



The Egret

the Newsletter of the Essex County Field Naturalists

Volume 13, Number 1

Summer 1997

Point Pelee National Park's Reintroduced Southern Flying Squirrels

by Betty Learmouth



Thomas Hurst
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A beautiful spring evening on April 27, 1997 brought forty ECFNC members, Friends of Point Pelee members and friends together for an opportunity to learn about the reintroduced Southern Flying Squirrel population within Point Pelee National Park's woodlands. Dan Dufour, park interpreter, had accepted our invitation to lead this excursion but

luckily for Dan, a Southern Flying Squirrel researcher had come to Point Pelee just seven days before the planned outing, thus relieving Dan of much tedious Southern Flying Squirrel research. Dan acted as our host throughout the evening, introducing us to Patrick Perdichuk who had prepared a slide presentation which was presented to the group in the Interpretive Centre's theatre. Patrick will be conducting studies of the Southern Flying Squirrel at Point Pelee over the upcoming summer months.

There are approximately 40 species of flying squirrels in the world, of which 35 species are found in Southeast Asia. In North America, we have two species, the Northern Flying Squirrel and the Southern Flying Squirrel. The Northern Flying Squirrel is most numerous of the two species in North America. Numbers of this species are low in the United States where the species is considered endangered. In Southern Ontario, the Southern Flying Squirrel is found only in good numbers within the Long Point area.

Patrick showed several slides to indicate the differences between the two species. The Northern Flying Squirrel is about the size of the Eastern Red Squirrel while the Southern Flying Squirrel is Eastern Chipmunk size. The Southern have a white belly with the Northern identified by a greyish belly and darker back. Patrick's slides were of flying squirrels in his own colony that he maintains from injured animals he has raised.

The anatomy of a flying squirrel that enables it to glide was explained through several slides. A flap of skin called a patagium acts as a gliding membrane

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About the Club...

The Essex County Field Naturalists' Club was incorporated in March, 1985. We are a registered charitable organization which promotes the appreciation and conservation of our natural heritage. ECFNC provides the community opportunities to be acquainted with and understand our natural world through identification, maintenance and preservation of natural areas of Essex County and surrounding regions. ECFNC is affiliated with the *Federation of Ontario Naturalists* (FON).

The Egret is published quarterly. To receive information on the Essex County Field Naturalists' Club, or to submit articles, letters, reports etc., please write to:



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Information

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252-BIRD

Ojibway Nature Centre
966-5852

Point Pelee National Park
322-2365

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776-5209

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President: Tom Hurst (519) 839-4635

Vice-President: Dave Kraus

Secretary: Linda Kennette

Treasurer: Peg Wilkinson

Directors: Denise Hartley, ~~Pam Simpson~~, Phil Roberts, Michael Malone,
Donna Sale, Karen Cedar, Gerry Waldron, David D'hondt

Liaisons:

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Public Information Officer: Pam Simpson

Meeting Speaker Co-ordinator: Gerry Waldron

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F.O.N. Liaison: Phil Roberts

E.R.C.A. Liaison: Michael Malone

Friends of Heinz Bush Liaison: Donna Sale

Point Pelee Liaison: Richard Bilinski

Tree Study Chairpersons: Linda Kennette & Donna Sale

Bluebird Committee Chairman: Don Bissonnette

N.H.R.P. Committee Chairman: Dave Kraus

FON Conference Coordinator: Karen Cedar

Hotline Co-ordinator: Jim McAllister

E.C.S.N. Liaison: Tom Hurst

Ojibway Liaison: Dave Kraus

Two Creeks Liaison: Richard Bilinski

Tremblay Beach Liaison: to be announced

Oakwood Bush Liaison: to be announced

Chairpersons/co-ordinators:

Bluebird Committee: Don Bissonnette

Heritage Committee: Betty Learmouth

Field trip Committee: Heritage Committee

N.H.R.P. Committee: Donna Sale

F.O.N. Conference Committee: Karen Cedar

Heinz Bush Committee: Donna Sale

Fund Raising Committee: Tom Hurst

General Meeting Committee: Peggy Hurst

Committees:

Egret: David D'hondt, Karen Cedar, Betty Learmouth, Carl Maiolani

Fund-raising: Pam Simpson, Peg Wilkinson, Tom Hurst, Pat Arseneault

Speaker: Gerry Waldron, Phil Roberts, Karen Cedar

Field Trip: Heritage Committee

Annual Dinner: Margaret Jennings, Betty Learmouth, Phil Roberts, Karen Cedar,
Lizanne Bacon

Bluebird: Don Bissonnette, Betty Learmouth, Don Tupling, Carl Maiolani

N.H.R.P.: Dave Kraus, Donna Sale, Gerry Waldron, Linda Kennette

Heritage: Betty Learmouth, Muriel Kassimatis, Margaret MacDonald, Lois Thurgood,
Jim McAllister, Gerry Waldron, Peg Wilkinson

Tree Study: Donna Sale, Gerry Waldron, Dave Kraus, Linda Kennette, Pat Arseneault,
Bill Balkwill.



The President's Report

In order to meet the deadline for the Spring Issue of the Egret, I am writing this report on a beautiful spring day in the last week of May. In past years I would be using this time to get ready to travel to the Federation of Ontario Naturalists' Annual General Meeting. Every year leaving for the Conference has left me with mixed emotions. However excited I have been at the prospect of exploring unfamiliar regions of Ontario I have still been loath to leave the bounty of natural wonders available in Essex County at the height of its spring metamorphosis. This year I have no such conflicts. First of all, the FON-AGM is being hosted right here in Essex County and secondly, the Essex County Field Naturalists' Club successfully lobbied to have the Conference dates moved to August 14-17th.

This change in conference dates was a wise decision by the FON for many reasons. August has always been viewed as a prime time to take a vacation in Canada. The weather is predictable and parents have the opportunity to include their children in their travel plans. Most of all it is an excellent time to explore the natural features of our neighbourhood. This is the season when reptiles, butterflies, and dragonflies are most active and when the tallgrass prairie is a riot of colour. As for bird migration, naturalist Tom Hince explains in the June 1997 magazine WildBird that, "Although spring is touted as the time to come, mid-August to mid-October offers even greater numbers and diversity of birds."

As if these were not inducement enough to draw people to the 1997 Conference, one only need study the itinerary outlined in the Conference's registration brochure, "Canada's South Coast: A Carolinian Cornucopia". Our organizing committee has done a remarkable job of arranging a very wide selection of seminar topics presented by the most knowledgeable experts of our region and beyond. There is literally a seminar on every aspect of the region's natural treasures. For those who wish a more "hands on" approach, workshops are planned on plant sketching, hawk identification, youth nature programs, nature and computers, and earth-friendly art. To top this off, the conference is offering 16 different field trips lead by those who can best unlock their secrets.

This conference is the best opportunity that not only visitors but each of us will have, to understand the local environment in which we live, enjoy and have striven to safeguard. This is by no means merely a local affair. Not only will the FON bring together representatives from across the province to update us on provincial environmental developments on August

15th, but the Canadian Nature Federation has joined this conference and will provide us with a national perspective on Thursday. This will provide us with a rare opportunity to rub shoulders and confer with like-minded individuals from across the country. In short, the joint 1997 Annual General Meeting will be educational, friendly, and fun.

