




# Seasons of Scales

Key			
<b>FW</b>	Field Work		High Activity
<b>ED</b>	Education		Medium Activity
<b>AC</b>	Animal Care		Low Activity
<b>MT</b>	Maintenance		

January	
<b>FW</b>	Data analyses
<b>ED</b>	Not open to public, outreach slow
<b>AC</b>	Some animals in hibernation
<b>MT</b>	Repairs and renovations

February	
<b>FW</b>	Data analyses
<b>ED</b>	Not open to public, outreach slow
<b>AC</b>	Some animals in hibernation
<b>MT</b>	Repairs and renovations

March	
<b>FW</b>	Some projects begin
<b>ED</b>	Open weekends, outreach busy
<b>AC</b>	Preparations for reopening
<b>MT</b>	Preparations for reopening

April	
<b>FW</b>	Some projects begin
<b>ED</b>	Open weekends, outreach busy
<b>AC</b>	Average activity
<b>MT</b>	Outdoor maintenance

May	
<b>FW</b>	Turtle bootcamp, wetland surveys
<b>ED</b>	Open weekends, outreach busy
<b>AC</b>	Average activity
<b>MT</b>	Outdoor maintenance

June	
<b>FW</b>	Turtle nesting season
<b>ED</b>	Open weekends, outreach busy
<b>AC</b>	Busy, preparations for opening
<b>MT</b>	Outdoor maintenance

July	
<b>FW</b>	Wetland surveys
<b>ED</b>	Open 6 days/week, outreach busy
<b>AC</b>	Busy
<b>MT</b>	Outdoor maintenance

August	
<b>FW</b>	Wetland surveys, hatchling release
<b>ED</b>	Open 6 days/week, outreach busy
<b>AC</b>	Busy
<b>MT</b>	Outdoor maintenance

September	
<b>FW</b>	Hatchling release, wetland surveys
<b>ED</b>	Open on weekends
<b>AC</b>	Average activity
<b>MT</b>	Preparations for winter

October	
<b>FW</b>	Wrap-up, data analyses
<b>ED</b>	Open weekends, outreach busy
<b>AC</b>	Average activity
<b>MT</b>	Construction projects

November	
<b>FW</b>	Data analyses
<b>ED</b>	Not open to public
<b>AC</b>	Putting animals in hibernation
<b>MT</b>	Construction projects

December	
<b>FW</b>	Data analyses
<b>ED</b>	Not open to public
<b>AC</b>	Some animals in hibernation
<b>MT</b>	Winter maintenance

## Detailed Monthly Breakdown

<b>January</b>	
<b>FW</b>	Usually none. Data analysis (ie. report writing, mapping, etc.). Writing permits for upcoming season.
<b>ED</b>	Nature Centre is closed, outreach is slow. (based on public bookings).
<b>AC</b>	Many animals in hibernation, but still lots of animal care to do. (ie. feeding exotics, cleaning enclosures, etc.). Enclosure repairs.
<b>MT</b>	Loading wood furnace, snow removal, repairs and renovations to reptile enclosures, holding areas, public facilities, staff accommodations, etc.

<b>February</b>	
<b>FW</b>	Usually none. Data analysis (ie. report writing, mapping, etc.).
<b>ED</b>	Nature centre is closed, outreach is slow. (based on public bookings)
<b>AC</b>	Many animals in hibernation, but still lots of animal care to do. (ie. feeding exotics, cleaning enclosures, etc.). Enclosure repairs.
<b>MT</b>	Loading wood furnace, snow removal, repairs and renovations to reptile enclosures, holding areas, public facilities, staff accommodations, etc.

<b>March</b>	
<b>FW</b>	Limited Southwestern Ontario fieldwork may begin- i.e. Pelee Island salamander surveys. Data analysis continues.
<b>ED</b>	Nature centre reopens mid-March, very busy for outreach. Programs and displays both on-site and offsite; based on public bookings.
<b>AC</b>	Most animals come out of hibernation, busy setting up enclosures.
<b>MT</b>	Loading wood furnace, snow removal, repairs and renovations to reptile enclosures, holding areas, public facilities, staff accommodations, etc.

