



# Awe-inspiring autumn

## Capture fall with "Hands on Alberta"

**NatureLynx™** is an Alberta-wide citizen science application designed to support the collection of biodiversity data across the province. Use **NatureLynx™** to explore the world around you—identify local species, learn about biodiversity hotspots, and connect with other curious people.

Using **NatureLynx™**, "Hands on Alberta" is a series of province-wide citizen science missions, allowing nature-curious folks across Alberta to connect over a common goal. Together, the observations you collect will help monitor our province's amazing biodiversity.

### Your Mission:

Autumn can be both beautiful and challenging in Alberta—sometimes blessed with crisp, fall air, often confronted with cold reminders of the long winter months ahead. Days grow shorter, trees begin to lose their leaves, and it can feel as though everyone is preparing for hibernation. But, fall is also a time of change. It can be a great season to get outside and experience some of the more subtle changes taking place.

On October 27th and 28th, join "Hands on Alberta" for the first in a series of Alberta-wide citizen science missions to track one of the more notable events happening across our province this time of year, the colour-changes of wild hares.

## "Hands on Alberta" Hare Hunt

The transformation of the White-tailed Jackrabbit and Snowshoe Hare from mottled brown to nearly pure white can seem as though it happened overnight. Early snowfall across the province has left more than the residents of Calgary a little confused! Use NatureLynx to take part in your very own "Hare Hunt" and upload sightings of hares within your community—have their coats changed colour yet?

For hares, the ability to change colour is more than just a fashion choice. It's an important adaptation to protect themselves from predators. Hares rely on their natural ability to blend into their environments, and they sync their colour with the changing seasons. But, a changing climate can sometimes result in them wearing the wrong coat! Not just a fashion faux-pas, this can leave them vulnerable to predators, and scientists are interested in the hares ability to adjust their colour-changing habits with our changing seasons.



 @ABMINatureLynx  
 @ABNatureLynx  
 @ABMI.NatureLynx

[natlynx@ualberta.ca](mailto:natlynx@ualberta.ca)  
[naturelynx.ca](http://naturelynx.ca)