

# Acid rain report

BY EVELYN MEADER

In the last acid rain report I gave you a number (566-7060) to get the reading for the acidic content of rain in the Maritimes. Acid rain is measured on a PH scale on which 14 is alkaline (least acidic) and 1 is most acidic. Acid rain has a PH of less than 5.6 - a reading around 4 is the danger point when too much damage occurs. Not like golf, the lower the score, the more you are losing but in the spirit of golf, that critical number could justify a yell of "Four!"

The 1985 C.C.A.R. financial statement is interesting (don't most finances involve interest?) Receipts from the government \$100,000, receipts from the Edward Kennedy dinner \$73,000, expenses for salaries \$138,184, for communications \$171,740 and for promotion and travel \$26,228. You can see our little \$50.00 membership fee is only a drop in the acid rain bucket.

From the "Acid Rain News", April 1, 1986 (latest news received) - Henry A. Waxman and 150 members are behind a comprehensive acid rain bill, prepared for Congress. Ten million tons of sulfur dioxide and four million tons of nitrogen oxides will be eliminated by 1987 if the bill goes through. Senator Robert T. Stafford has introduced a bill leading to control of emissions, to the Senate. It looks like both houses of the U.S. government are taking acid rain seriously. Arizona is concerned with emissions from the Douglas Smelter, largest in the west. Are more restrictive controls necessary there? A California group maintains that acid rain is no problem in their state. They add that their sources of emissions are subject to the "most stringent requirements in the world".

Copies of the president's and the prime minister's statements on the joint reports of the special envoys were included with this report. The concern for us common folk is that time passes swiftly, the rain falls regularly and the government moves slowly to protect even the wee summit shamrocks.

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## SOME LATE BIRD REPORTS THAT JUST MADE IT!

- Common snipe - 1 in Miscouche, June 12 (Diane Griffin & Anna Yeo)
- Common Nighthawk - 1 calling over Prince/Fitzroy, June 15 (Margaret Mallett)
  - 1 calling over Parkdale, June 22 (MM)
- Ruby-throated hummingbird - 1 in Miscouche, June 15 (DG, Sharon & Steve Harris)
- Northern flicker - 1 at Green Park, June 26 (DG&AY)
  - 1 at Brudenell, July 2 (DG&AY)
- Eastern wood pewee - 1 singing at Fitzroy/Pownal, June 10 (MM)
- Blue jay - 1 in Miscouche, June 12 (DG&AY)
  - 1 in Green Park, June 26 (DG&AY)
- Red-eyed vireo - 1 singing, Fitzroy/Pownal St., June 10 (MM)
- Belted kingfisher - 1 in Lot 16, June 12 (DG&AY)
- American redstart - 1 in Green Park, June 26 (DG&AY)
- Purple finch - 1 in Miscouche, June 12 (DG&AY)