



# NonPoint Source Times

Volume 14 , Issue 4      Fall 2005

## Five Years of On-the-Ground Projects to Protect Sebago Lake

Watershed Property Consultations and Lake Stewards Grants

Contrary to the popular slogan, it is possible to have it all. It *is* possible to develop land adjacent to a lake without destroying the lake in the process. The Portland Water District (PWD) has a grant program designed to help property owners near Sebago Lake make their land lake friendly, user friendly, and beautiful. The process starts with a Watershed Property Consultation (WPC) visit. After receiving a WPC, property owners are eligible for a Lake Stewards Grant (LSG) to implement the improvement project.

### **BMPs – a Win-Win Proposition**

The good news about lake protection is this: what benefits one lake user benefits all of us. A clean lake is good for business, for fishing, for vacationing, for boating, and for drinking water. A clean lake is what we are all striving for, regardless of how we use it. Identifying and using best management practices (BMPs) – lake friendly ways of developing and using land around the lake – is a win-win proposition. BMPs allow for reasonable development and human activity to occur while at the same time protecting the quality of water in the lake that everyone shares. Development that includes BMPs is an alternative to no development at all.

### **The Lake is a Reflection of the Watershed**

There are 300,000 acres of land – more than 450 square miles – that contribute runoff to

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Sebago Lake. This watershed is like a large funnel, directing water toward the lake. Human activity throughout this 450 square mile area impacts the quality

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of water in large and small ways as it winds its way to the lake. Lake water quality serves as kind of a final exam – the quality of the water in the lake tells us how well we are doing protecting water quality throughout the watershed. All of the land in the watershed matters. Runoff pollution begins - and ends - with each of us.

### **The Most Critical Part of the Watershed**

But all of the land in the watershed does not matter equally. Though activity throughout the watershed can impact the lake, the land closest to the lake is the most critical. Runoff from land adjacent to the lake is in the lake soon after, providing little opportunity for cleaning of the water through settling and other natural processes. For this reason, shoreland zoning rules apply throughout Maine to land within 250 feet of water bodies. This is not because watershed land that is further away than that doesn't matter, just that the closer the land is, the quicker runoff from it can get to the lake. How land is developed in the shoreland zone will have a bigger impact on how clean the lake will be. Because our customers drink the water from Sebago Lake, it is in their interest, and that of the property owners around the lake, to see that the shoreland zone is developed wisely. This is why the WPC and LSG programs are focused on the direct watershed of Sebago Lake. The direct watershed is defined as the land that drains directly to Sebago Lake or its tributary rivers, and covers over 142,000 acres. Land that drains into another lake or pond before feeding the tributaries rivers to Sebago Lake is considered the indirect watershed.

### **Lake Stewards Grants**

Protecting this critical land adjacent to the lake is the goal of the Portland Water District's Lake Stewards Grants program. This program, in place for more than 5 years, provides grant money to property owners who implement BMPs on their land. Since 2000, PWD has granted more than \$70,000 to 55 property owners in the seven towns that border Sebago Lake (Standish, Windham, Raymond, Casco, Frye Island, Naples and Sebago). Because this is a matching grant program, over \$140,000 in time and money has been spent to reduce stormwater runoff and protect the quality of Sebago Lake. Table 1 summarizes the grant amounts by town.

<b>Town</b>	<b>Number of Grants</b>	<b>Amount Awarded</b>
Casco	17	\$20,002
Frye Island	14	\$16,991
Naples	3	\$3,256
Raymond	7	\$9,458
Sebago	10	\$16,727
Standish	3	\$2,090
Windham	1	\$1,640
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>\$70,164</b>

Projects that have been funded have been as diverse as the needs of the many property owners. They have included road reconstruction, redesigned ditches, establishing winding paths to the lake, stormwater diverters to direct runoff into the woods, vegetated buffers, and more. Table 2 lists the types of BMP improvements that have been made through the Lake Stewards Grants program. When done properly, BMPs are both effective and attractive.

