# My Nature Forum

**Full Site User Walkthrough**

**Website link:**

**https://cosc360.ok.ubc.ca/kaff/project-Kaf-Mahir/kaf/login.php**

**Github Link:**

**https://github.com/COSC360/project-Kaf-Mahir**

**Mahir Rahman - 71811509**

**Abdallah Kaf - 47359534**

# Table Of Contents:

To access Admin User, use the following credentials:

**User = Admin**

**Password = secure$$pass^&*(**

# 1.0 Project Establishment _____

## 1.1 The Idea …………………………………………………………..

Our journey began with a shared love and appreciation for the natural world. Our shared love and appreciation for nature inspired us to create a community-based platform for environmental enthusiasts, nature lovers, and outdoor enthusiasts. To begin, we conducted extensive research on existing forums and analyzed their strengths and weaknesses, paying particular attention to user design and experience.

## 1.2 Setting Up …………………………………………………………

We used Jira to organize our ideas and assign tasks to team members, allowing us to track our progress and manage timelines effectively. We brainstormed a long list of potential features for the forum, but prioritized the minimum requirements for a functional and user-friendly experience. These included user registration and login, a discussion board, a search function, settings page, and a profile page. Security measures were also included to protect user data and prevent unauthorized access. This approach allowed us to create a useful and engaging platform for our target audience.

# 2.0 Our Features _____

## 2.1 Navigation Bar …………………………………………………………

The navbar includes a "Go to profile" button for users to access their profile page, a search bar for finding specific topics or threads, and a "Home" icon for returning to the main discussion board. Account management icons include a "logout" arrow Icon that redirects users to the login page. The "settings" icon allows users to manage their account settings and security.

## 2.2 Admin.php ………………………………………………………….

Our forum includes an administrator page that is dedicated solely to the admin user. Upon logging in, the admin is directed to a private page that provides access to all user-related data information in a table format. This table includes information such as the user's name, email address, etc. The administrator page also includes a button that allows the admin to toggle the

ability to log in for a specified user. If the admin disables a user, they are effectively banned from logging into their account. Admin also has extra features related to the account which include the ability to edit any post on the forum. This feature provides the admin with the ability to moderate and manage content on the forum to ensure that it remains appropriate and respectful.

To access Admin User, use the following credentials:

Access won't be given to any user other than admin

**User = Admin**

**Password = secure$$pass^&*(**

## 2.3 Login.php ……………………………………………………………………….

Our forum has a secure and user-friendly login page that provides access to the personalized features of the site. The login page includes a simple form that allows users to input their username and password to gain access to their account. Upon submitting their login credentials, the form checks the inputted information with our database records to find a match of credentials. If the attempt is successful, the user is directed to the home page, which includes the trending posts and their own user-differentiated data and features. This ensures that users are quickly able to access the information that they are interested in and can begin participating in forum discussions right away. The session user also has the ability to not sign in and view our trending posts page as a guest, which will eliminate the user differentiation aspects and show a general trending posts page. In addition to the login feature, our login page also includes a sign-up feature for users who do not yet have a valid account. The signup page is thoroughly reviewed in the next module.

## 2.4 Signup.php ……………………………………………………………………

Our signup page is designed to make it easy for users to create an account on our platform. To get started, users are asked to provide a desired username, email address, and password. The username is checked against our database to ensure that it is not already taken. The password must meet certain security requirements, such as having at least one capital letter, one special character, and one number, as well as being at least 8 characters long. Once all required fields are

filled out and meet the security criteria, the user's account is successfully created and they are directed to our application.

## 2.5 Home.php …………………………………………………………………………

Our home page provides users with an overview of the latest and most popular posts on the forum. The page displays the 15 most recent posts, each labeled with a timestamp indicating when the post was made and who made the post. This allows users to quickly browse through new content and keep up with ongoing discussions. Each post also contains user functionality buttons which are reviewed in further modules. The home page also consists of a Create New Post button which allows the user to make a brand new post. A Module pops up upon button click and the user can fill out the post Title, Content, and category and then, submit the post to the database.

## 2.6 Profile.php …………………………………………………………………...

This page features the user's profile image, name, and personal biography, providing other users with a quick overview of who they are. In addition, users can see a list of all the posts they have created, making it easy to keep track of their contributions to the community. If users want to make any changes to their posts, they can do so using the edit post button. Overall, the profile page is a convenient way for users to manage their account information and stay up-to-date on their activity within the forum.

## 2.7 Load-profile.php …………………………………………………………….

The load profile page is designed to allow users to view the profile page of another user. It has a similar visual layout to the main profile page, including the user's profile picture, name, and personal biography, as well as a list of their posts. However, unlike the main profile page, the foreign user details cannot be edited on this page and are only viewable to the current user.

## 2.8 Post.php …………………………………………………………………………

Each post on our forum consists of a title, post content, and a footer displaying the user who created the post and the time it was posted. Users can upvote posts to show their appreciation and a "liked" post counter will appear. Additionally, each post has a comments button which directs

users to an individual page dedicated to that post where they can view and make comments related to the post. If a user created the post or if the signed-in user is the admin user, they can edit the post using the "edit post" button. These features enable our users to engage in meaningful discussions and contribute to a vibrant and dynamic community.

## 3.0 Results.php ……………………………………………………………

Our results page displays a list of posts that are related to the user's search bar query. The page looks similar to the home page with a list of posts, but it only shows posts that match the user's search criteria. Like other pages, each post includes a title, content, and footer with details about the post's creator and the time it was posted. Users can still upvote posts and view comments related to the post.

## 3.1 Setting.php ……………………………………………………………

Our settings page offers users two menu options to manage their account details and security. The account details option allows users to modify their username, display name, personal bio, and user profile image. The account security option, on the other hand, provides users with the ability to change their password to improve their account's security. These two menu options provide users with greater control over their account information and security. Upon submitting any changes, the user is directed to their profile page to view the newly implemented changes.

# 3.2 Wrapping Up _____

### 3.2.1 Conclusion …………………………………………………………………

In conclusion, our website offers a user-friendly experience with its main navigation bar, search functionality, profile page, and post creation features. However, there are a few critical bugs that need to be addressed, such as the non-functional editing post button, inability to update user passwords, and lack of asynchronous comment updating. We understand the importance of fixing these issues promptly to provide our users with a seamless experience on our nature forum platform. Thank you for taking the time to view our application. We hope you found it informative and enjoyable.