

# Maine Stream Team Program NEWS

Networking, Education, and Stewardship

Volume 8 Issue 1

Winter 2008

## First Northeast Infestations of “Didymo” (a.k.a. “Rock Snot”) Discovered in Vermont and New Hampshire

With the discovery of the aquatic nuisance algae known commonly as “Didymo” or “rock snot” on the Vermont/New Hampshire Border in the Connecticut River region, the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife and the Maine Department of Environmental Protection are alerting boaters, anglers, kayakers, canoeists and others to take action to prevent this new invasive threat to Maine’s waters.

Didymo, which has the scientific name *Didymosphenia geminata*, can form extensive ‘blooms’ on the bottoms of rocky river beds, essentially smothering aquatic life forms such as macroinvertebrates (aquatic insects, mollusks, etc.), native algae, and other organisms. Additionally, the physical appearance of the bloom is aesthetically unpleasing, and can reduce the recreational values of a waterbody. Didymo uses stalks to attach to rocks and plants in a river system. This particular diatom creates these stalks, which can form masses 10-12 inches thick on the river bottom, and trail for lengths of 2-3 feet in the current.

“Didymo can be spread by transporting a single cell. It forms dense mats, which can kill aquatic insect life, essentially starving out fish populations in the area,” said John Boland, Director of Fisheries for IFW. “The ease with which it can be spread is a real concern for anyone who enjoys Maine’s waters. All of Maine’s rivers and streams are at risk.”

There are currently no known methods for controlling or eradicating Didymo once it infests a water body. “Preventing the spread of Didymo is our best defense,” said Tom Danielson, a biologist with the Maine Department of Environmental Protection. “We have tested algae at over two hundred locations on Maine rivers and streams, and it has not yet been detected in Maine’s waters.”



Image courtesy of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services

Didymo is generally found in colder, low nutrient, high clarity streams. However, recently there have been discoveries of Didymo in rivers and streams in warmer climates, as well as streams with more nutrients, streams with moderate clarities and even some tannic (tea colored) waters. Didymo is currently found in Europe (Scotland, Poland) and it is spreading throughout the northwestern region of the US. It is also in Quebec, British Columbia and New Zealand.

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## “Didymo”, cont.

If you feel that you have discovered Didymo, please contact the Maine Department of Environmental Protection at 1-800-452-1942 or email < milfoil@maine.gov >. For more information, visit the New Hampshire - Didymo webpages at < <http://www.des.state.nh.us/wmb/ExoticSpecies/didymo/index.html> > or the EPA webpage at <<http://www.epa.gov/Region8/water/didymosphenia/>>

*Both IFW and DEP are urging anglers and other water recreationists to use these procedures for preventing the introduction and spread of Didymo:*

### Didymo Prevention -- Check, Clean and Dry

**CHECK:** Before leaving a river's edge, look for clumps of algae and sediment, and remove them. Leave them at the site.

**CLEAN:** Soak all gear for at least one minute in a 2% (by volume) solution of household bleach, or a 5% (by volume) solution of dishwashing detergent or salt.

All surfaces must be in contact with the cleaning solution for a full minute. Water-absorbent equipment (lifejackets, waders) should be soaked thoroughly to ensure complete contact.

**DRY:** If cleaning is not practical, after the item is dry to the touch, leave it to dry for at least another 48 hours before using in another freshwater system.

## Critter Corner: North American River Otter

Running, jumping, diving, wrestling, chasing, and sliding near a river... sounds like fun doesn't it? Looks like fun too. The North American River Otter sure knows how to have a good time. Their scientific name is *Lontra canadensis* and they are very playful members of the weasel family (Mustelidae). They are common in North American waterways and an important link in the ecology of a river.

River otters have perfect bodies for life near the water. They are streamlined for swimming with a small head, short legs, webbed toes (pictured to the right), small ears and nostrils that can close underwater, and a long muscular tail. The tail itself makes up 30-40% of their entire body length! But don't count out their short legs when they need to travel on land. River otters can run up to 18 miles per hour.

The coat of a river otter is glossy and dark brown with a silver/grey throat. Their coats help the otters with swimming, insulation, and sliding on sloped land but also make them a high-priced commodity with the trapping and fur industry. Due to over-harvesting of otters for their pelts in the 1800s, river otters are listed on many state's endangered lists as well as threatened on others. Currently, they are not listed as endangered or threatened in Maine.