Of course, such a wonderful opportunity "right on our doorstep" does not come without some costs. The ECFNC is the hosting club and is responsible for the organization and the execution of a history-making event. The Organizing Committee has already done a great deal of the preparatory work and I tip my Tilley hat to Karen Cedar and her dedicated associates. Nevertheless, there is a role for each and every club member whatever their talents. There are sponsors and vendor displays to be solicited, meal and banquet tickets to be collected, registrants to be registered, the lost to be directed, and trip buses to be monitored. These are only a fraction of the things that your Club needs help in doing. To acquire a job to suit your talents or tastes, contact one of Karen's sub-committee chairs today. If the laughter emanating from the Organizing Committee meetings is any indication; the comraderie of your fellow volunteers will be ample reward for your time and efforts.

Whether you volunteer or not, you certainly must not miss this once in a lifetime opportunity to meet our Canadian naturalists and embrace your natural heritage. Attend the conference and invite all those you know and meet. You are our best advertising medium. I met many visitors from the United States and Canada at Pelee this spring who instantly recognized the quality of this program and plan to attend. Indeed if you and your friends have not seen the registration brochure, do so quickly as all seminars, workshops and field trips have limited seating.

It will be many years before the ECFNC is honoured by the responsibility of hosting a national event of this magnitude. Please help your fellow Club members extend the type of welcome our visitors expect and deserve.

*Respectfully,
Thomas Hurst*

Please recycle the newsletter, let a friend read it!



continued from page 1...

between the fore leg and hind leg. There is a piece of protruding cartilage at the animal's fore leg ankle that enables the membrane to have a greater surface area. When gliding from tree to tree, flying squirrels look a little like kites. The squirrels do not have great control when gliding, preferring instead to scramble along tree trunks and limbs within their territories. Northern Flying Squirrels are found in coniferous woods where they feed upon fungi,



mushrooms and lichens. Southern Flying Squirrels prefer deciduous woods where they can forage for seeds, berries, insects, bird eggs, birds in cavities and nuts. Shagbark Hickory nuts are a favourite as are acorns. These nuts are collected and saved with the acorns normally consumed first as the hickory nuts last longer.

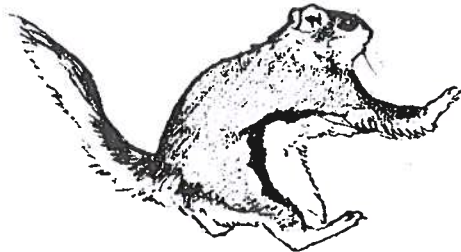
The flying squirrel's main predator is the Great Horned Owl. Other predators include raccoons, foxes, coyotes, other owl species, Red-tailed Hawks, marten, fisher, lynx, bobcats and wolves. Patrick has recently participated in research with the endangered Northern Flying Squirrel in the western United States where it was determined that 70 % of the Spotted Owl's prey species were flying squirrels. Southern Flying Squirrels must have the proper habitat if they are to survive. Old trees with cavities need to be present so that squirrels can gather together in the winter in groups of ten to twenty or more animals as heat is essential to their survival. (James Audubon's records mention winter groups of two hundred flying squirrels counted by Rev. Bachman, an associate, and Audubon during the early 1800's in the eastern United States). At Long Point where Southern Flying Squirrels were trapped for reintroduction at Point Pelee National Park, the squirrels seem to prefer a woodland habitat that is flooded. The flooding appears to deter predators. Oddly, at Point Pelee trapping over the last seven nights prior to Patrick's talk indicates that drier areas such as the woodlands

near the Wardens' compound or across from the staff house are preferred by the Point Pelee population.

The cavity size should be about one inch for a Southern Flying Squirrel while a Northern Flying Squirrel prefers an entrance one to two inches in width. Downy Woodpeckers create the perfect cavity for Southern Flying Squirrels.

Patrick is presently trapping Southern Flying Squirrels at Point Pelee National Park using 120 traps between the Tip and Sanctuary. The bait used is a delectable mix of peanut butter, molasses, bacon grease and beer spread over apples. Traps are being set in one locale for four nights, then relocated. Already it has been determined that Southern Flying Squirrels reintroduced to Point Pelee National Park in 1993-94 are still living in the Park. Radio collars were placed on these first reintroduced squirrels along with tiny light weight ear tags with identifying numbers. Three flying squirrels radio collared in 1994 have been recovered along with another three released in 1993. Thus these small animals have at least a life span of five to six years, when it was previously thought that a flying squirrel had a life span of only three years in the wild. Flying squirrels are known to live up to eleven years in captivity.

Southern Flying Squirrels raise two broods yearly as opposed to the Northern Flying Squirrel which has one litter of three to five babies. Southern Flying Squirrels mate in February with birth occurring in late



April. Another litter is born at the end of August with three to five babies in each brood.

One young member of the audience asked why Southern Flying Squirrels are being reintroduced to Point Pelee National Park. Patrick replied that the Southerns did formerly live at Point Pelee, but the removal of older trees with the subsequent lack of cavities and the introduction of pets such as cats to the area combined to wipe out the population. Now the habitat is suitable for Southern Flying Squirrels as the human population is gone and the proper type of tree is once again available. The reintroduction of the Flying Squirrel at Point Pelee National Park is the only current reintroduction of these small squirrels in Ontario with

the Long Point population the only large population of Southern Flying Squirrels in Ontario. It is difficult to find appropriate places to reintroduce this small mammal.

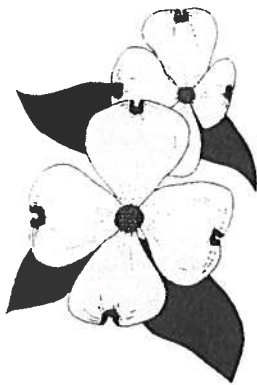
When flying squirrels are captured during the present study, each animal is weighed, its sex determined and a tiny light weight ear tag with an identifying number is applied to each flying squirrel. As each animal is released in the early morning after the night time trapping, Patrick watches intently as the animal finds a cavity in which to spend the day. Currently the study is providing information about the cavities that the flying squirrels rest in during the day. Shortly, Patrick will be applying special collars with batteries that will enable the night time activities of the flying squirrels to be tracked over the next three months.

The present study of Southern Flying Squirrels is aiding study of another species within Point Pelee National Park. An on going study of ticks has been assisted by the nightly trapping of the squirrels and White-footed Mice. For instance, Patrick had found five Southern Flying Squirrels and thirty-six White-footed Mice in his traps during the last twenty-four hours before his talk to the assembled naturalists. Some of these animals carried ticks which have been passed on to the appropriate study group. As well, a DNA study using flying squirrel hair samples is underway at the University of Guelph to determine if the Point Pelee population of Southern Flying Squirrels is

in-breeding. The results of this study will not be known for a few years.

Following Patrick's informative slide presentation, the group walked with the aid of flashlights through Tilden's Woods in search of Southern Flying Squirrels. We listened for the squeaking call of squirrels as we scanned the tree trunks and limbs for any tiny scampering bodies. We had no luck at Tilden's but were assured that in the staff house kitchen we could count on an encounter with flying squirrels.

