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GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL RESOURCES  
BOARD OF PESTICIDES CONTROL  
28 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

SETH H. BRADSTREET III  
COMMISSIONER

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DIRECTOR

## MEDIA ALERT

**For Immediate Release**

**Date: October 29, 2008**

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### **PESTICIDE BOARD TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO REGULATIONS GOVERNING PESTICIDE DRIFT AND AERIAL SPRAYING**

**WHO:** Maine Board of Pesticides Control

**WHAT:** Notice of Public Hearing and Comment Period

**WHEN:** Friday, November 21, 2008, 9:00 AM

**WHERE:** Bangor Motor Inn, 701 Hogan Road, Bangor

**DETAILS:** The Maine Board of Pesticides Control (BPC) will be holding a public hearing on Friday, November 21, 2008, to solicit comments from members of the public and the applicator community on proposed changes to three of the Board's rules affecting pesticide drift and aerial spraying.

***Proposed Rule Changes:***

- (1) **Chapter 10—Definitions and Terms:** amend the current rule to redefine Sensitive Area and create a new category, Sensitive Area Likely to Be Occupied, which includes public roads.
- (2) **Chapter 22—Standards for Outdoor Application of Pesticides by Powered Equipment in Order to Minimize Off-Target Deposition:** amend the current rule to include a site map for all ground applications; to create a new section specific to aerial application with upgraded site planning requirements, including positive identification of the site, a site plan, and an application checklist; and to replace existing standards for off-target residues with a "Standard of Harm" approach.
- (3) **Chapter 28—Notification Provisions for Outdoor Pesticide Applications:** amend the current rule to allow persons up to 500 feet from a ground application to request general information and/or notification about specific applications; to allow persons up to 1,500 feet from an aerial application to request general information and/or notification about specific applications; to require persons contracting for an aerial application within 1,000 feet of occupied areas to determine whether occupants desire prior notification; and to require posting of unmanaged public areas within 1,000 feet of aerial applications.

***Written Comments:***

The BPC is also accepting written comments until 5:00 PM, December 3, 2008; mail comments to Henry Jennings, Director, Board of Pesticides Control, 28 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0028, or send e-mail to [henry.jennings@maine.gov](mailto:henry.jennings@maine.gov).

**Copies of the proposed rules, as well as details on the hearing and comment period, can be found at [www.thinkfirstspraylast.org/laws/rulemaking.htm](http://www.thinkfirstspraylast.org/laws/rulemaking.htm).**

*The Maine Board of Pesticides Control is the lead state agency for pesticide regulation. It is an administrative unit of the Maine Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources, with policy decisions made by a seven-member, public board.*

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