Image to the left from:  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern\\_River\\_Otter](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern_River_Otter)

Image below from:  
<http://www.luddist.com/otter.htm>



*Webbed feet of a river otter (above)*

River otters are important carnivorous predators in river ecosystems, eating mostly fish but also the occasional insect, amphibian, crustacean, or small mammal. This fish-based diet is economically beneficial to humans, because river otters generally eat slow swimming fish such as suckers, chubs, catfish, and carp that compete with the game fish humans are interested in. They normally hunt at night but can be active all day. A larger otter may even take down waterfowl such as ducks, geese, or herons. When hunting under the water, otters mostly use their whiskers in place of their sight, smell, and hearing because all of those are too difficult to rely on underwater. Another pretty cool hunting skill is their ability to swim in a circle, creating a whirl-pool in the water that brings *(Continued on next page)*

## Critter Corner, cont.

fish from the bottom of to the top of the water.

Otters are not commonly hunted but are sometimes eaten by bobcats, coyotes, or birds of prey. They rely on their speed and agility in the water and on land to escape predation.

Habitat requirements for a river otter are pretty basic. They need a steady supply of food and water access. The water can be in many forms such as rivers, lakes, swamps, marshes, or estuaries. A suitable home for a river otter is a hut or den on or attached to a river bank. The den has an underwater entrance that leads to a nest area above water that is lined with grass, leaves, moss, hair, and bark. These otters do not construct their own homes rather; they use abandoned ones or run off or kill a beaver or muskrat to take their home. River otters are sensitive to pollution and will leave an area that is polluted.

One way to distinguish a river otter from a

Image to the right from: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern\\_River\\_Otter](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern_River_Otter)

sea otter, since they can both live in common habitats, is in their feeding behavior. While a sea otter will always float on its back to eat its food, a river otter will bring its prey to the shore.

A river otter would not make a good pet! They may look cute and cuddly but even the most human handled otter still becomes aggressive towards humans once they hit sexual maturity. They typically bite and scratch so it is better to watch from a safe distance.



### References:

Dewey, T. and E. Ellis. 2003. "Lontra canadensis" (On-line), Animal Diversity Web. [http://animaldiversity.ummz.umich.edu/site/accounts/information/Lontra\\_canadensis.html](http://animaldiversity.ummz.umich.edu/site/accounts/information/Lontra_canadensis.html)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern\\_River\\_Otter](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern_River_Otter)

<http://www.luddist.com/otter.htm>

<http://www.yorklandtrust.org/otter.html>

[http://www.maine.gov/ifw/wildlife/species/endangered\\_species/species.htm](http://www.maine.gov/ifw/wildlife/species/endangered_species/species.htm)

<http://www.chattoogariver.org/index.php?quart=Sp2004&req=otter>

## Calendar Items



### Narraguagus River Walk

FEBRUARY 8, 2008. 3:00-5:30 p.m.; Weald Bethel, Cherryfield. Sponsored by the Narraguagus River Watershed Council and the Maine Sea Coast Mission EdGE Program. Info: 546-3313 or < [narraguagusrwc@aol.com](mailto:narraguagusrwc@aol.com) >.

### PROJECT **Wet** Educator Workshop

FEBRUARY 20, 2008. Augusta, Maine. This event will be held at the Pine Tree State Arboretum, 153 Hospital Street, Augusta (directions at < <http://pinetreestatearboretum.org/pages/directions.php> >). The cost is \$30/person (includes Project WET guide). A description of Project WET can be found at < <http://www.umaine.edu/projectwet/> >. Pre-registration is required. Call Toni Pied at (207) 621-0031 or e-mail < [ptsaedu@roadrunner.com](mailto:ptsaedu@roadrunner.com) > to register. (The snow date is February 21.)





## Calendar Items, cont.



### **Maine Water Conference 2008**

MARCH 19, 2008; Augusta, Maine. The Maine Water Conference is an annual forum for water resource professionals, researchers, consultants, citizens, students, regulators, and planners to exchange information and present new findings on water resource issues in Maine. To learn more or register, visit < <http://www.umaine.edu/waterresearch/mwc> >.

### **University of Maine -- Environmental Solutions Initiative Seminar: "Piloting the Nation's First Watershed Center of Excellence"**

MARCH 20, 2008. Room 107, Norman Smith Hall, UMaine, Orono. Laurie Fowler, Director of Policy, University of Georgia (UGA) River Basin Center, will be giving this presentation. In 2006, with funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Georgia Environmental Protection Division, the UGA River Basin Center became the nation's first "Watershed Center of Excellence", charged with increasing the capacity of stakeholders within the Upper Altamaha Watershed in Georgia to restore water quality. Fowler will explain EPA's goals for the Center, criteria for project selection, project delivery which involves students in every aspect, and similar efforts now underway at universities throughout the nation.