## April

<b>FW</b>	Preliminary field work starts (including wetland surveys in Muskoka, potential surveys on Pelee Island for Racers) *dependent on weather. Start detection probability surveys for SAR.
<b>ED</b>	Nature centre open on weekends. Group bookings and outreach slow.
<b>AC</b>	Average animal care workload.
<b>MT</b>	Loading wood furnace, nature trail maintenance, repairs and renovations to holding areas, public facilities, staff accommodations, etc.

## May

<b>FW</b>	Turtle bootcamp runs the first two weeks of May (most complete and comprehensive training on reptiles in the province) --> learn about turtle conservation (safe handling of native species, weighing, measuring, notching, photographing, first aid scenarios, data entry, team building exercises, etc.). Daily wetland surveys for turtles (you MUST be able to swim and be comfortable in water).
<b>ED</b>	Nature centre open on weekends. Group bookings and outreach moderate. Training and preparation for summer.
<b>AC</b>	Average animal care workload. Mass training for summer preparation.
<b>MT</b>	Nature trail and outdoor area maintenance. Construction or repair of outdoor facilities such as bridges, fencing, challenge course elements. Invasive species removal. Firewood splitting and stacking.

## June

<b>FW</b>	Continue daily wetland surveys. Nightly nesting surveys start every evening → drive from 6-12ish finding nesting turtles. People dropped off to watch turtle nest, female processed, eggs excavated.
<b>ED</b>	Nature centre open weekends. Group bookings and outreach busy. Training and preparation for summer.

<b>AC</b>	Average animal care workload. Many animals laying eggs
<b>MT</b>	Nature trail and outdoor area maintenance. Construction or repair of outdoor facilities such as bridges, fencing, challenge course elements. Invasive species removal. Firewood splitting and stacking.

<b>July</b>	
<b>FW</b>	Wetland surveys slow. Continue detection probability surveys. Plan and execute remote trips to locations we weren't able to get to in June. field days slow down (warmer weather means they don't need to bask as frequently)
<b>ED</b>	Nature centre open full time. Group bookings and outreach busy.
<b>AC</b>	Average animal care workload.
<b>MT</b>	Nature trail and outdoor area maintenance. Construction or repair of outdoor facilities such as bridges, fencing, challenge course elements. Invasive species removal. Firewood splitting and stacking.

<b>August</b>	
<b>FW</b>	Wetland surveys slow. Continue detection probability surveys. Plan and execute remote trips to locations we weren't able to get to in June. field days slow down (warmer weather means they don't need to bask as frequently). Release baby turtles captively hatched.
<b>ED</b>	Nature centre open full time. Group bookings and outreach busy.
<b>AC</b>	Average animal care workload. Many eggs beginning to hatch.
<b>MT</b>	Nature trail and outdoor area maintenance. Construction or repair of outdoor facilities such as bridges, fencing, challenge course elements. Invasive species removal. Firewood splitting and stacking.

## September

<b>FW</b>	Wetland surveys increase a little from August. Continue detection probability surveys. Release baby turtles captively hatched. Data collection (cleaning and mapping). Monitor nest cages where appropriate.
<b>ED</b>	Nature centre open weekends. Group bookings and outreach moderate.
<b>AC</b>	Average animal care workload.
<b>MT</b>	Nature trail and outdoor area maintenance. Construction or repair of outdoor facilities such as bridges, fencing, challenge course elements. Firewood splitting and stacking.

## October

<b>FW</b>	Usually none. Data collation and analysis (ie. report writing, mapping, etc.)
<b>ED</b>	Nature centre open weekends. Group bookings and outreach busy.
<b>AC</b>	Average animal care workload. Preparations for hibernation.
<b>MT</b>	Firewood splitting and stacking. Outdoor tasks to prepare for winter.

## November

<b>FW</b>	Usually none. Data analysis (ie. report writing, mapping, etc.)
<b>ED</b>	Nature centre closed for winter. Group bookings and outreach slow.
<b>AC</b>	Average animal care workload. Preparations for hibernation.
<b>MT</b>	Firewood splitting and stacking. Loading wood furnace. Outdoor tasks to prepare for winter. Repairs and renovations.

## December

<b>FW</b>	Usually none. Data analysis (ie. report writing, mapping, etc.)
<b>ED</b>	Nature centre closed for winter. Group bookings and outreach slow.
<b>AC</b>	Reduced animal care workload. Hibernation begins for some animals.
<b>MT</b>	Firewood splitting and stacking. Loading wood furnace. Repairs and renovations.