

Natural Landscapes

The Newsletter of the Nova Scotia Nature Trust

Volume 5, Number 1, Winter 1999

DAVID SUZUKI AND HIS "THREE N'S": THE TRUST'S ANNUAL AUTUMN GALA EVENT

BY KIRSTEN CRAVEN

In addition to commenting on human history, genetics and a fantastical trip in a time machine, on November 27 Dr. Suzuki wanted to leave his audience with 3 very simple facts: "Nature Works, Nature Provides Services and Nature is Us." Dr. Suzuki gave his speech to a crowd gathered at a benefit hosted by the Nature Trust and the Nova Scotia chapter of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society. The dinner held at the Westin Nova Scotian included a reception, a silent auction, and a book sale and signing. The contributions of a healthy audience of 405 ticket holders resulted in generous proceeds that will help the Nature Trust with its conservation programs. Dr. Suzuki's message was the focus of the evening, and within it the word 'nature' figured prominently.

THE FIRST 'N': *NATURE WORKS*

Firstly, Suzuki emphasised that nature has had 4 billion years to hone itself into this



David Suzuki signing a book for Minister of Environment, Don Downe

incredible array of interacting organisms. The long term survival and adaptability of species depends upon biodiversity. Suzuki explored how monoculture runs in the opposite direction of evolution, yet still remains the popular method of replanting in forestry, fisheries, and agriculture. The forest industry is proud of its methods of silviculture, and believes its experts can "manage" nature. Suzuki insisted that this is ridiculous. Forests and all natural habitats in general, are complex ecosystems that befuddle our limited knowledge and

experience. We don't know a fraction of the species and natural processes that exist. Yet at the same time we think our global economies can expand infinitely, and politicians and economists equate success with external growth. Suzuki labels this attitude "lunacy," especially when the human population is growing at an exponential rate. Suzuki cautioned, "We are mining the natural capital of the earth when we should be living on the interest." We should leave nature to its own devices because it is its own expert.

THE SECOND 'N': *NATURE PROVIDES SERVICES*

Suzuki pointed out humans are no longer the agrarian species they once were. Currently, human beings are largely urban-dwellers; more than half of us live in cities. Suzuki pointed out that this transformation to the urban setting has made us a destructive and demanding species, but also a species that is alienated from its natural envi-

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Annual General Meeting--April 17 at 7:30 pm. Museum of Natural History. Share a "Photographic Journey of Our Natural Areas" with photographer and park planner, Oliver Maass. The Trust will also present accomplishments for the year, and share plans for 1999-2000.

Volunteer Appreciation Night--Friday, March 26. To say thanks to our wonderful, hard-working volunteers! (details to follow)

Sacred Worth Exhibition--At the DesBrissay Museum in Bridgewater, March 27-May 9

Blomidon Nature Walk--Explore the spring wildflowers and other natural delights of the Blomidon area. Meet at the lower parking lot, Blomidon Provincial Park, 10am Saturday May 15 (rain date May 16). Please call to confirm.

Easement Closing Celebration and Birding Excursion. Help celebrate completion of our conservation easement in Cole Harbour. Visit the property and enjoy some coastal birding with Dr. Ian McLaren too! Meet at Museum of Natural History parking lot Saturday April 24 at 10 am/ (rain date April 25). Please call to confirm.

Nature Hike and Easement Closing Celebration--Signing ceremony and river floodplains/gypsum wildflower walk with naturalist Jim Wolford to celebrate a conservation easement on the Meander River. Sunday, May 30 (rain date May 31). Meet at 10 am in Smiley's Provincial Park parking lot.

DAVID SUZUKI SPEAKS OUT ON THE THREE "N"S

ronment. Suzuki reflected on how many people have actually asked him, "Who needs nature?" In our cemented worlds, it is easy to forget that life itself depends on nature. Economists speak of nature as an "externality." What if we internalised nature? What would it cost if we were to try to reproduce what nature does for us? What would it cost to pollinate plants or make water? Quoting an American scientific study, Suzuki said it would cost "at least 33 trillion dollars" to replace what nature gives to us freely. We rely on nature for everything we have around us and it provides it free of charge.