### **River Management Society Annual Meeting: "Branching Out From the Mainstream"**

MAY 12-15, 2008; Portland, Maine. Topics covered include: assessment and restoration techniques and case studies, managing river programs and projects, partnerships and urban river issues, dam removal, the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, nature deficit disorder & environmental education, and other topics. Field trips and rafting trips around Maine and Massachusetts are available. For details point your Internet browser to < <http://www.river-management.org/symposium-2008/Home.htm> >. Early registration deadline is March 1.



### **National River Clean Up Week**

MAY 31 - JUNE 8, 2008; Nationwide. For more information and to register, visit: < <http://www.nationalrivercleanup.org/> >.



## Announcements



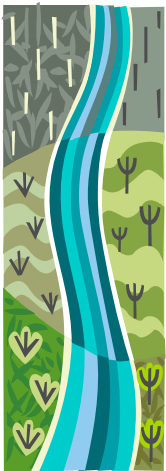
### **Penobscot River Restoration Project Makes Significant Breakthrough – Congress and NOAA Commit \$10 Million**

Ten million dollars from the FY08 Omnibus Appropriations Bill passed in December 2007 will be directed to the Penobscot River Restoration Project. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) funding committed toward the project will be used to purchase three dams (Veazie, Great Works, and Howland), begin the engineering and design phase of the project, and allow the Penobscot River Restoration Trust (Penobscot Trust) to move toward implementation. The Penobscot Trust, working with the project's diverse public and private partners, proposes to remove the two dams closest to the sea (Veazie and Great Works) and bypass the Howland dam with a state-of-the-art fishway. Fully implemented, the project will maintain virtually all of the hydroelectric generation produced by PPL in the river (*Continued on next page*)



## ((( Announcements, cont. )))

through innovative energy enhancements at other dams. The project will help restore native fisheries by markedly improving access to nearly 1000 miles of key habitat for Atlantic salmon, endangered shortnose sturgeon, American shad, and 8 other species of sea-run fish that once supported a vibrant Penobscot River. For more information, visit < <http://www.penobscotrivers.org/> >.



### **Preliminary Agreement Reached on Presumpscot River Fishways**

The Presumpscot River's best days are ahead of it, thanks to a landmark agreement to remove the Cumberland Mills dam. Sappi Fine Paper North America, American Rivers, Maine Department of Marine Resources, the Friends of the Presumpscot River and the United States Fish and Wildlife Services reached a preliminary agreement in July 2007 and they are expected to complete a final settlement soon. Removing the dam and the certainty of fish passage upstream will help restore the fishery on the river and help the surrounding communities thrive. Portions of the preliminary agreement include removing all components of the Cumberland Mills Dam, installing fish lifts at Saccarappa Dam, and initiating a trap and truck program to jump-start the restoration of native sea-run species in the upper Presumpscot River. These measures will be the start of a series of actions that are likely to establish fish passage upriver, create improved fishing and jumpstart enhanced recreational opportunities. To learn more about this agreement, check out < <http://www.americanrivers.org/> > and then click on "Press Releases" and then "Press Archive". The press release was dated July 10, 2007.

### **Saco River Fish Passage Agreement Celebrated**

The Saco River got an important boost in November 2007 as natural resources agencies, FPL Energy, conservation groups, and state, federal, and local governments gathered at Saco City Hall to celebrate and recognize the objectives set out in the new 2007 Saco River Fish Passage Agreement. After the ceremony, attendees toured the Cataract Dam and its fish lift facilities and the Saco River Salmon Club Hatchery. FPL Energy, owner of the six hydroelectric facilities on the Saco.



### **Penobscot River, Penobscot Bay: State of the Watershed -- Draft Available for Review**

A draft table of contents for Penobscot River, Penobscot Bay: State of the Watershed is available for review and comment at: <http://www.covebrook.org/LPWC/index.html>. This outline was developed via workshops with the Lower Penobscot Watershed Coalition, scientists, managers, and other entities. Feedback is welcome. Please contact Catherine Schmitt at < [catherine.schmitt@umit.maine.edu](mailto:catherine.schmitt@umit.maine.edu) > or 207/581-1434.