<b>BMPs supported by Lake Stewards Grants</b>	
vegetated buffer planting	ditch stabilization/ installation
waterbars	turnouts
open-top culverts	settling basins
culvert installation	Downstream Defender
rip-rap stabilization	checkdams
dry wells	re-grading camp roads
drip line trench	path delineation
rain garden	

**How Does Someone Apply?**

If a property is within the area shown in Figure 1, the direct watershed of Sebago Lake, contact us. We will set up a Watershed Property Consultation to evaluate the property and identify existing or potential runoff and erosion problems that could impact the water quality of the lake. Walking the site with the property owner is a valuable tool; not only do we learn about what the concerns are to the property owner, but also have a valuable outreach opportunity to identify and discuss issues that they might not be aware of.

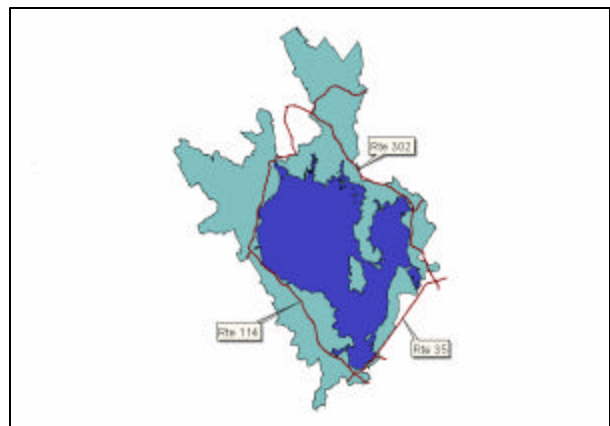
PWD staff will make recommendations and produce a report detailing the lake friendly BMPs that will reduce the quantity and improve the quality of runoff from your property. We also put in writing the grant award that we are willing to make. There is no charge or obligation for this service. If the homeowner agrees with the recommendations and chooses to have some or all of the work done, they can go ahead and hire the contractor and make the improvements. If you want help working with the contractor, just ask. Once the project is complete, submit all invoices and we send a check for an amount up to the total grant award.

**Who is Eligible?**

To ensure the grant money does the most good, the program is directed to the most critical parts of the Sebago Lake watershed. Figure 1 illustrates the parts of the seven bordering towns that are eligible for funding.

**How Much Money is Available?**

For 2005, a total of \$27,000 has been set aside to fund Lake Stewards Grants projects. The amount of money available depends on the project. Those with the most lake protection value will be awarded the most grant money. Individual property owners are eligible for an award of up to \$1000. Road Associations, businesses and municipalities are eligible for awards of up to \$2500. The grant program requires a minimum of a 50-50 match. This means the grant can be used for up to half the total cost of the project. A project that costs a total of \$1000 may be eligible for up to a \$500 grant.



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### **How are We Doing?**

As of August 1<sup>st</sup>, the number of WPCs conducted by the Water Resource Specialist staff is 38. For comparison, 40 WPCs were conducted during the entire 2004 season. Nearly \$18,000 in grant funds have already been allocated for projects in 2005. As in previous years, it is anticipated that the majority of grant application will be received in late summer or early fall.

### **Who to Contact**

If you have questions about the grant program or want to schedule a site visit, contact Water Resource Specialist Mary Gilbertson at 774-5961, ext. 3336.

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## Lakes Could Stay Soup for Centuries

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UW study finds that phosphorus, at high levels, is staying put By LEE BERGQUIST lberquist@journalsentinel.com  
Posted: June 13, 2005

A University of Wisconsin-Madison researcher says that it could take hundreds of years, in the best of circumstances, to reverse conditions that have turned countless lakes into bowls of pea soup. The study shows that the buildup of phosphorus in soil - a phenomenon that began only 60 years ago - is likely to be the source of environmental problems in watersheds long into the future.



Phosphorous comes primarily from fertilizer and animal feed, and over time, it has clogged soils. Eventually it washes into streams, rivers and lakes in watersheds where it is applied.

But a new study of Lake Mendota's watershed by limnologist Stephen R. Carpenter shows that higher-than-anticipated amounts of phosphorus clog the soil and will take hundreds of years to wend its way there.

That means, even under optimum conditions, Lake Mendota will long suffer from eutrophication - a form of pollution caused by nutrient-rich soil washing into waterways.

