

**Amaranth and Alonsa Field Trip**  
**Native Orchid Conservation Inc. – June 21, 2014**

The Amaranth Lady's Slipper Viewing Area contains two of the five species of Lady's Slippers found on the Canadian Prairie, including the endangered Showy Lady's Slipper, as well as over 20 species of orchids in Manitoba. It is also a great area for butterflies, a rare Red-headed woodpecker nesting site and an ancient Aboriginal sundance site.

In Alonsa is the protected McCreary Bog with lots of Showy Lady's Slippers and other orchid species in the middle of a pasture. It is very strange to see these pockets of Showies and rare orchids in a prairie area where one usually sees only yellows.

**Location:**

Located 6.4 km (4 miles) north of Amaranth off PTH50.

Silver Ridge area

Bacon Ridge complex.

Jackpine Ridge Wayside Park

Thunderbird Nest Site, Tobacco Rock Site, and the site of the aboriginal petroform called the Medicine Wheel, which lies within the Alonsa PFRA Pasture. Signage at all these sites makes them self-guiding and educational

**Bluff Creek Anglican Church (Silver Ridge)**

The Alonsa Conservation District has assumed ownership of the Bluff Creek Anglican Church and has created an interpretive centre for the area's history. A 4.8 km (3-mile) nature trail has been established.

**Location:**

Located 2 miles (3.2 km) east of Silver Ridge on Margaret Bruce Beach Road.

Alonsa. Visit Sts. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Churches as well as the Alex Robertson Museum that tells the history of the area. The large collection includes over 100 antique guns, tools, pioneer artifacts and a fully-operational 1939 Bickle-Seagrave Fire Engine. The Rural Municipality of Alonsa is home to birding sites including the Portia Marsh Interpretive Centre that offers an extensive boardwalk through the lush, healthy marshland.