Catherine and Gayle Zydlewski will be working this winter with partners at College of the Atlantic to develop some example maps and data products, and will be seeking funding to create the report and associated Web site. Please let Catherine know if you or your organization are interested in working with them on moving this project forward. Additional information on Penobscot River research is available on the Penobscot River Synthesis Web site at: < <http://www.pearl.maine.edu/windows/penobscot/index.htm> >.

### **New Water Withdrawal Regulations Implemented for Maine**

Chapter 587, "In-stream Flows and Lake and Pond Water Levels", was a major substantive rule that became effective on August 24, 2007. Its purpose is to protect natural aquatic life and other designated uses in Maine's waters. For more details, visit < <http://www.maine.gov/dep/blwq/topic/flow/index.htm> >.



(((  **Announcements, cont.**  )))

### Union River Watershed Coalition Announces E-Mail Newsletter

The Union River Watershed Coalition (URWC) has announced that it now has an e-mail newsletter so that interested citizens can keep in better touch about what they are doing and ways to get involved. The programs and projects the URWC will be working on in 2008 include: environmental education, baseline study, youth watershed forum, public access and land protection, annual Card Brook clean-up, public meetings, etc. To sign up for the newsletter, visit < <http://list-manage.com/subscribe.phtml?id=784bb5cccb> >.



### Narraguagus River Watershed Council News Summary

The Narraguagus River Watershed Council (NRWC) outreach office has moved to the Little Falls Field Station (LFFS) which is situated on a scenic bluff overlooking "Little Falls" on the Narraguagus River. LFFS is located at 528 Main Street (Route 193) in Cherryfield. NRWC office hours are by chance or appointment. The council and its volunteers have been busy correcting soil erosion problems, improving fish passage and water flow conditions, and water quality monitoring at a number of locations throughout the watershed including roads, culverts, and boat launches. For more information about council activities or to schedule an appointment, call (207) 545-3313 or email < [tgamache@mainesalmonrivers.org](mailto:tgamache@mainesalmonrivers.org) >.

### Fundamentals of Urban Runoff Management Book Available Online for Free

A newly-updated version of the widely-read, comprehensive, and respected book, The Fundamentals of Urban Runoff Management manual, is available to the public exclusively on the North American Lake Management Society (NALMS) website. You may download it in either of two versions, low-resolution and high-resolution, at < <http://www.nalms.org/Resources/FundamentalsOfUrbanRunoffManagement.aspx> >.

### Stream Barrier Removal Monitoring Guide Now Available

The River Restoration Monitoring Committee of the Gulf of Maine Council is pleased to announce the publication of the Stream Barrier Removal Monitoring Guide at < <http://gulfofmaine.org/streambarrierremoval> >. The Stream Barrier Removal Monitoring Guide provides a framework and detailed methods of critical monitoring parameters for use at dam and culvert removal sites in the Gulf of Maine watershed. When analyzed collectively, the eight parameters will allow restoration practitioners to document the physical, chemical, and biological effects of stream barrier removal. The critical monitoring parameters include monumented cross sections, longitudinal profile, grain size distribution, photo stations, water quality, riparian plant community structure, macroinvertebrates, and fish passage.



The Guide presents the scientific context for barrier removal and gives detailed methods and data sheets for six parameters. The Guide is based on the input of more than 70 scientists, natural resource managers, engineers, consultants, and staff from non-governmental organizations across New England and Canada.

### States (Including Maine) Chosen for Unique Source Water Protection Project

The Trust for Public Land, the Smart Growth Leadership Institute, the Association of Drinking Water Administrators and River Network are pleased to announce that Maine, New Hampshire and Ohio have been selected for the first round of demonstrations under a unique project to align State water quality protection and land use programs and policies to better protect drinking water sources. These three States demonstrated a high level of commitment to source water protection, as well as timely policy initiatives and support for finding linkages among State programs. For more information on project details, the project team, and information on the next round of applications visit: < <http://www.landuseandwater.org> >.



(( ( < > )) **Announcements, cont.** < > ))



**Maine Field Guide to Invasive Aquatic Plants and their Common Native Look Alikes Now Available**

Newly updated and expanded, the Field Guide focuses on the eleven invasive aquatic plants currently listed by Maine law as imminent threats to Maine waters. Also featured are many native aquatic plants commonly confused with these eleven invasive species. Photographs, illustrations and narrative descriptions are presented for each of the featured species, along with a variety of cross-reference tools for easy comparison of similar species. This 160-page reference--spiral bound and printed on tear-resistant waterproof paper--is built to hold up well to conditions in the field (including inclement weather and the occasional dunking). This document was produced by the Maine Center for Invasive Aquatic Plants and the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program. To purchase copies or view the PDF version, check out the announcement mid-way down the webpage at < <http://www.mainevolunteerlakemonitors.org/publications/> >.

