

LICHENS: BIOLOGY, ECOLOGY, AND IDENTIFICATION



2025 EAGLE HILL
NATURAL HISTORY
SCIENCE SEMINARS
ON THE COAST OF
EASTERN MAINE

Instructors: Troy McMullin & Philip Bell-Doyon

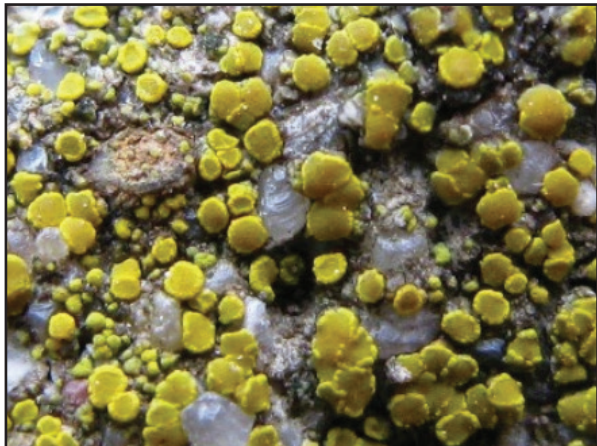
When: June 1–7, 2025

This seminar is suitable for beginners and those with an advanced understanding of lichens. It is designed to help teachers, students, those working in state or federal positions, and naturalists of all skill levels become more knowledgeable about lichens. Lichens are abundant and diverse along the coast of Maine, so participants can pursue topics of interest and develop identification skills for a wide range of species. Participants are also encouraged to bring their own specimens. This seminar emphasizes both fieldwork and laboratory studies. The main focus is on identification using books, keys, and chemical tests. Lichen chemicals will be examined with ultra-violet light, spot tests with reagents, and thin layer chromatography. Instruction will be provided on how to do these tests and how to cut sections of lichens and their fruiting bodies in order to examine internal structures with microscopy. Lichens from open, forested, and seashore habitats will be studied. Lectures and slide presentations will cover topics such as structure, reproduction, ecology, chemistry, symbiosis, human uses, and conservation. This seminar is recommended before taking more specialized lichen seminars.

[GENERAL INFO](#)

[CALENDAR](#)

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about the instructor

Dr. Troy McMullin (tmcnullin@nature.ca) is a Research Scientist and the Head of Botany at the Canadian Museum of Nature in Ottawa, Ontario. His research program is focused on the biodiversity and conservation of Canadian lichens. Troy has published extensively on many aspects of lichenology in both scientific literature and public media, including his recent books *The Secret World of Lichens* and *Lichens: The Macrolichens of Ontario and the Great Lakes Region of the United States*.

Philip Bell-Doyon (philipbelldoyon@gmail.com) is a final year PhD candidate in Biology at Laval University, Québec, Canada. He works on the biological and chemical diversity associated with intact boreal forest ecosystems. Philip focuses on lichen taxonomy and symbiosis and has published several papers in scientific journals and public media.