



SCOUTS
South Africa

WESTERN CAPE REGION

Garden Route Nature Challenge

Take the City Nature Challenge



What is it?

The Garden Route is participating in the 2020 City Nature Challenge which runs from 24-27 April 2020. Cubs, Scouts and Scouters are invited to participate and help put the Garden Route on the Biodiversity Map. The challenge is somewhat different this year in that it will be conducted in the home and garden if you have one.

Why?

It is fun. The Garden Route is one of the most biodiverse areas on earth. We need to put the Garden Route on the map and make people worldwide aware of our importance. Western Cape Scouts are part of this!

What does the Cub, Scout, Scouter need?

- A smartphone with camera and GPS turned on.
- A Wi-Fi connection at home (or data for phone - but this can be expensive).
- To install the iNaturalist app and sign up.
- To join the "Scouts South Africa" project on iNaturalist.

Supervision

- Parents are welcome to supervise Cubs and Scouts who do not have their own smartphone.
- Ideally siblings and parents should all have their own login username. However, less optimally, you may also use one username in the family.

How to install App

- Go to Play Store (Android) or App Store (iPhone) and download and install the iNaturalist app.
- Create a username and password. Click on the hamburger icon (the three horizontal lines) and then Sign Up.
- **Join the Scouts South Africa project in the iNaturalist App.** Click on the hamburger icon, Projects, magnifying glass, search for Scouts South Africa, click on it and then click on Join.
- Practice submitting an observation. Click on the + button at bottom right of screen. **Click on Add to Projects and add "Scouts South Africa" to each observation.**

How to submit an Observation

- The City Nature Challenge runs from 24-27 April 2020.
- During those days and nights use the app to record as many plants, animals and fungi that you find in your home and garden.
- There are no limits to the number of observations. You can submit hundreds.

Rules

- No selfies, people and pets.
- Any animal, plant or fungus growing in the garden. If you don't have a garden, then indoors as well. Look inside and underneath pot plants for woodlice, snails, earthworms, etc., and on the plants for caterpillars, aphids, scale and others that enjoy your plants. Photograph fleas and ticks on your pets.
- Take several pictures of any animal/plant to show different important features.
- Zoom in for small things - it must fill the screen and not be a dot on the picture.
- Only one species per observation. Start another observation for any other species.

Tips

- Do not worry about identifications (teams will do that later).
- Switch on your GPS at least 2 minutes before you start to get accurate localities.
- Switch off autocomplete names and automatic upload to save data. Synchronize when you get to a Wi-Fi hotspot.

What is in it for me?

- Any Cub or Scout who submits observations from 24-27 April 2020 **and ensures the Scouts South Africa project is joined for 10 or more observations**, is eligible to wear the green City Nature Challenge badge pictured here on the right.
- This will help put Scouts SA Western Cape on the map. You will be contributing to worthwhile conservation project with thousands of other participants around the world.
- You will earn points for the Tonkin Trophy for your Group.



More details

City Nature Challenge 2020: <http://citynaturechallenge.org/>

Garden Route City Nature Challenge: <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/city-nature-challenge-2020-garden-route>.

Scouts South Africa project. <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/scouts-south-africa>

Email nigel.forshaw@scout.org.za if you have any questions.

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