THE THIRD 'N': NATURE IS US

Suzuki stated, "We literally are the Earth. We are nature itself." The fundamental building blocks of the universe are earth, air, fire and water, and "You and I are the earth, air, fire and water." Suzuki insisted that he meant this statement in a literal, scientific way. After all, we are literally 50% water. This water comes from the planet.



Thank you to the major sponsors of the event, Michael Nuschke and Richard Nickerson, of Financial Concept Group, pictured here with David Suzuki

Although we don't think about it, Suzuki said we are the air itself. We must take 20-40 breaths per minute from the beginning to the end of our existence. Collectively, we are also connected together by the air that we breathe. When we pollute the environment, we pollute ourselves, and cannot go on as we have in the past. We must redress the imbalance we have created. Messages concerning the environment are often overwhelming, which quickly

results in feelings of denial in the listener. Dr. Suzuki's presentation on November 27, 1998, was part of a cross-country speaking tour "Save Our Species - SOS", dedicated to promoting Canadian awareness of the need for legislative action to protect the plants and animals which are threatened with extinction due to human activity. Suzuki's "3 Ns" may be basic, but thinking about them on a daily basis will heighten awareness and hopefully, stimulate action.

NEW NATURE TRUST STAFF

Bonnie Sutherland, Executive Director/Program Manager of the Nature Trust, recently hired three new staff members to assist with the Trust's Land Conservation and Stewardship programs. We would like to welcome them to the Trust, and at the same time say good-bye and a heartfelt thank-you to the outgoing project staff. Deanna Schofield, Lesley Rogers and Jim Holmes have all done a fantastic job over the past several months and their efforts are greatly appreciated.

Minga O'Brien has been hired to co-ordinate the Land Conservation Program. She will help to identify and select priority conservation sites, conduct the landowner contact program and the public education program of slide shows, talks and guided walks. She will also assist in the formal protection of new conservation properties. Minga has a background in forest ecology, and a Master of Science from Dalhousie.

Her recent experience working with Smartwood, promoting forest certification and ecologically sensitive forest practices, brings a new area of expertise to the staff.

Donald Sam will co-ordinate the Land Stewardship Program. He will help look after the Trust's properties and conservation easements by conducting and co-ordinating baseline studies and annual property monitoring, and by training volunteer property monitors to assist in this work. Donald will also liaise with local communities, landowners, and neighbors to ensure effective stewardship of protected properties and monitoring of sensitive natural areas through education, public relations and community involvement in stewardship. Donald has a Master of Science from Acadia University, and diverse experience as a biologist in the private sector, academia and government agencies.

The final new member, Karen Potter, will be helping with both the Land Conservation and Stewardship Projects. She has been a long-time dedicated volunteer with the Trust who is strongly committed to our conservation goals. Karen has an Honours Degree in Environmental Science from Acadia University. Her experience as an interpreter for Kejimikujik National Park, a rare plant researcher, and as an ecologist for a regional development authority will be an asset to the project team.

Bonnie is excited about the energy and enthusiasm of the new staff team, and the wealth of conservation experience they bring to the Trust. We would like to welcome them all to the Nature Trust.



THE LEGAL CORNER: THE WILDERNESS ACT AND THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT BECOME LAW

BY TODD KEITH

Wilderness Areas Protection Act

On December 3 the provincial government passed the long-awaited Wilderness Areas Protection Act, but only after 11th-hour amendments secured the required support of opposition MLAs. This accomplishment brings to a close the latest chapter in the ongoing effort to protect significant natural areas on crown land in Nova Scotia.



Nationally Rare Plymouth gentian (*Sabatia kennedyana*)

In 1990, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Parks and Recreation Division began a systematic inventory and evaluation of all remaining large, roadless crown land areas in the province. The objective was to select a number of high-quality areas that were representative of the distinct natural landscapes in the province. Eventually 31 candidate areas were selected. These areas formed the basis of the provincial protected areas strategy published in 1994. In early 1995, a public review panel held meetings on the proposal across the province. The panel's report, published in August 1995 and subsequently accepted by the government, recommended that the government formally establish all 31 candidate areas through the enactment of appropriate legislation.