Phosphorus promotes excessive weed growth, which then depletes oxygen, leading to fish kills. The phosphorous also can stimulate the growth of some toxic forms of algae.

The results surprised Carpenter. Using mathematical models and data gleaned from soil and water samples, he thought the phosphorus would run through the soil and out of the lakes in a much shorter period.

Carpenter's study was reported Monday in the online edition of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

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In an interview, he said the findings could be applied to most other lakes where he believes agricultural practices have leaned too heavily on phosphorus as a fertilizer.

Lake Mendota is one of the most studied lakes in the world. Ringed by metropolitan Madison, 80% of its watershed comes from the rich soil outside of the city.

Starting this year, the City of Madison has implemented a phosphorus ban on fertilizer, but Carpenter said that no similar action is taking place outside of the city.

Carpenter's recommendations: Reduce the amount of fertilizers containing phosphorus and limit feed containing phosphorous to sources within the watershed. By doing that, less phosphorous from outside the region would wind up in the watershed, and ultimately the lake. Planting buffer strips around streams, rivers and lakes also would reduce eutrophication.

The biggest help would come from cutting soil erosion rates, Carpenter said.

"It's a very complicated policy question," he said.

Rod Nilsestuen, secretary of the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, agreed.

"This has long been recognized as a problem," he said.

Many farmers have been cutting phosphorus in their fertilizer for years, he said.

New studies have shown that a healthy pasture not overpopulated by livestock protects watersheds as much as cutting fertilizers, he said.

Nilsestuen noted that Wisconsin is in the process of updating its non-point pollution law and requiring farmers to write management plans aimed at cutting both nitrogen, and now, phosphorus from the soil.



The problem, however, is that for most farmers to meet the law, they must write a plan that relies on 70% funding by the state. State officials have acknowledged that the state's share to help farmers write the plan is under funded.

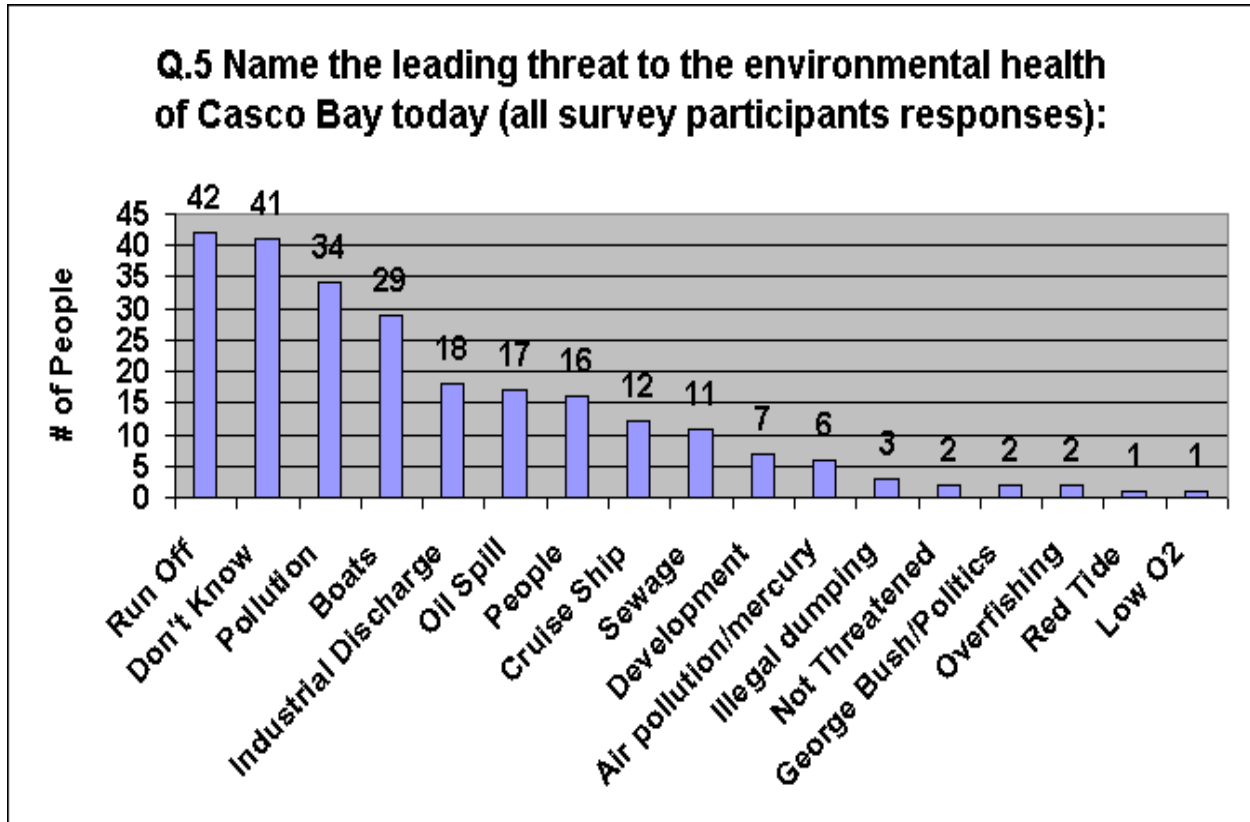
From  
<http://www.jsonline.com/news/state/jun05/333433.asp>

