

Jun. 4 to 10 - National Environment Week.

Jun. 6 - Bill Oehlke is the Natural History Society's guest speaker and he will talk on "Raising Silkworm Moths". The meeting starts at 7:30 pm at the Farm Centre at 430 University Avenue.

Jun. 10 - Medicinal Plants of the Woods - a walk along the nature trails with Margie Loo of Springwillow Medicinal Herbs. Begins at 9 am at the nursery and ends at the Macphail Woods Nature Centre with a tea-tasting.

Jun. 16 - Eric Marcum will lead a field trip to survey breeding birds. Pre-registration is required at 628-8998.

Jun. 17 - Tree and Shrub Identification Walk along the trails of Macphail Woods. Tour will leave from the nursery at 1pm.

Jul. 4 - International Butterfly Count Day and field trip. Rosemary Curley will lead the Natural History Society field trip as part of the North American Butterfly Association's count. Please pre-register at 569-1209. For more information on arranging your own count see <http://www.naba.org/4july.html>

Jul. 6 & 7 - The initial week of Macphail Woods' summer environmental education program, "Sharing A Love Of Nature". Children six to ten can attend Thursdays or Fridays, 9 am - noon, for all or part of the 8-week program; afternoon programs for children eleven to fifteen. Topics include birds, forests, wildflowers, soil, amphibians, water, mammals and a wide variety of nature activities. Please preregister children.

Jul. 9 - Medicinal Plants of the Fields - a walk around the grounds and fields of the Macphail Homestead with Margie Loo of Springwillow Medicinal Herbs. Begins at 1 pm at the nursery and ends with a tea-tasting at the Nature Centre.

Jul. 12 to 16 - Canadian Nature Federation and the Natural History Society of Newfoundland and Labrador will meet in Corner Brook, NF. For more information contact CNF 2000, Humber Natural History Society, 2A Fourth Avenue, Pasadena, NF A0L 1K0 or E-mail hnhs2000@beothuk.swgc.mun.ca

Jul. 15 - Annual GreenFest - music, food and activities for young and old throughout the day at the Macphail Homestead.

Jul. 29 - Learning About Lichens - a full-day workshop on this fascinating plant family, led by Dr. Katherine Clough and Gary Schneider. Preregistration is required and there is a \$30 charge for the day.

Aug. 6 to 12 - The Millennium Wetland Event will be held in Quebec City. For information visit <http://www.cqvb.qc.ca/wetland2000/>

Aug. 26 - A Close Look at Mushrooms, a full-day workshop on familiar fungi led by Dr. Katherine Clough. Preregistration is required and there is a \$30 charge for the day.

Sept. 9 - Natural History Society Pot-luck Dinner at Michelle Johnston & Ray MacDonald's overlooking Hardy's Pond near Little York. The event will commence at 6 pm. The rain date is September 16 th.

SALAMANDERS, FROGS TOADS , AND SNAKES ANYONE?

By J. Dan McAskill

They're off and running! Two new projects are now commencing to record frog and toad population information to determine where they occur and how many are there. Prince Edward Island Frog Watch is being conducted under the auspices of the by the Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Network Coordinating Office, Ecosystem Science Directorate of Environment Canada and P.E.I. Department of Technology and Environment. This project will record song frequency and sight observations of frogs and toads. The Prince Edward Island Herpetofauna Atlas is a wider reaching project that will record the locations and frequency of salamanders, frogs, toads, and snakes for the next five years in P.E.I. It is being conducted by the P.E.I. Department of Technology and Environment in conjunction with the U.P.E.I. Biology Department. You will be able to send in observations or sound records to both systems via E-mail, fax, or mail. The former also allows for touch tone entry once you get an observer number for entry.

For more information on the Prince Edward Island Frog Watch please visit <http://eqb-dqe.cciw.ca/emapops//frogwatch/pei/> or contact Rosemary Curley at 368-4807 (E-mail at frcurley@gov.pe.ca) and for more information on the Prince Edward Island Herpetofauna Atlas, contact Rosemary Curley at 368-4807 (E-mail at frcurley@gov.pe.ca) or Kevin Teather at 566-0325 (E-mail at kteather@upe.ca).