The protected areas strategy became the topic of controversy in 1996 when the Jim Campbells Barren was removed from the candidate list in order to allow mining exploration. The barren was placed back on the list by Premier MacLellan in 1997. At the same time the responsibility for protected areas was transferred from DNR to the Department of the Environment. Legislation to formally protect the candidate sites was introduced late in 1997, but died when the provincial election was called.

The Wilderness Areas Protection Act was first introduced in June 1998, and was passed into law on December 3, 1998, fulfilling the government's commitment to formally establish these very special wilderness areas.

Now that legislation is passed, the focus will shift towards ensuring that the 31 sites are prudently managed and protected. In accordance with the legislation, management plans will be drafted for each wilderness area, and the planning process will include public consultation. The Nature Trust has always supported and encouraged this initiative, and participated in the public consultation phase in 1995. We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Nova Scotia government, and especially former Environment Minister Don Downe,

for making this very important contribution to wilderness conservation in Nova Scotia.

The Endangered Species Act

Another milestone was reached on December 3, when the province enacted Endangered Species legislation. The Endangered Species Act was introduced on November 5, after several years of work and consultation. Draft legislation was first released for discussion in 1996.

The proposed legislation is an important advance for the protection of biodiversity in Nova Scotia, and complements the Wilderness Areas Protection Act, and the conservation work of the Nature Trust. Some of the key provisions of the legislation are:

- **Species-at-Risk Working Group** - A six member group, to be appointed by the Minister, will be established, and shall consist of one DNR representative (non-voting) and five other "recognised scientific experts" in population biology, ecology, conservation biology, etc. Decisions of the group will be made on the basis of a four-fifths majority.



Nationally endangered Pink coreopsis (*Coreopsis rosea*)

THE LEGAL CORNER

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Species-at-Risk Conservation Fund -

A fund has been established for research, education, preparation of status reports, recovery efforts, acquisition of land, and any other purpose related to species at risk. The fund will be supported by donations, and by penalties received for violations of the act.

Species-at-Risk List -

The Working Group will be responsible for establishing, and annually updating, a provincial list of species at risk. Any species that are listed nationally by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC), and are native to Nova Scotia, must be included in the provincial list. Listing of species will be made on the basis of peer-reviewed status reports.

Recovery Plans -

Recovery Teams will be established to develop Recovery Plans for listed species. Teams must be established within one year of listing for endangered species*, and within two years for threatened species**. A management plan for a vulnerable species*** must be prepared within three years of listing.

Protection of Core Habitat -

The Act authorizes the Minister to designate core habitat and to make regulations controlling the use of this habitat. Core habitat is defined as a designated area of habitat "essential for the long-term survival and recovery of endangered or threatened species."

Prohibited Activity -

The Act prohibits the killing, injury, disturbance, interference, or possession of endangered and threatened species. Selling, trading, buying, and bartering of threatened or endangered species are also prohibited.

Introduction of the Act helps fulfil Nova Scotia's commitment for legislation under the National Accord for the Protection of Species at Risk. This accord, signed in 1996 by all provincial, territorial, and federal ministers responsible for wildlife, commits all jurisdictions to develop complementary legislation for the protection of species at risk. Given the absence of federal endangered species legislation, (a federal bill was tabled two years ago but died when parliament was dissolved prior to the last election, and there has been no evidence that the bill will be resurrected soon), the provincial statute is of critical importance to the species currently at risk in the province. Watch for profiles of Nova Scotia species at risk in upcoming issues of Natural Landscapes.

* **endangered species** - "a species that faces imminent extinction or extirpation"

** **threatened species** - "a species that is likely to become endangered if the factors affecting its vulnerability are not reversed"

*** **vulnerable species** - "a species of special concern due to characteristics that make it particularly sensitive to human activities or natural events"

Annual Giving— Your Opportunity to Make a Difference

February marks the launch of the Nature Trust's First Annual Giving Campaign, and the Trust hopes its many supporters and members will consider making a charitable donation this year.