Patrick brought several of his Southern Flying Squirrels into the kitchen where the squirrels totally ignored a large tree limb on which they were to be displayed. Instead, the tiny creatures delighted everyone by scampering up and down pant legs and leaping from one shoulder to another. Meeting the Southern Flying Squirrels was a memorable conclusion to a wonderful evening at Point Pelee National Park. Many thanks to Dan for arranging the evening and to Patrick who introduced us to this little known mammal that is once again residing within Point Pelee National Park.



NATURAL HABITAT RESTORATION PROGRAM ESSEX COUNTY FIELD NATURALISTS SEED COLLECTION REPORT 1996

*Prepared by Donna Sale
Seed collection coordinators
Donna Sale and Gerry Waldron*

Introduction

NHRP continues to pursue its goal of collecting and distributing native, woody, plant seed to Southern Ontario growers to insure that native trees and shrubs are available for planting. In April of 1996 NHRP produced its first seed catalogue which was mailed out to selected nurseries in Southern Ontario. In June of 1996 the Leamington Branch of Canada Trust Friends of the Environment Foundation, gave NHRP a grant of \$1009 to buy equipment and to help produce the 1997 seed catalogue. Seed collection started in May and continued through December with excellent support from ECFNC volunteers who put in approximately 200 hours of work. Collaboration

between Project Green and NHRP began this year when Project Green sponsored a seed cleaning workshop at Ojibway Nature Centre. Project Green is also helping to publish NHRP's book on restoration and native trees in Essex County. Donna Sale and Gerry Waldron continued as seed coordinators for the program.

Seed Catalogue

In the spring of 1996 NHRP produced a catalogue of native tree and shrub seeds. The species listed were seeds that the coordinators decided could be collected, provided a seed crop was produced during the season. Most were seeds that had been collected in the past. The prices of seeds were calculated using the following criteria:

1. Price of seed in other Canadian and US catalogues.
2. Availability of seed.
3. Difficulty processing and collecting seed.

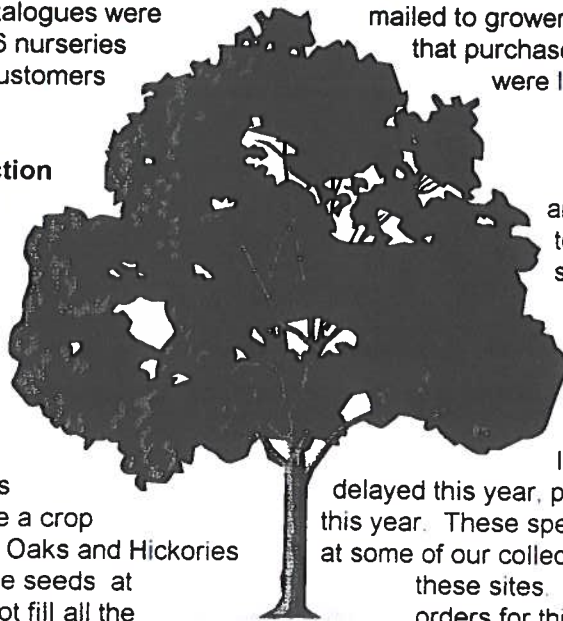
The catalogue was mailed to growers selected from Landscape Ontario Grower's Directory. Selected growers were located in the Carolinian Zone and were shrubs. Approximately 45 catalogues were new customers for a total of 6 nurseries are listed in Table 1. Other customers Service, and hobby growers.

identified in the Directory as growing native trees or mailed to growers. As a result NHRP acquired 4 that purchased NHRP seed. These nurseries were local landowners, Canadian Forest

Seed Production and Collection

NHRP catalogue seed orders early fall. This allowed seed effort wasted on collecting was only one late order, summer ripening seeds that

Collection started in June American Elm. Collection the summer and intensified in December. Seed ripening was Serviceberries did not produce a crop from Gypsy Moth as did many Oaks and Hickories with high grub infestation in the seeds at was very poor and we could not fill all the



arrived in May and continued into to be collected on demand, with no specie that are not wanted. There which requested two species of had not been collected.

with Red and Silver Maple, and continued sporadically through late September, and ending in delayed this year, probably due to a late, wet spring. This year. These species had extensive early damage at some of our collecting sites. Production was poor these sites. Production in Shagbark Hickories orders for this species.

Seed production in Black oak was down on previous years, but we were able to fill those orders. Swamp White Oak production was low. Initially enough seed was collected to fill the orders, but over half of the seed was grub infested. This was the first time this species was collected by NHRP, so it is not known if the high numbers of grubby seeds is usual or not. Orders for Chinkapin Oak went unfilled. The Seed coordinators went to Pelee Island to collect Chinkapin Oak and Blue Ash, but there was no production of either species on the island or in the county.

With the exception of Pumpkin Ash, none of the Ashes produced seed. We filled some, but not all orders for Pumpkin Ash. We were able to fill none of the many orders for Blue Ash.

Only a quarter of the orders for Sassafras were filled. This was due to difficulty in collecting and cleaning seed. Sassafras has very brittle soft wood, so it becomes impossible to pull down large branches to reach the seed without breaking the branch. Not many seeds survive to fall to the ground. More smaller trees need to be found. If you know of any, please report the location to the seed coordinators.

Redbud seed production and quality was very poor this year. Seed was obtained from J. Ambrose in Michigan to fill some of the orders.

Hortico ordered 5 pounds of *Rosa setigera*, *R. palustris*, and any other native roses NHRP could collect. As a result of this collection experience it is clear that this amount of seed can not be collected from scattered wild

growing Roses. Only 2.74 pounds of *R. setigera* and 10.3 ounces of *R. palustris* were collected. Given excellent production and growing conditions, perhaps 3 pounds of *R. setigera* and 1 pound of *R. palustris* could be obtained. Other species of roses were not collected because hip production was very low, and the plants so scattered, that the effort put into collection was considered a waste of time.

Seed Processing and Shipping

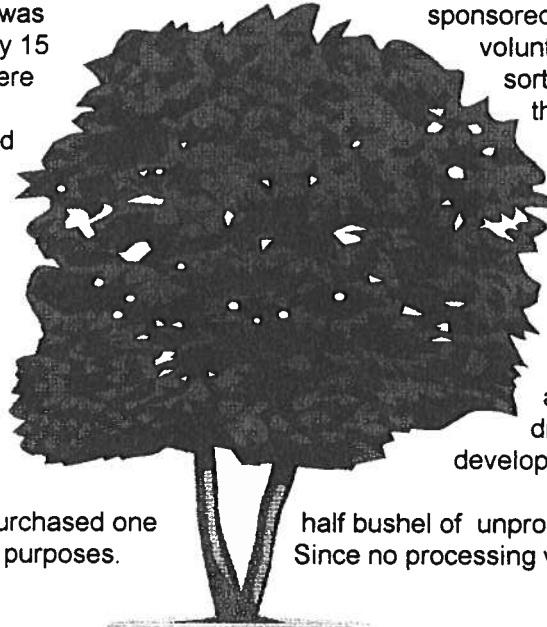
The seed coordinators and/or volunteers processed all seed collected, including the cleaning, counting, packaging, and shipping of the seed. Except where noted, the methods or processing were the same as those described in the 1995 NHRP Seed Collection Report.

