

Blomidon Naturalists Society

Student Presentations

16 March, 2020
7:30 pm, BAC 241
Acadia University

Preserving our ecological ancestors: mapping remaining old growth forests in the Annapolis Valley to guide conservation efforts

Riley Scanlan,
Environmental Science

Old growth forests now only accounts for less than 1% of the Acadian Forest Region of Nova Scotia, down from 50%. These ecosystems provide vital roles in the carbon cycle, maintaining biodiversity and in water filtration, and are threatened by the forestry industry. This study created a predictive GIS layer which highlights forest stands with high potential to contain or become old growth. Sustainable forest management show that it is both possible and necessary to conserve old growth forests for both ecological and long-term economic interests.

Managing virus infection of raspberry crops in Annapolis Valley, Nova Scotia

Sam Stegan
Environmental Science

The North American large raspberry aphid is a major vector of two conventional raspberry viruses: raspberry leaf mottle virus and rubus yellow net virus. Virus infection in raspberries can cause detrimental reductions of crop yield and ultimately limit the agriculture economy in Nova Scotia. Learning more about the North American large raspberry aphid can help growers better control their virus load.

Adapting to a changing world, a story of Blanding's Turtles.

Carter Feltham
Biology

Many species are facing uncertain futures with the rapidly changing world, especially those who have long life spans. Blanding's Turtles are one of the longest living freshwater turtles and have been tested time and time again as the landscape is shaped by us. How have we helped and hindered our shelled friend? I will touch on my volunteer experience, behavioral observations, habitat description and my master's project on the Blanding's Turtle.