Installing and Using a Picture Post

Installation Instructions:

- 1. Place post head onto base.
- 2. Use a level to center and level the post head.
- 3. Find *True North* by setting the compass declination to the number you determined previously.

 Align an edge of the 5" octagon post head east/west with respect to true north.
- 4. Double-check your alignments.
- 5. Using permanent marker or paint, label the post head with location information and basic instructions (see photograph to the right).



Photograph Guide:

- 1. Set the camera zoom to the widest angle lens setting (aka zoomed all the way out).
- 2. Consistently align a feature of your camera to a corner or marking on the octagon.
- 3. For the first photo, place the back of the camera against the octagon so the camera is facing **North**.
- 4. Continue taking photos in a clockwise order. You will be able to arrange your photographs in the correct views when you upload them.
- 5. Shoot the last photo with the camera on its back and the lens pointing skyward.

How Often To Take Pictures?

- To study the seasonal plant cycles, at least once a day during spring "green up" and during autumn "green down".
- During the remainder of the year, take pictures once a week unless there is an event of interest that you want to capture more often.
- If possible, try to take photographs around the same time each day this standardizes sky conditions for later analysis.