A new method was developed and tried for some of the Paw Paw fruit. The fruit was squashed flat and left to dry in the sun to a leathery consistency. The seed was then easily removed from the dried fruit. Most of the ripe fruit was brought to the Essex County Field Naturalist meeting. Members were asked to take some fruit home to eat, or to clean the seed, and return the cleaned seed to the coordinators. This method was quite successful and many members enjoyed the opportunity to sample the fruit. Most if not all of the seed was returned.

On the first Saturday in November a seed cleaning workshop was held at Ojibway Nature Centre from 10 AM to 2 PM. The workshop was sponsored by Project Green, and they provided lunch for approximately 15 volunteers. Most of the 'nut' seeds and Kentucky Coffee Tree seeds, were sorted, shelled, or otherwise cleaned at this time. It is recommended that this approach be used in the future, as a large volume of seed was processed at this workshop. It would be more practical to hold this workshop several weeks later, because a large number of grubs emerged after this workshop.

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Sassafras was the problem seed of the year. The seed is very soft, and mechanical cleaning crushed the seed. Therefore all seed was cleaned individually by hand. This is very time consuming and hard on the fingers. In the future the seed will be sold as dried fruit or another cleaning method will have to be developed.



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The Canadian Forest Service purchased one half bushel of unprocessed Shumard Oak and two pounds of Bur Oak for research purposes. Since no processing was involved the seed was sold at a reduced price.

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NHRP received a grant of \$1009 from Canada Trust Friends of the Environment Foundation, in Leamington in June 1996. With this grant, a 'legal for trade' scale, which weighs amounts up to 100 pounds (45 kg), was purchased. Larger seeds were sold by the pound. This was much more efficient than counting seeds. A small electronic scale was also purchased. It weighs in grams (1 -2000) or ounces (1 - 80). This scale was useful in estimating large numbers of small seeds. This is not a 'legal for trade' scale so we can not sell small seed by weight. A bar size refrigerator was purchased to store seed. See Table 2 for grant details.

Seed was packaged and shipped to customers by the seed coordinators. Seed was delivered by the coordinators to local customers, and sent via UPS or Canada Post to all others. The seed coordinator paid for the shipping, billed the customer, and was reimbursed by NHRP for seed shipped.

Volunteers

Volunteers contributed well over 200 hours of work to NHRP. This is an under estimate, because it does not include the hours contributed by people who took seed home to clean, or those who collected and contributed seed on their own. The seed coordinators in addition put in over 400 hours, collecting seed and attending to all the other tasks that keep NHRP running. It was decided by the NHRP Committee that the coordinators would receive the profits from seed sold to pay for their time and effort spent on the program. If all customers pay

their seed bills this will still work out to well below minimum wage. So a large percentage of the coordinators hours can also be considered volunteer hours.

Income from Seed Sales

In 1995 one nursery failed to pay for seed it had received. After repeated requests for payment and no communication from the nursery, a letter was sent threatening to take the nursery to small claims court. The result of this action was a letter of complaint from the nursery and a cheque for two thirds of the outstanding moneys. The NHRP committee decided to accept this cheque as total payment. If this nursery requests seed in the future, it will have to pay in advance. For income for seed sales this year see Table 3. All accounts are paid.

TABLE 1. Nurseries Purchasing NHRP Seed.

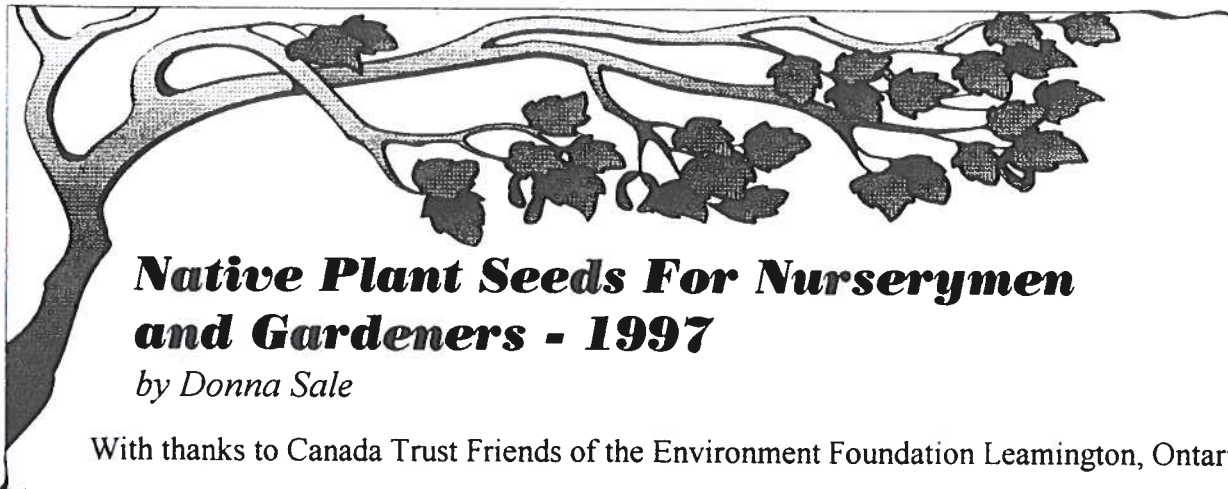
Baker's Nursery Bayfield, On.	*Ron Casier St. Thomas, On.
Groen's Nursery Ltd. Dundas, On.	Hortico Waterdown, On.
Williams Nurseries Ltd. Leamington, On.	Winkelmolen Nursery Ltd. Lynden, On.

TABLE 2: Canada Trust FOE Grant

object purchased	cost	grant balance
		\$1009.04
electronic scale	\$155.15	\$853.89
mechanical beam scale 'legal for trade'	\$449.67	\$404.22
refrigerator - bar size	\$288.92	\$115.30*

* Not known if this is a nursery customer

*to be used for the 1997 seed catalogue



**Native Plant Seeds For Nurserymen
and Gardeners - 1997**

by Donna Sale

With thanks to Canada Trust Friends of the Environment Foundation Leamington, Ontario

The Natural Habitat Restoration Program is a non profit program whose goals are to promote and protect the biological diversity of the Essex County Region. This program is supported by the following organizations: the City of Windsor Parks and Recreation Department, County of Essex, the Essex County Field Naturalists, the Essex Region Conservation Authority, the Harrow Research Station - Agriculture Canada, Landscape Ontario, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, and Point Pelee National Park.

To further its aims and goals, NHRP is offering for the first time, a list of plant seeds native to the Essex region, that can be purchased by growers. These seeds are collected by volunteers under the supervision of a naturalist with years of experience with native plants and habitats. For Southern Ontario growers, the

advantages of Essex County seeds over seeds of other provenance, are freshness, rapid delivery, and adapted ecotypes. These ecotypes have evolved with our climate, soils, pathogens, and each other over thousands of years.

TERMS

PRICES - The listed prices are based on market conditions, seed availability, difficulty in extraction and cleaning. Prices are subject to change without notice. We will endeavour to notify customers of any price changes before delivery. Growers may purchase smaller seed lots at the fraction of the listed price (1/2 pound at 1/2 the 1 pound price) unless otherwise stated. There is a minimum price of \$3 for each species. Small packets of seed are available at \$3 each, minimum order \$15.

