org](http://www.highparknature.org)



Fleming

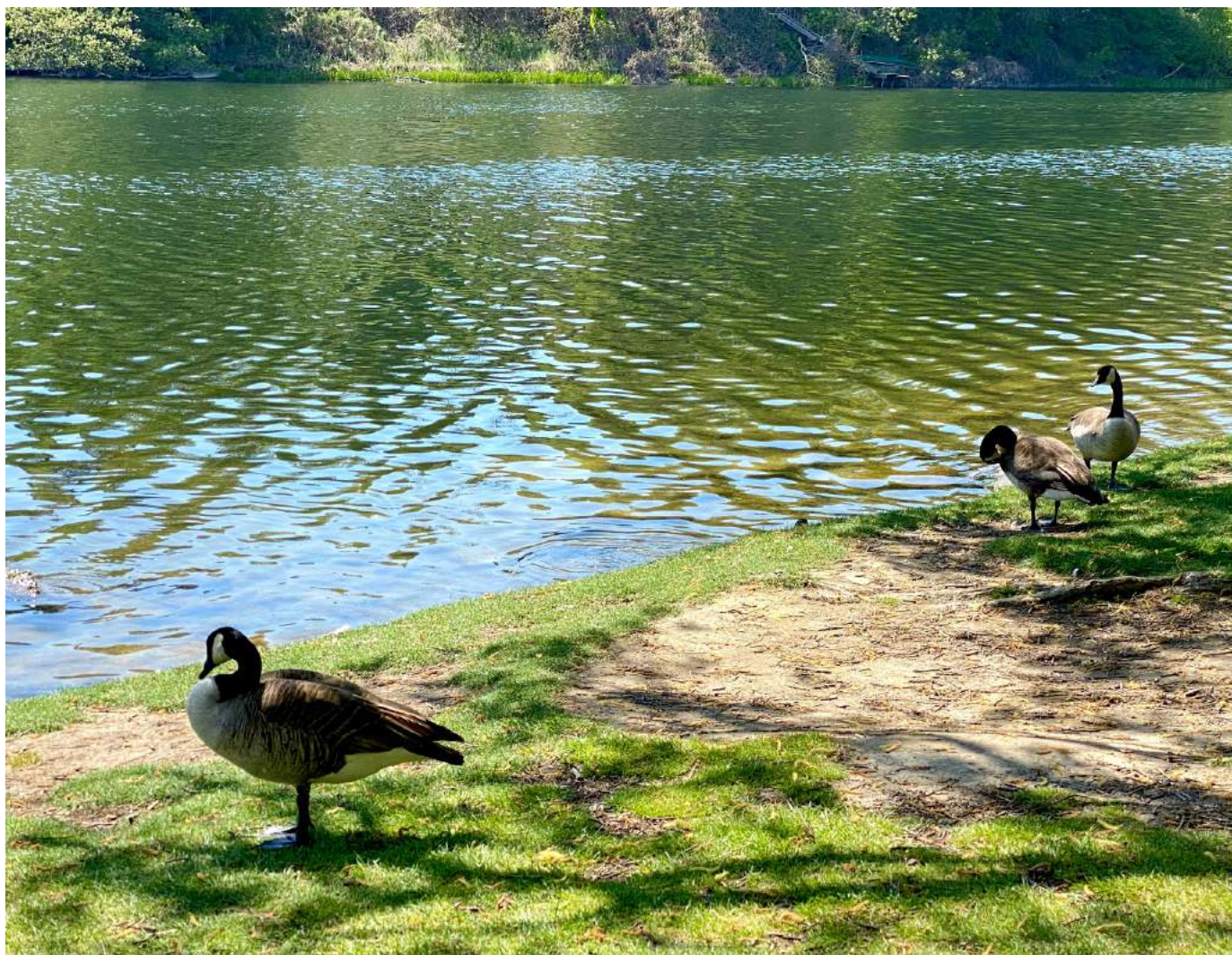


Photo: Ken Sproule