As a presenter at a recent land trust conference suggested, "If you want to make a positive, personal impact, save land. Practically nothing we can do in our lives will make more of a difference. One hundred years from now, our children will be gone, our personal endeavours largely forgotten, but land preservation will stand as a tribute to our care and forethought." Have an impact! Give to the Nature Trust.

A threatened species in Nova Scotia, the Showy Lady's-slipper (*Cypripedium reginae*)



SAVING THE FACE OF NORTH AMERICA: THE EXPONENTIAL GROWTH OF LAND CONSERVATION

BY ALEXANDRA HAN

A simple parable illustrates the importance of individual action:

A little girl is walking along the beach, hand-in-hand with an adult. She sees a starfish, dying on the beach a few feet from the water. Feeling compassion for it, she throws it back into the ocean so that it will live. Naturally, the adult feels compelled to point out the futility of this exercise. Given that there are thousands of starfish scattered on the beach, dying, what difference would it make, to throw that starfish back?

"Yes, I know," the little girl replies confidently, "but it made a difference to that starfish."

To extend the parable: what if other people come along and do the same thing? Then it's not just one starfish which has been saved; it's two, then three, then four. Eventually, it translates into thousands of starfish that get saved, and a powerful trend is started.

The Nova Scotia Nature Trust, established a mere six years ago in 1993, could be considered relatively small, as most non-profit land trust organizations are. Nonetheless, as it continues to grow and to acquire more land and make its mark on Nova Scotia, it is a small but vital part of a powerful, growing trend in land conservation in North America. The Land Trust Alliance, an American national umbrella organization established in 1982 to provide strong leadership and education in land conservation, recently released their 1998 National Land Trust Census. The following statistics show how the land conservation movement is growing exponentially in the USA, especially in the ten years between the 1988 census and the 1998 census.

This trend appears to be intensifying.

These statistics are for the United States only. Regrettably, Canada does not have a similar organization which would document our own land conservation trends.

- Land trusts in 1998 held more than 7,000 conservation easements, protecting nearly 1.4 million acres. This represents an astonishing 400 percent increase in the amount of land thus conserved in the ten years between censuses;
- A new land trust is established per week to conserve local and regional land, marking the growth of new land trusts as the fastest growing segment of the conservation movement;
- As of 1998, 4.7 million acres of wetlands and wildlife habitat, trails and recreational areas, as well as farm and forest land and fragile natural areas, is now protected by American land trusts. Given that 2.0 million acres of land was protected ten years earlier, this represents a 135 percent increase in acreage of land being preserved for the future;
- Of the 4.7 million acres of land thus protected above, almost 1 million acres have been conserved as park land, wildlife refuges and green spaces, providing pleasure for people and protection for animals and plants;
- 1,213 local and regional land trusts currently work to conserve land - 63 percent more than the 743 land trusts that existed ten years earlier;
- Nation-wide, land trusts report more than one million supporters and 50,000 active volunteers helping them to achieve their mandate of preserving land.

Jean Hocker, president of the Land Trust Alliance, says "The popularity of land trusts has skyrocketed over the past decade for two reasons. First, people realize that open land is a finite resource that, once lost, can never be regained. Second, people have discovered that, through land trusts, they can make a direct, lasting difference in the community they live in and the world they will leave to their children and grandchildren."

This trend is all the more remarkable when one takes into account the fact that much of its success is based on volunteerism. In fact, more than 40% of land trusts are staffed solely by volunteers. As well, a majority of land trusts receive more than half of their operating budgets from individual donations and memberships, rather than being government-funded, thus revealing how vital volunteers and concerned members are to the rapid growth of land conservation.

As a non-government organization, the NSNT is funded by membership fees, donations and fund-raising events, as well as grants from charitable foundations. Our fundraising success has enabled us to hire full-time staff members to promote private stewardship in Nova Scotia.