PAYMENT - Cash for the value of the order plus UPS rates and insurance, due within 30 days of receipt of invoice. Cheques made payable to Essex County Field Naturalists - NHRP, and mailed to Donna Sale, 1126 Campbell Lane, Kingsville, ON. N9Y 2G4.

ORDERING - We request that all orders be written with species, quantity and price clearly shown. Quantities smaller than those listed can be supplied. Seed marked '*spring*' must be ordered by May 30. Orders for fall ripening seed should be made by August 30.

DELIVERIES - Seed will be shipped via UPS or Canada Post and travel at buyers risk. Claims for damage in transit must be taken up with the carrier. Please indicate on order form if insurance is wanted. Deliveries are made subject to crop yields.

STATEMENT OF POLICY - Large seeds are sold by weight from 1/2 pound lots up. Smaller seeds are sold by quantity. Quantity is calculated by average volume measurements, and are approximate only. Small packets of seed are available to hobbyist growers. The species listed are collected as they ripen and are sent to growers as soon after collecting as possible. Seed is cleaned unless marked otherwise. Because seed is collected as it ripens and is not stored, some seed listed may not be available due to lack of seed production. We will collect seed on consignment. Cut seed viability will be provided at the time of delivery. It should be noted that Sycamore and Tuliptree usually have low seed viability (10% - 20%). We endeavour to collect seed that is 80% - 90% viable by the cut seed test. All seed is collected from disease free plants. The elm trees we collect from are large mature specimens that have withstood several DED epidemics. We assume such trees are resistant to DED in varying degrees, but make no guarantees. Production of some species is always low, and if demand is high, the seed will be divided among those who request them.

FEATURED SPECIES

BLUE ASH

Fraxinus quadrangulata Michaux

Olive Family, Oleaceae

Habitat: In Essex County, Blue Ash is restricted to Point Pelee and the Erie Islands. At Point Pelee and at Fish Point on Pelee Island, it shares the stabilized dunes with Black Oak, Hackberry, Red Cedar, Red Oak, Black Walnut and, increasingly, Sugar/Black Maple. On the islands, it also occurs on the limestone ridges and thin, alvar soils. In these harsh situations it may be an isolated savannah tree or grow with Chinquapin and Swamp White Oaks, Red and Rock Elms, Hackberry, Red Cedar, and Black Maple.

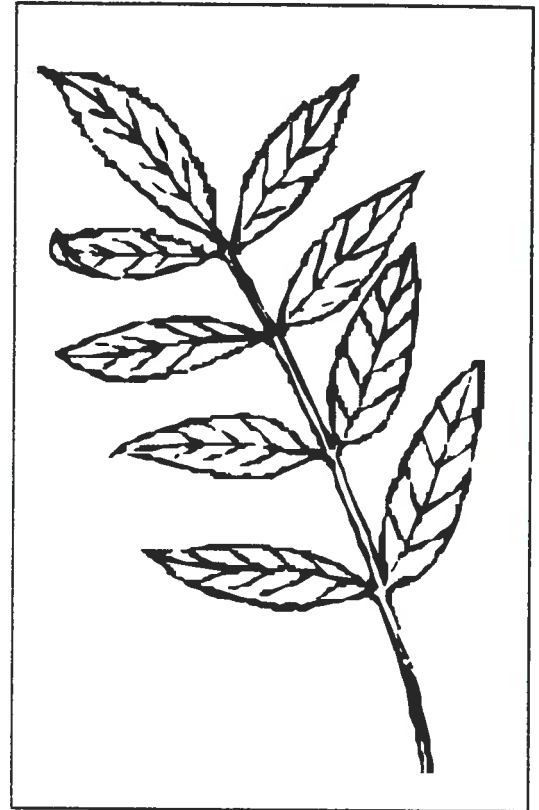
Elsewhere in Ontario, Blue Ash is found on the slopes above flood plains; although similar habitat is found in our region, no Blue Ash has been seen here.

Wildlife Value: The seeds are eaten by Wood Ducks, songbirds and probably small mammals. White-tailed Deer and rodents eat the twigs and leaves.

Propagation, Culture, and Use: The seed is treated similarly to that of White Ash. It ripens somewhat earlier than the other ashes and cannot be depended on to persist on the tree into winter. There are, on average, 14,300 seeds in a kilogram. Locally collected seed has shown a viability of only 50%, and the interval between good crops can be as long as four years. Blue Ash has not cropped in our region for four years, so we have expectations that it may do so this year.

Blue Ash is easily transplanted. It does best in full sun; however, like White Ash, it will bear some shade. The rate of growth is moderate even on the best sites. It is very tolerant of soil depth, texture and moisture. The species could be used to reforest both dry and wet sites, and it has been successful as a park, street and yard tree in even more severe climates than ours.

Problems: Blue Ash is generally disease free - the leaves remain unblemished right to leaf fall. It is host to a number of insects, none of which is cause for great concern. It holds up well under ice loading, resists heat and drought, and is intermediate in its tolerance of salt and soil compaction.



NHRP SEEDS

Species	Description	\$/lb	\$/1000	Other
			seeds	
Acer rubrum, red maple	wings, SPRING		\$10.00	
A. saccharinum, silver maple	wings, SPRING		\$5.00	
A. saccharum, sugar maple	wings		\$5.50	
A. saccharum ssp. nigrum, black maple	wings			\$5.00/200
Aesculus glabra, Ohio buckeye		\$10.00		
Amelanchier spp. serviceberry	SPRING		\$9.00	
Asimina triloba, pawpaw				\$16.50/200
Carpinus caroliniana, blue beech			\$5.50	
Carya cordiformis, bitternut hickory	dh	\$12.00		
C. glabra, pignut hickory	dh	\$14.00		
C. laciniosa, shellbark hickory	dh	\$6.00		