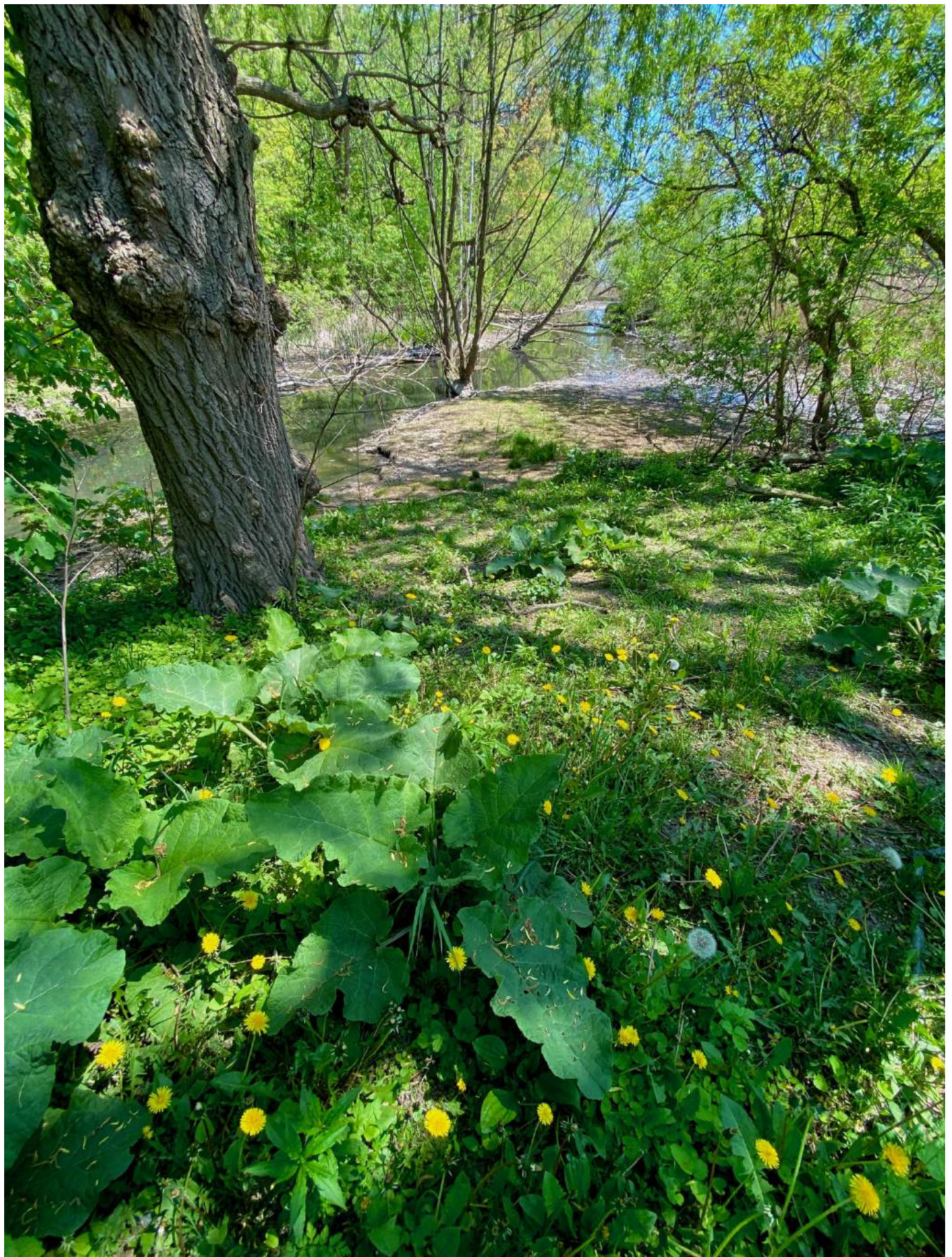


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