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SAVING THE FACE OF NORTH AMERICA (continued)

THE NATURE TRUST'S OWN GROWTH AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Like its American counterparts, the NSNT is also growing quickly. Currently we own four properties and one conservation easement, and are in the process of protecting several other significant properties. Through our pilot landowner contact program (Natural Landscapes Spring 1998), more than 100 new landowners are approached each year. Eighty percent (80%) of NSNT's efforts and time is channelled toward reaching, educating, and negotiating with landowners, with only five to ten per

cent (5% - 10%) spent on educating the general public and naturalists groups (slide shows, guided walks, and lectures). This focus on a target group - landowners - assures NSNT's continuing success in acquiring and protecting even more land for the near future. NSNT, still a very young organization, is already receiving recognition for its accomplishments. For example, Garth Bangay, Regional Director General of Environment Canada in Dartmouth, in a formal letter to NSNT, wrote: "No single organization can protect all of the critical habitat in Nova Scotia. However, I believe that your organization has clearly made great strides in forming strong partnerships to forward your goals." He also added that "It is indeed encouraging to read of the

recent accomplishments of the Nova Scotia Nature Trust. I was impressed with your innovative programs, such as the Trust initiative with Stora Port Hawkesbury and the 'Sacred Worth' project."

A single starfish, then a second, then a third....and sooner than we expect, a powerful trend is starting. One that makes a difference.

Nova Scotia Nature Trust thanks all its volunteers for being part of this trend.



Thanks Volunteers!

Fund-raising: Maggie Moss, Ron Scott, Richard Nickerson, Jennifer Nichols, Joanne McCormick, Jeanne Thomas, Darlene Stone, Jason Hiltz, Melanie Briand

Public Relations: Joan MacDonald, Kirsten Craven, Alexandra Han, Emma Boardman, Lisa Snider, Mille McCormick, Julie McLeave

Land Stewardship: Mike Lebland, Chris MacInnis

And all the members of our regional working groups in Wolfville and Purcell's Cove (see next issue for details on our regional working groups)

SACRED WORTH EXHIBITION CATALOGUES FOR SALE

The splendour of Nova Scotia's 31 new wilderness areas has been captured beautifully by Alice Reed's exhibition of watercolours, Sacred Worth. A full-colour catalogue depicts the story of the exhibition's creation and features a foreword by Prince Philip and an introduction by Alex Colville. Catalogues are on sale at the Nature Trust office for \$7. All proceeds will benefit the Nature Trust. The catalogue makes a great memento for visitors to the province, or a gift for those who treasure the beauty and diversity of Nova Scotia's natural areas.



LEADERS IN LAND PROTECTION: A HERBIN FAMILY TRADITION

BY ALEXANDRA HAN

A new column to introduce our generous land and easement donors.

When Jack Herbin of Wolfville donated “The Brothers” to Nova Scotia Nature Trust in 1995, he was following a tradition established by his grandfather, John Frederick Herbin, a remarkably far-sighted person who sold land to the Dominion Atlantic Railway in 1917 on two conditions: that part of it be developed into a historic park, and that the Acadians be allowed to use part of it for a memorial church and other monuments. Today that site is known as the “Grand Pre National Historic Site”.

“The Brothers”, two coastal islands located in the upper Bay of Fundy, just east of Parrsboro, Cumberland County, are composed of basalt. This volcanic bedrock is fairly uncommon along the north shore of the Bay of Fundy, although it is the principal rock type of the North Mountain along the south shore of the Bay. The basalt is more resistant to erosion than the Triassic aged sediments more common on the north shore. This ensures that The Brothers persist while other areas of the coast erode more rapidly.

According to David MacKinnon, an ecological planner in the Parks and Protected Areas Division of the Department of Environment, these islands are popular places for rock-collecting, since the bedrock contains secondary minerals (such as amethyst and zeolites) that are occasionally of gemstone quality.

Due to the deep, rich humus and leaf litter on the larger island, a number of rare plants exist, such as the Purple Trillium and the Canada Yew.

The smaller island supports populations of Common Eider, Red-breasted Merganser, Great Black-backed Gull, Herring Gull, Black Guillemot, and Bald Eagles, who are attracted to the dead fish and crabs that are exposed during low tide. Although no Peregrine Falcon nests have been documented on the islands, the Peregrine population in the Bay of Fundy is recovering, and the islands provide suitable nesting habitat for this species at risk.