C. ovata, shagbark hickory	dh	\$5.00	
Campsis radicans, trumpet vine			\$5.00
Celtis occidentalis, hackberry	df		\$15.00
Cephalanthus occidentalis, buttonbush			\$5.00
Cercis canadensis, redbud*			\$12.00
Cornus drummondii, rough-leaved dogwood			\$5.00
C. florida, flowering dogwood			\$8.00/200
C. ammomum var. obliqua, silky dogwood			\$5.00
C. foemina var. racemosa, gray dogwood			\$5.00
Fraxinus americana, white ash	wings		\$8.00
F. pennsylvanica, red ash - var. of green	wings		\$5.00
F. profunda, pumpkin ash	wings		\$8.00
F. quadrangulata, blue ash	wings		\$15.00
Gleditsia triacanthos, honey locust - armed			\$5.00
Gleditsia triacanthos, unarmed**			\$5.00/400
G. dioicus, Kentucky coffee tree			\$27.50/500
Hamamelis virginiana, witch hazel			\$5.00/200
Ilex verticillata, winterberry			\$5.00
Juglans cinerea, butternut	dh	\$6.00	
J. nigra, black walnut	dh	\$3.00	
Juniperus virginiana, red cedar			\$15.00
Liriodendron tulipifera, tuliptree	wings		\$15.50
Malus coronaria, sweet crabapple			\$50.00
Ostrya virginiana, ironwood	wings		\$5.00
Platanus occidentalis, sycamore	collector's grade		\$5.00/oz
Prunus serotina, black cherry			\$5.00
P. virginiana, chokecherry			\$5.00
Ptelea trifoliata, hoptree	wings		\$5.00
Quercus alba, white oak		\$5.00	
Q. bicolor, swamp white oak		\$7.00	
Q. macrocarpa, bur oak		\$5.00	
Q. muhlenbergii, chinkapin oak		\$10.00	
Q. palustris, pin oak		\$5.00	
Q. rubra, red oak		\$3.50	
Q. Shumardii, shumard oak		\$6.00	
Quercus velutina, black oak		\$5.75	
Rosa palustris, swamp rose			\$5.50
Rosa setigera, prairie rose			\$5.00
Rubus odoratus, purple flowering raspberry			\$5.00
Sambucus canadensis, elderberry			\$5.00
Sassafras albidum, common sassafras	df		\$14.00
Tilia americana, basswood	df		\$5.00
Ulmus americana, american elm	wings, SPRING		\$6.00
Viburnum acerifolium, mapleleaf viburnum			\$8.00
V. lentago, nannyberry			\$5.00

*Parent trees grown in Essex County from Michigan native stock			
**Parent trees unarmed, progeny may be armed or			
dh-dehusked, df-dried fruit			
SPRING - ORDER THESE SPECIES BY MAY 30			
SERVICES OFFERED ON REQUEST			
Collection of unlisted seeds on consignment			
Restoration and naturalisation consulting			

**The order form has been inserted into The Egret loosely for your convenience.

Treasurer's Report - 1996

January 1 to April 30

by Peg Wilkenson

	Debit	Credit	Balance
Bluebird Committee		125.52	
..... Trail Upkeep	92.98		
..... Bank Charge	6.16		
..... Raffles, bake sale		175.65	202.03
Current Acct.		1072.32	
..... Egret	239.12	25.00	
..... Membership		2034.10	
..... Services	513.14		
..... Sales(book)		484.00	2863.16
E.C.S.N.		34570.88	
..... Honorariums, etc.	350.20	10.00	
..... Meetings, Meals	876.66	50.00	
..... Interest		31.88	
..... Unknown Expense	95.49		
..... Grants Rec.		22500.00	55840.41
F.O.N. Conference Grant		3000.00	
..... Bank Charge	27.57		

..... Registration		5515.00	8487.43
Heinz Com.		43507.27	
..... Interest		291.45	43798.72
Heritage Com.		26776.56	
..... Interest/Donations		5654.27	32430.83
N.H.R.P.		5120.81	
..... Grants	4999.99		
..... Sales		1034.36	
..... Shipping Etc	42.62		1112.56
Reserve Acct.		2990.01	2990.01
Woodlot Owners		1975.00	
..... Bank Charges	20.00		1955.00
Total			149680.15

Field Trip Review

Pelee Island Weekend

by Margaret Jennings

On Saturday, May 3, 1997, fifteen eager travellers including leader Dave Kraus met at the Leamington Dock for the third annual Pelee Island weekend. The sun came out as we boarded the ferry and we enjoyed a smooth trip. We were greeted at the West Dock by John and Mary Celestino who joined us for our outings.

The bus was waiting and took us to Sheridan Point. In this area, we enjoyed seeing some spring plants: White trout-lily, Spring-beauty, and Whitlow-Grass. Some birds observed here were the Blue-winged Teal, a "warbler that was yellow," Yellow-rumped Warblers, Cormorants, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Blue-gray Gnatcatchers, Swamp Sparrow, and Black-and-White Warblers. We enjoyed watching two chickadees battling a Downy Woodpecker for possession of a dead tree branch.

The bus came back for us just as the rain started. We checked in at the hotel and enjoyed a hot lunch. Because of the dampness and strong wind, we decided not to go to Lighthouse Point. Some members of the group took this opportunity to tour the Pelee Island Winery while others visited the Heritage Centre Museum and The Trading Post.



On Sunday morning it was still very windy but the sun was shining. Following a hearty breakfast we went along to Fish Point. The forest floor was covered with trilliums, Dutchman's-breeches, yellow and blue violets, and Cut-leaved Toothwort. We saw many Yellow-rumped Warblers and got very close looks at a Black-throated Green Warbler. Other birds sighted were Pine Warblers, Black and white Warblers, Brown Thrasher, Waterthrush, Buffleheads, Cormorants, Great Blue Heron, Forster's Tern, Caspian Tern, Spotted Sandpiper, Widgeon, Gadwall, Northern Oriole, Great Egret, Vultures, Cardinals, Tree Swallows, Hermit Thrush, and Osprey. We saw

Painted and Blanding's Turtles, a bullfrog, and a hybrid salamander. We found no snakes, but there was a stick in the water that looked like one. The beach we enjoyed walking on last year is almost covered by water now.

Our trip back to Leamington was uneventful despite the presence on board of about 200 Scouts. Thanks, Dave, for another great weekend!

Cedar Creek's Arner Woods

by Betty Learmouth

Ten naturalists joined Rueben Boles on Sunday, May 11, 1997 for a walk through the Arner Woods, a property owned by the Essex Region Conservation Authority within the Cedar Creek watershed of Essex County. Many of the participants had not been able to attend last year's walk in this woods, thus were pleased to have this opportunity to explore the woodland. Despite overcast skies, the rain held off until the last few minutes of the walk, enabling the naturalists to explore just a small portion of this Carolinian woodland.

At the property's gate, the first wildflowers encountered were Dutchman's -breeches, Trout-lily, and Spring-beauty. Swamp Buttercup was blooming at the creek's edge. The group walked across the agricultural lands before entering the woodlands. Several plants were noted growing in profusion on the cultivated land including mustards such as the Whitlow-Grass, an alien or introduced species, and Kidneyleaf Buttercup, the bloom of which may be easily overlooked as the flower petals are so insignificant.

After crossing a small wetland, the group was rewarded with a view of hundreds of White Trillium blooming on the slight slope. The naturalists walked in single file in order to disturb as few plants as possible. Some plant species highlights of this early May floral display were Jack-in-the pulpit, Early Meadow-rue, Wood Anemone, May-apple, Blue Phlox, Wild Geranium, various species of woodland violets and Baneberry. Shrubs such as Spicebush, Elderberry and Choke Cherry were identified. Poison Ivy vines were noted in various parts of the woodlot. Hackberry, Sassafras and Tulip Trees were seen throughout the woodlot.

Several Chorus Frogs called from the wetland as the naturalists admired the carpet of plants in the woodland. Bird species observed during the walk were Great Blue Heron, Turkey Vulture, Canada Geese and Northern Oriole.

Many thanks to Rueben who accepted our invitation to introduce ECFNC members to a wonderful natural area

that is preserved within the Cedar Creek water shed.

