

# Rhode Island Wild Plant Society Press Release

## For Immediate Release

Contact: Mary Lou Upham – (401) 789-7497 or [office@riwps.org](mailto:office@riwps.org)

---

### RI WILD PLANT SOCIETY'S

## *November General Meeting*

*Saturday, November 14, 2009*

### *Program & General Meeting*



**Guest Speaker:** Keith Killingbeck, Professor of Biological Sciences & Associate Dean of the Graduate School at the University of Rhode Island.

**Time:** 1:00 – 3:00 pm

**Location:** Rhode Island Historical Society, Aldrich House, 110 Benevolent St., Providence, RI

*Adrift on the wind: the Chemistry and Charisma of Autumn Leaves*

**“Imagine a rainbow of colored leaves drifting on the crisp air of a bright autumn day. A New England treasure, no doubt, but why aren’t they green? More importantly, why are they crimson ... or lead-pencil yellow ... or that burnt orange of sassafras in early evening light? Conservation of nutrients and water is the simple answer to both questions. What is more complicated is the actual physiology of color change. As we explore all aspects of the**

metamorphosis of autumn leaves, the question of whether charisma trumps chemistry may well disappear. Both have their own allure.”

<b>1:00 – 1:30 pm</b>	<b>Business Meeting</b>
<b>1:30 – 2:00 pm</b>	<b>Refreshments &amp; Fellowship</b>
<b>2:00- 3:30 pm</b>	<b>Program</b>

**Free and open to the public**

For more information, contact the Rhode Island Wild Plant Society office at (401) 789-7497, or visit the website at [www.riwps.org](http://www.riwps.org), or e-mail us at [office@riwps.org](mailto:office@riwps.org).

**Pictures are available upon request.**