The larger island is covered by old growth hardwood-spruce forest, which, according to MacKinnon, “is rare in its own right, especially in the coastal areas, because of the historically high levels of disturbance in coastal areas. We “aged” one of the trees there, and it was 123 years old, which compares well with the oldest hardwood we find on the mainland”.

The very steep cliffs on the two islands protect several rare habitats, including talus slopes, stunted old-growth hardwood and spruce forest. The talus slopes, a relatively uncommon habitat in Nova Scotia, have not been well investigated.



Jack Herbin

These islands can be reached by foot during low spring tides. However, MacKinnon warns that great caution must be exercised. While “people can visit anytime they want,....they would have to watch the tides so that they don’t get stranded....people have died this way”. The cliffs are largely inaccessible by foot, and the tide rises a remarkable 50 feet before falling.

Indeed it is a remarkable gift that Herbin has given the NSNT. One might wonder what motivated Herbin’s decision to donate The Brothers Islands to NSNT. “My grandfather, John Herbin, purchased the islands from the crown in 1898.....In 1994 Dr. Tom Herman (a biologist and professor at Acadia University) was being interviewed on CBC radio about the formation of the Nova Scotia Nature Trust. I was very interested and decided that was what I would like to do with the islands. I contacted Tom, and the rest is history.”

“I am very pleased that the Nova Scotia Nature Trust has accepted ownership of the Brothers Islands so they will be preserved in their natural state for future generations,” he adds. An outright gift to the Nature Trust, “The Brothers” islands, 15 acres in total, will be visited on a yearly basis by Nature Trust staff and volunteers.

Herbin also has a few flattering words to add, as well: “The Nature Trust is a wonderful organization for the people of Nova Scotia”, endorsing it as the organization to whom Nova Scotians should turn to when they want to ensure that a piece of land be preserved for future generations.

Thank you, Jack Herbin, for your generous contribution!

NATURE NOTES: THE COMMON CROW

BY EMMA BOARDMAN

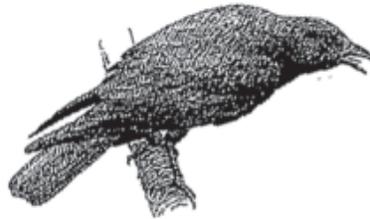
A new column profiling plant and animal species found in Nova Scotia. For this first edition, we feature a bird that is seen in many backyards in Nova Scotia: the ubiquitous crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*).

Few birds have been persecuted by humans as much as the crow. There is much folklore linking crows with darkness, death, and bad luck. Many people dislike crows simply because they steal farmers' crops and eat the eggs of other birds. They are scavengers eating such things as dead animals and human-related wastes. Perhaps because of this, our word for a large group of them is a "murder."

Yet despite all our negative perceptions of crows, many people admire these birds. Many experts, as well as casual observers, and creators of myth and folklore, consider crows and their relatives to be some of the smartest, most interesting birds in the world.

Crows and ravens, their close relatives, have existed for a long time throughout the world, living close enough to humans to be entrenched in the myth and folklore of many cultures. In these stories, they are often portrayed as being extremely clever and inventive, and often as having a great sense of humor. One ancient myth which seems to have once been told all across Siberia and northern North America portrays a raven who is the lustful, cheeky creator of the world. In the Babylonian story of a great Flood, the raven is the only bird that manages to find dry land.

Observations of crows both in captivity and in the wild underline the ingenuity of the birds. One crow, for example, was kept in captivity and fed dried mash which its keepers usually moistened. Sometimes,



however, the keepers forgot to moisten the mash. On these occasions, the crow would pick up a plastic cup, dip it into a water trough and carry it, filled, to pour over the food!

Crows and their relatives are well-known imitators of other birds, and sometimes captive ones mimic human speech. When they do, they often seem able to associate the word with its meaning. One pet raven, mimicked the sound he heard his keepers use to call him to his food - the German word *komm* - when he notified his own mate of the food.