Explorations in a Lake Erie Ravine

by *Betty Learmouth*

Twenty ECFNC members and Kingsville/Leamington horticulturalists met for a delightful walk on May 18, 1997, hosted by Lloyd Brown John. The Brown John family has lived just two years in a home on Ravine Line which overlooks a Lake Erie ravine. Lloyd and his wife have become thoroughly familiar with the unique ravine landscape that is their neighbourhood and have shared it with several enthusiastic groups, most recently the Grade 4 class from Ruthven Elementary School on May 16, 1997.

Our tour began with a walk down a stairway into the ravine immediately behind Lloyd's home. A variety of native plants were growing on the slopes including Red Trillium, Jack-in-the-pulpit, False Solomon's Seal, Touch-me-not in a wet spot which attracts butterflies in summer and fireflies in August, Wild Geranium, Early Meadow-rue, Trout-lily, Bloodroot, May-apple and Wood Anemone. Unfortunately, Garlic Mustard is an invader of these ravine slopes. Several groundhogs have made these steep sandy slopes home as we saw their burrow excavations.

The ravine landscape is a unique part of Essex County's natural environment. We stood at the confluence of two creeks below Lloyd's home and marvelled at the steep slopes around us that can change dramatically over the years as earth slides occur and trees topple. Several trees are quite elderly in this landscape including an oak that is estimated to be 300 years old and a Sycamore that is felt to be 200 years old. Once we walked away from the homes overlooking the ravine, we noticed that the exotic introduced plant species disappeared and the landscape became entirely natural with just the indigenous native plants growing including patches of White Trillium, Bloodroot and a large population of Skunk Cabbage growing up a damp ravine slope.

Our group followed the path to Lake Erie and then ambled around to Ravine Line via Kenyon Point Road which took us past several large colourful clumps of Marsh Marigolds in a wet area adjacent to Kenyon Point Road. Many thanks to Lloyd who guided us around his neighbourhood ravine and introduced us to a natural landscape that was once common along Lake Erie's shoreline between Leamington and Kingsville.

Visiting with Detroit's Peregrine Falcons

by *Betty Learmouth*

Six ECFNC members joined Detroit Peregrine Falcon Coordinator Yerkey on Saturday, May 31, 1997 for an opportunity to learn about these urban raptors. Judy has been monitoring four Detroit nesting sites at which eight young Peregrine Falcons are being raised.

The first stop on our excursion was on the thirty-fourth floor of the Book Building in downtown Detroit where we checked the building's exterior fire escape for the male Peregrine Falcon Pop. We had no luck locating Pop but we did observe the area of the nearby Ameritech Building which is the nesting site this year for Pop and Judy. The nesting area is a window well which is not visible to observers at the Book Building. Coordinator Yerkey has crawled into the well's vent twice during the last two weeks to confirm that there are three young falcons in the nest. Banding of these young birds is planned for June 9, 1997 when the window washer will take the banding crew to the Ameritech Building's top floor via the window washing equipment. Likely the young will be moved to a well that is more accessible than the present site.

Judy Yerkey has been monitoring the Detroit Peregrine Falcons for ten years. Peregrine Falcon prey species have been a particular interest as Judy has made her daily observations. The Peregrines' top six prey species successfully hunted are Rock Doves, Mourning Doves, American Woodcock, Northern Flicker, Ring-billed Gull and Starlings. Judy recalls a particular incident that illustrates very well that predators look for the weakest prey. A Blue Jay flock was migrating in April past the New Centre when Judy noticed a straggler following the flock. As Judy watched, Speedster, the male Peregrine at the New Centre, successfully attacked this vulnerable bird.

For our second stop, the group headed to the New Centre neighbourhood and the Fisher Building where Speedster and H, New Centre's resident Peregrine Falcons, are raising three young at a fifth floor nesting site. Banding of the immature birds occurred on May 22, 1997 at which time the young were relocated to a nesting box with bars to prevent the young birds from prematurely leaving the nest. The bars are placed in such a manner that the young can not squeeze through, but wide enough that an adult Peregrine Falcon can pass bits of prey through to the young. The young birds are past the stage when they need adult attention within the nest. Judy estimates the young will fledge in mid June as they are developing rapidly.

Likely the young will fly immediately when the bars are removed which is essential for the birds' safety as the area below the nest is a busy thoroughfare.

For the second year, a television monitor has been installed in the Fisher Building lobby. This year the live feed is on a high quality colour monitor although the interior nest box pictures tend to be somewhat dark. Our group was in front of the monitor as H arrived with a recently killed Rock Dove. The young Peregrine Falcons immediately moved to the box entrance where they fed and fought over the food which H passed through the bars. After fifteen minutes of feeding, the young retired from the monitor's view.

We stepped out onto the pavement in front of the

Fisher Building where we watched H outside the nest box. When she flew we could see that she was moulting a few wing feathers. Following four hectic weeks of providing to demanding young, her breast feathers appeared dingy. As we left the area, we observed Speedster on the top floor of the General Motors Building from which he was surveying the nest site area.

Many thanks to Judy Yerkey who shared her busy day with ECFNC members to provide this opportunity to learn about Detroit's Peregrine Falcons.



**ESSEX
COUNTY
FIELD
NATURALISTS**



MEMBERSHIP FORM

The Essex County Field Naturalists' Club is a Registered Charitable Organization

YES I WANT TO BE A PART OF THE E.C.F.N.C.

- Individual Membership \$20.00/year
- Family Membership \$25.00/year
- Sustaining Membership \$30.00/year
- Life Membership \$200.00/one payment

Name _____

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Windsor, Ontario N8X 5B5

Hillman Marsh Activities - One of the best spring waterfowl and shorebird migratory sites in Ontario!

Wildlife Highlights

February: Bald Eagles return March-April: Bald Eagles are active on nest
April/May: Spring waterfowl and shorebird migration, frogs and toads mating chorus
May: Spring warblers and Spring wildflowers at Kopegaron Woods June-July: resident birds nesting and fledging young August: Marsh wildflowers bloom September: Fall shorebird, hawk and Monarch migration October/November: Fall colours and late migrants December/January: Winter birds

THE REGION'S FOURTH LARGEST MARSH

Hillman is classified as both an environmentally and provincially significant natural area. Eight different wildlife habitats thrive in the thirty eight hectare conservation area. Lush cattail marshland, wet meadows, flooded Red Ash woods, old fields, deciduous woods, mud flats and Buttonbush swamp provide food and shelter for wildlife. Many species of fish, reptiles, amphibians, insects, mammals, birds and a variety of plants need the marsh habitats for survival. and is an important migratory stopover. Some rare species include Swamp Rose Mallow, Black Terns, Eastern Fox Snake, and Spiny Softshell turtle.

ENJOY A DAY AT THE MARSH

The main entrance to Hillman Marsh is five kilometres east of Leamington on Oak Street or Concession 2 of Mersea township. Bring a picnic lunch or use one of Hillman's barbeques in a sunny or shaded spot in the picnic area. The Nature Centre and gift shop have marsh life displays, natural gifts and refreshments, and is open Thursdays through Sunday from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm in May through August.

BY LAND or BY CANOE

A raised dike trail surrounds one and a half kilometres of the marsh and provides an excellent view of the habitat below. A leisurely walk takes about an hour and there are several rest stops and a viewing tower along the way. The mowed grass trail is an excellent trail for mountain bikes as it dips and curves around the marsh.