**Wells Barren (Headwaters Region for Branch Brook [York County]) Secured for Water Resources and Wildlife Habitat**

In November 2007, fifteen years after negotiations began, a 560-acre parcel in Wells has been acquired and shall be preserved through a partnership between the Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, & Wells Water District, and The Nature Conservancy. The Wells Barren property is adjacent to the State's Kennebunk Plains Wildlife Management Area and is critical to preserving both drinking water supplies and some of the rarest species and natural communities in Maine. "With this purchase we've protected a significant portion of the headwaters of Branch Brook," said Water District Superintendent Norm Labbe. "Our job is to provide clean, safe drinking water at a reasonable cost to some of Maine's fastest growing communities. Securing this tract of land in its natural state will greatly aid in protecting the Branch Brook watershed." More information can be found at < <http://www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/maine/press/press3194.html> >.



**Reducing Stormwater Costs through Low Impact Development (LID) Strategies and Practices**

This new report contains 17 case studies from across the country that illustrate the economic viability of LID practices. Using these practices in construction projects can lower costs while improving environmental results. The report highlights examples that, in most cases, reduce project costs while improving environmental performance. Total capital savings ranged from 15 to 80 percent, with a few exceptions. To access this new report, please visit < <http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/lid/costs07> >.

**New U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service - Maine Fisheries Program Complex Website**



At the new Complex website you'll find all three Maine Complex Fisheries offices represented at the touch of a mouse: Craig Brook National Fish Hatchery (E. Orland); Maine Fishery Resources Office (E. Orland); and Green Lake National Fish Hatchery (Ellsworth). The new website offers resources and information on topics such as education & outreach, visitor opportunities, calendar of events, photo gallery, Friends of Craig Brook, history, maps, directions, and links to partner websites. The website address is < <http://www.fws.gov/northeast/mainefisheries/> >.



((( **Announcements, cont.** )))

### Underwater Photographs of Maine's Aquatic Life

A number of underwater photos of aquatic life and habitats in Maine lakes are available at the Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program website at < <http://www.mainevolunteerlakemonitors.org/LakeLife/> >.

### Safety on Ice Brochure

To view a handy brochure created by the New Hampshire Fish & Game Department, visit < [http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/Fishing/Fishing\\_PDFs/Safety\\_on\\_ice.pdf](http://www.wildlife.state.nh.us/Fishing/Fishing_PDFs/Safety_on_ice.pdf) >. For additional safety tips regarding ice conditions, visit < <http://www.state.me.us/ifw/fishing/regulations/icefishing.htm> >.



## \$\$ Grant Opportunities \$\$

For more comprehensive results, we refer you to the recently updated New England Environmental Finance Center Network Directory of Watershed Resources at: < <http://efc.muskie.usm.maine.edu/tools.html> >. The Directory is a free, searchable database of environmental funding programs and other support. It provides up-to-date information on assistance available from federal and state government, private foundations, corporations and other organizations. The directory has just been updated to include nearly 300 programs with a New England focus, and includes over 320 national funding/assistance sources as well. Programs listed in the Directory support a wide range of environmental activities including watershed restoration, land conservation, capacity building and education. The Directory includes over 600 Federal, State and Private funding and assistance programs for which New England organizations are eligible to apply.

Funder	Region	Deadline(s)	Website
Coastal Counties Restoration Initiative (CCRI)	Priority area: removal of fish passage barriers in coastal streams / rivers.	Mar 24	<a href="http://www.naco.org/ccri">http://www.naco.org/ccri</a>
Five Star Restoration Challenge Grants	Nationwide	Feb 15	<a href="http://www.nfwf.org/fivestar">http://www.nfwf.org/fivestar</a>
FishAmerica Foundation -- Marine and Anadromous Fish Habitat Restoration	Nationwide	Feb 11	<a href="http://www.fishamerica.org/grants/">http://www.fishamerica.org/grants/</a>
Jessie B. Cox Charitable Trust	NH, VT, <b>ME</b> , MA, RI, CT	Jan 15, Apr 15, Jul 15 or Oct 15 (Concept paper)	<a href="http://www.hemenwaybarnes.com">http://www.hemenwaybarnes.com</a> (click on "Select Client Services", then on "Philanthropic Services", look towards
Merk Family Fund: Protecting & Restoring Vital Eastern Ecosystems	GA, KY, <b>ME</b> , NC, NH, SC, TN, VA, VT	Mar 1 and Aug 1 (initial letter of inquiry required)	<a href="http://www.merckff.org/programs_protecting.html">http://www.merckff.org/programs_protecting.html</a> <a href="http://www.merckff.org/grantguidelines">http://www.merckff.org/grantguidelines</a> .
New England Grassroots	CT, MA, <b>ME</b> , NH, RI, and VT	Jan 15, May 1, Sept 15	<a href="http://www.grassrootsfund.org">http://www.grassrootsfund.org</a>
Wharton Trust	<b>ME</b> , MA, NH, CT, RI, VT	Mar 1 or Sep 15. (preliminary applica-	<a href="http://www.williamphwhartontrust.org">http://www.williamphwhartontrust.org</a>

