

Lichens in Nova Scotia: Diversity, Conservation, and Research

A presentation for the Blomidon Naturalist's Society

19:30 hrs, March 21, 2022

Dr. Sean R. Haughian, Curator of Botany, Nova Scotia Museum

Abstract:

Nova Scotia boasts a particularly rich and abundant lichen flora, because of its perhumid temperate climate and unique ecosystems. But have you ever stopped to wonder how lichens are doing? In this talk, Dr. Haughian offers a unique and audience-friendly window into the world of lichens and lichen research in Nova Scotia. He will provide an overview of the biology and classification of lichens, and discuss some of the conservation issues surrounding lichens. In addition, he will share some of his results from lichen studies over the last three years, including the large-scale L-ACER experiment that examines clearcut edge influence and acid pollution impacts on swamp lichen communities, and his more recent exploration of the canopy lichen communities of old growth forests.



Biography: Dr. Haughian is the Curator of Botany at the Nova Scotia Museum, and an interdisciplinary ecologist with experience ranging from plant ecology, ecosystem management, and biogeography to biodiversity monitoring and plant-climate interactions. His current research focuses on biogeographic modeling for species at risk, forest management for biodiversity, and plant and lichen conservation methods, with an emphasis on bryophytes of successional habitats and cyanolichens of old growth forests in Nova Scotia.