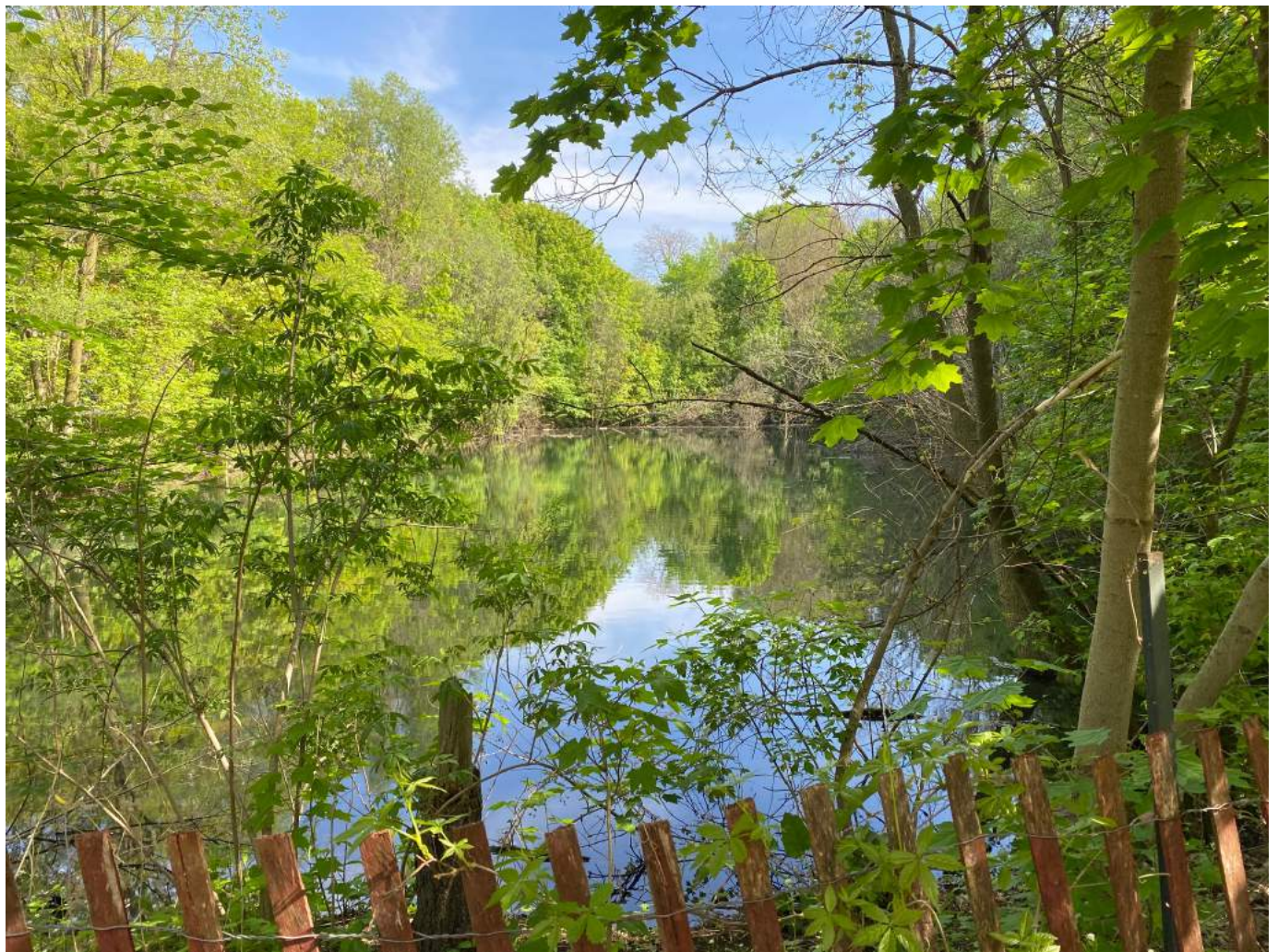






Muskrats









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