Tour the marsh by canoe with an ERCA naturalist to see marsh wildlife up close. Canoe tours are being offered every Sunday in July from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm for \$15.00 per canoe rental and tour. Space is limited so please register in advance by calling Bev at Hillman Marsh 326-0838.

EJOY A DAY AT THE BEACH

Come for a stroll along the kilometre long barrier beach on Lake Erie at Hillman's most southerly point. The white sand beach is a sheltered spot for sunbathing and swimming.

ENJOY THE MARSH ALL YEAR

A new self service entrance fee has been initiated by ERCA as a means of recovering some of the costs for the taxes and maintenance of Hillman Marsh. All of the conservation programs operate on a cost recovery basis. Enjoy the marsh all year and help keep the Conservation Areas public spaces by paying the gate fee or by purchasing a Season's Pass.

Help the Conservation Areas by purchasing a Season's Pass. The Pass gives you admission free access to Hillman Marsh, Holiday Beach and the John R. Park Homestead and Conservation Area for the entire year for just \$40.00. Season's Passes are available at the Hillman Gift Shop, the Homestead, Holiday Beach and the ERCA office. For more information call the Essex office at 776-5209.

WETLAND ADVENTURES FOR CHILDREN

Children's programs for school groups and other organizations are offered year round. Children explore the marsh and forest habitats and do hands-on nature activities. Schools and groups need to book in advance to make sure space is available.

Sign up your children for the Wetlands Summer day-camp programs at Hillman Marsh and Holiday Beach Conservation Area. Children will have fun learning about wildlife with nature adventures in the marsh, wildlife games and activities.

The Windsor YMCA offers a residential camp experience for children at Hillman Marsh. For information and registration call the YMCA at 519-258-9622.

For more information about our children's programs for schools and groups or summer day-camp call Bev at Hillman, 326-0838.

A GREAT PLACE FOR GROUP PICNICS

The picnic shelter is available for families, church groups and other organizations at a rental cost of \$25.00 for the day. The picnic shelter seats approximately fifty people. The nature centre meeting room is also available for rent at \$25.00 for the day.

MEET AT THE MARSH

If you are looking for a place to meet in a relaxed atmosphere the meeting room of the nature centre may be the place for your group or organization to meet. The rental cost is \$25.00 for the day and arrangements can be made for refreshments.

WE WELCOME YOUR FEEDBACK

If you would like to add someone to our distribution list or send articles, comments, suggestions and/or questions, please contact us at: Essex Region Conservation Authority, 360 Fairview Avenue, Essex, Ontario. N8W 1Y6 (519) 776-5209 (phone), (519) 776-8688 (fax), erca@wincom.net (email).

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

Further information regarding ECFNC Excursions is available from either Muriel Kassimatis (252-4801), Betty Learmouth (944-2292, days) or Margaret MacDonald (252-3515). Let us know about your ideas for future excursions in the fall.

June

June 8 - ECFNC Spring Excursion Enjoy a visit to Eleanor and Bruno Sfalcin's very large garden featuring naturalized areas. Meet at 2:00 pm at 3661 Howard Avenue, Windsor.

June 11 - ECFNC Monthly Meeting Union Gas Building, 7:30 pm. Speaker: Kim Delaney, Tallgrass Prairie Specialist with the Rural Lambton Stewardship Network: Prairie restoration.

June 12, 14 - Ojibway Nature Centre Program. Damsels and Dragons. Learn a new group of insects this summer with this short program on damselflies and dragonflies. Eight different kinds are found locally. Thursday (June 12) at 7:00 pm and Saturday (June 14) at 10:00 am at Ojibway Nature Centre. Contact Ojibway Nature Centre 966-5852.



June 20 - FON & CNF Conference Planning Committee Meeting. Contact Karen Cedar 966-5852.

June 21 - ECFNC Summer Excursion. Explore the Stone

Road Alvar of Pelee Island with members of the Heritage Fund Committee who have been studying this unique habitat within their committee. Please call Betty Learmouth to reserve a space and to volunteer your vehicle for car pooling. We have reserved for five vehicles for this excursion. Fares will be higher this year for vehicles and passengers, with a ten percent for groups over ten persons. An itinerary will be provided to all who reserve for this excursion. Meet at 8:15 am at the Leamington Dock.

June 25 - ECFNC Executive Meeting. Contact Tom Hurst 839-4635.

June 28 - ECFNC Summer Excursion. Enjoy the winged creatures of the summer night with naturalist Jeff Larson on the edge of Bill Balkwill's woodlot in Gosfield South Township. Jeff has a new generator which should produce a good light to attract moths. Meet at 9:00 pm in the parking lot of the Cedar Creek Conservation Area, then we will drive to Bill's farm.

June 29 - ECFNC Summer Excursion. Join Eastern Bluebird Committee Chairperson Don Bissonette for an early evening tour of an Eastern Bluebird Trail. Eastern Bluebirds are guaranteed! Meet at 7:00 pm in the parking lot of the Harrow Research Station.

July

July 5 - North American Butterfly Count. Join us for Windsor's 4th annual butterfly tally. To help with this exciting and valuable field inventory of Windsor's butterflies contact Ojibway Nature Centre 966-5852.

July 8 - August 26 - Ojibway Nature Centre Program. Budding Biologists. Wildlife viewing, field studies and hands-on nature activities for ages 10 - 15. Tuesdays, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm. Fee: \$15/day. Contact Ojibway Nature Centre 966-5852.

July 9 - August 27 - Ojibway Nature Centre Program Young Naturalist Day Camp. Swamp walks, wildlife viewing, nature games and crafts for ages 7 - 9.

Wednesdays, 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Fee: \$15/day. Contact Ojibway Nature Centre 966-5852.



July 9 - ECFNC Monthly Meeting Union Gas Building, 7:30 pm. Speaker: Arthur Pegg. Topic: Essex County Archaeology; The Local Setting.

July 10 - August 28 - Ojibway Nature Centre Program. Kids 'n Kritters. Nature fun for the younger set. Wildlife exploration and nature-oriented activities for ages 4 - 6. Thursdays, 10:00 am to noon or 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Fee: \$7/2 hours. Contact Ojibway Nature Centre 966-5852

July 11 - FON & CNF Conference Planning Committee Meeting. Contact Karen Cedar 966-5852.

July 12 - ECFNC Summer Excursion. Learn about the dragonflies that inhabit our wetlands in the summer. Naturalist Paul Desjardins will share his enthusiasm for these fascinating insects. Meet at 1:00 pm in the parking lot of Ojibway Nature Centre.

July 25 - FON & CNF Conference

Planning Committee Meeting.
Contact Karen Cedar 966-5852.

August

August 8 - FON & CNF
Conference Planning Committee
Meeting. Contact Karen Cedar

966-5852.

August 14, 15, 16, 17 -
Federation of Ontario Naturalists
and Canadian Nature Federation
Joint Conference. Field trips are
planned for Sunday, August 17 to
a number of natural areas within
Essex, Kent and Lambton
Counties. Plan to register for this

outstanding event hosted by the
ECFNC.

September 7 - Summer Excursion.
Join Jim McAllister for a shorebird
viewing excursion at several Essex
County sewage lagoons. Meet in
Essex at 11:00 a.m. in front of
Essex High School.

