



NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

P.O. BOX 2346, CHARLOTTETOWN C1A 8C1

MEETINGS are held on the first Tuesday of the month (except June, July, August and September) at 8:00 p.m. at the Farm Centre on University Avenue, Charlottetown. Members and non-members are welcome.

MEMBERSHIP is open to anyone interested in the natural history of Prince Edward Island. Membership is available at any meeting or by contacting Margaret Mallett, 53 Fitzroy St., Charlottetown, P.E.I. C1A 1R4 (phone 894-9595). Annual rates are as follows: regular - \$4; student - \$2; family - \$5. Renewals are due in early January.

1988 EXECUTIVE: President.....Susan Stephenson, Winsloe 368-2789
Vice-President.....Dan McAskill, Donagh 569-4351
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Directors.....Geoff Hogan, Springvale 368-1224
.....Ruth Richman, Baldwin Road 838-2678

NEWSLETTERS are published bi-monthly. Articles, notes, reports, drawings, etc. are welcomed from members and non-members. If you have seen anything unusual, please share it with us. It is important to have your observations recorded so that others may learn from them. "Today's notations become tomorrow's history". All contributions should be sent to:

Gary Schneider,
RR#6,
Cardigan, P.E.I. COA 1G0
Phone: 838-2678

The Natural History Society gratefully acknowledges financial assistance from the Department of Transportation and Public Works which enables the newsletters to be distributed to schools and libraries and to members.

The Natural History Society of P.E.I. is a member organization of the Canadian Nature Federation. The Society is a registered, non-profit organization. Editors of other newsletters are welcome to reprint articles from the Island Naturalist (except when copyrighted) but acknowledgement would be appreciated.

This month's cover

The American Elm (*Ulmus americana*) was a favourite shade tree across Canada and the United States before the Dutch Elm disease attacked it, greatly reducing its number. The perfect flowers come in loose clusters before the leaves, and the fruit is small with a wing surrounding the seed. Because the wood is strong and resists pressure it is used for barrel staves, chopping bowls and boxes. In this issue, Ken Mayhew of the provincial Department of Energy and Forestry, discusses the threat of Dutch Elm disease to our elms in urban and rural areas.