Folklore has portrayed crows as callous creatures that would kill their own kind, but crows are actually very social creatures. They seem to play games with each other, especially when they are young. They often co-operate when they are hunting; one member of a team might attack and frighten an animal, such as a wolf or a cat, that has just caught a small animal. When the startled animal drops its prey, the other crow grabs the food.

Crows mate for life, and express grief when their mates or close companions die. One pet bird, for example, was usually very vocal but became silent for four days following the death of an injured fledgling she had been caring for. Crows also seem to call

their mates by name, or an individualized call which in part mimics the unique cry of the mate.

Crows are thriving right now in Nova Scotia; they can be seen in many parts of the province, including coastal areas, and especially in wintertime. The largest winter roost of crows in the Maritimes can be found on Boot Island National Wildlife Area, Kings Co., N. S. They breed in Nova Scotia, building nests in trees and laying 4 - 7 eggs in the spring. Because they nest in trees but like to forage on open ground, they are restricted from wetlands and densely forested areas. Crows benefit from human settlement, finding food in garbage, roadkill and of course, crops. Therefore it is not surprising that their distribution in Nova Scotia corresponds quite well with that of urban and agricultural areas in the province.

For more information on intelligence and folklore:

Savage, Candace. 1995. Bird Brains: The Intelligence of Crows, Ravens, Magpies and Jays. San Francisco: Sierra Club Books.

For more information on habitat and breeding patterns:

Tufts, Robie. 1986. Birds of Nova Scotia, third edition. Halifax: Nimbus Publishing Ltd.

Nova Scotia Museum. Erskine, Anthony Breeding Birds of the Maritime Provinces. Halifax: Nimbus Publishing Ltd. and the Nova Scotia Museum.

For miscellaneous facts and internet links:
<http://www.azstarnet.com/~serres/index.html>



OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS!

Support the important work of the Nature Trust by joining our team of volunteers. Volunteers help in a wide range of capacities from fundraising and promotional efforts, preparing and distributing the newsletter, and assisting in our efforts to manage properties.

Specific Current Volunteer Needs:

Keen and experienced fundraiser to provide leadership for an exciting capital campaign

NATURE TRUST WISH LIST

Looking for donations (second-hand):

- Navigational compasses
- Hunter orange vests, caps, etc. for safe woods travel
- Camera(s)
- 486/Pentium computer
- Reception area chairs
- Coffee table
- Coat rack/stand
- Small microwave
- Good quality office chairs (ergonomic)
- Volunteer to build bookshelves, map shelf

ATLANTIC SUPERSTORE EARTH DAY EVENT

The Nature Trust and the Atlantic Superstores across the province are planning an exciting environmental initiative for the last earth day of the millenim. Watch the superstores for details!

Photo Credits

- Annette Luttermann: pages 1 and 2
- David MacKinnon: pages 4 and 7
- Oliver Maass: page 3

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Natural Landscapes, the newsletter of the Nova Scotia Nature Trust, is published periodically. It aims to keep members updated on Nature Trust projects, issues in private land conservation, and special events, and to provide a forum for readers to discuss relevant topics.

Natural Landscapes depends on the input of readers for content. All are invited to submit articles, notes, letters, commentaries, or important notices. Please send submissions on IBM compatible 3.5" diskettes or paper to:

Nova Scotia Nature Trust

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<http://chebucto.ns.ca/Environment/NSNT>

JOIN THE NOVA SCOTIA NATURE TRUST

Membership in the Nova Scotia Nature Trust is open to any person or corporation interested in the protection of Nova Scotia's natural beauty and native biological diversity. Members receive the newsletter, *Natural Landscapes*, are entitled to vote at the Annual General Meeting, and may participate in the various committees of the Trust. Members also have the satisfaction of knowing that they are making an important contribution to the protection of Nova Scotia's outstanding natural areas.

Name _____ Organization (if applicable) _____
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- \$15 Student \$25 Individual \$40 Family \$50 NGO \$100 Supporter / Corporate
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- I would like to volunteer
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Please make cheque or money order payable to:

Nova Scotia Nature Trust, P.O. Box 2202, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3J 3C4

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make our projects possible :**

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