## Grant Opportunities, cont.

**National Fish & Wildlife Foundation - Browse Special Grant Programs Grants Page** (numerous grants are listed) < [http://www.nfwf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Browse\\_All\\_Programs](http://www.nfwf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Browse_All_Programs) >

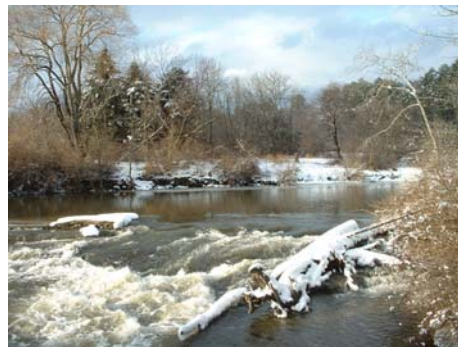
**New England Environmental Finance Center Network Directory of Watershed**  
< <http://efc.muskie.usm.maine.edu/tools.html> >

**U. S. Environmental Protection Agency - Watershed Funding Sites**  
< <http://www.epa.gov/owow/funding.html> > and < [www.epa.gov/watershedfunding](http://www.epa.gov/watershedfunding) >



### **Invitation: Workshop On Maine DEP Nonpoint Source Watershed Projects (“319 Grants”)**

Maine DEP invites you to attend a workshop intended to help prospective grant applicants and grantees learn more about developing and administering NPS Watershed Projects funded under the DEP's NPS Grants Program. Each year DEP awards over \$600,000 in federal grant funds (section 319, Clean Water Act) for NPS Watershed Projects using a competitive Request For Proposals (RFP). These grants help control NPS pollution to restore or protect lakes, streams, or coastal waters that are impaired or considered threatened. If you are a past, current, or potential applicant or recipient of a NPS grant award and are thinking about applying for a grant this year, we encourage you to join us, hear a few “do’s” and “don’ts” for preparing and implementing grant work plans, and get feedback about YOUR ideas for an NPS Watershed Project. DEP anticipates the next NPS grants RFP will be issued in April 2008. Please pre-register before February 29. More details can be found at < <http://www.maine.gov/dep/blwq/docgrant/319.htm> >.



**If you would like to receive your copy of the newsletter faster or want to save paper, sign up for our e-mail list! Let the MSTP know by using our contact information on the last page.**





Maine Stream Team Program  
c/o Maine DEP  
312 Canco Road  
Portland, Maine 04103

*Return Service Requested*

## How Do I Join the MSTP?

It's easy! First, choose a stream or stream segment. Next, obtain a "stream team registration form" by contacting us, or simply fill out the online registration form. After registering, you will receive some helpful information and begin to receive our periodic newsletter to help you stay up-to-date.

Membership to the program is free to any interested citizen, family, or organization. Once you have a "Team" and a stream, you're set! You can determine your stream's values and problems, and you can plan projects based on your assessments. You establish the course of events in protecting your stream. The Maine Stream Team Program will help you with ideas, advice, and informational materials.

### Contact The Maine Stream Team Program (MSTP):

**Mail:** Maine Stream Team Program, c/o Maine DEP, 312 Canco Road, Portland, ME 04103

**E-mail:** [mstp@maine.gov](mailto:mstp@maine.gov)

**Internet:** <http://www.maine.gov/dep/blwq/docstream/team/streamteam.htm>

**Phone:** 1-888-769-1036 (toll free) – ask for the Maine Stream Team Program; Jeff Varricchione, Portland, coordinator (207-822-6317); Margaret Chabot, Portland, AmeriCorps volunteer (207-822-6331); Mary-Ellen Dennis, Augusta (207- 287-7729) ; or Mark Whiting, Bangor (207-941-4566).