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## Opinion Survey: 42 People Say “Runoff” is Water Quality Threat to Casco Bay

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A student from USM's Media Studies Dept. did a survey for the Friends of Casco Bay last winter. He was able to interview 244 people with a few questions regarding the Friends of Casco Bay and issues affecting Casco Bay. The table below indicates the top of the mind responses the student received to the question asking for the leading environmental threat to Casco Bay. .



The good news is 17% said runoff and they listed runoff more than industrial discharges (7%)! The bad news is 17% didn't feel comfortable to take a guess (don't know). Fourteen percent (14%) indicated pollution, which has been suggested to mean litter or trash.

It appears progress is being made to change people's thinking from point source problems to nonpoint source related issues (runoff, pollution/trash, boats, people, development).

For more information on this survey contact Mary M. Cerullo, Associate Director of Friends of Casco Bay (207) 799-8574 ext 203 or [mcerullo@cascobay.org](mailto:mcerullo@cascobay.org)

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## Pavement Sealants Polluting Local Waters

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When city workers in Austin, Texas, detected unusually high concentrations of carcinogenic PAHs in sediments near the popular Barton Springs swimming hole, they were initially stumped about where the contaminants could be coming from. The research inspired by the unexpected discovery led to findings published in this issue of *ES&T* (pp [5560–5566](#)) that suggest that parking-lot sealants could account for most of the PAHs in urban lakes and streams in Austin and nationwide.



Sealants are applied to parking lots and driveways to protect the underlying asphalt pavement from the elements and to enhance appearance. In the Austin area alone, about 600,000 gallons of sealant are applied annually, according to local industry estimates; no one knows how much is used nationally. However, until the Austin discovery, investigators had overlooked such sealants as urban PAH sources, says Barbara Mahler, a research hydrologist for the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and lead author of the paper.

Nancy McClintock, assistant director of Austin's Watershed Protection and Development Review Department, says that the serendipitous discovery took place "when we started seeing PAH hot spots in our creek sediments. No one [in the technical community] could offer a plausible explanation for the highest PAH numbers we observed." Total PAH levels in these hot spots were frequently an order of magnitude above background levels of other urban streams in Austin and reached concentrations as high as parts per thousand.

City workers traced PAH hot spots with increasing concentrations back to certain tributaries, where they noticed parking lots draining into the streams. PAHs are ubiquitous contaminants in urban environments, and parking lots are known to be sources because of automobile exhaust, lubricating oils, gasoline, tire particles, and atmospheric deposition.

Still, these sources "didn't make sense for the really high numbers we were getting," McClintock notes. Additional investigations uncovered that the sealants being used contained coal tar, a known human carcinogen that contains 50% or more PAHs by weight. The two primary sealants used nationwide are coal-tar-based and asphalt-based emulsions.

Once a critical mass of clues pointing to PAHs had emerged, the city invited USGS researchers to sample runoff from 13 parking lots that represented a range of sealant types and from 4 test plots at a closed area airport. They found that PAH concentrations in particulates in runoff from lots with coal-tar-based sealants were 65 times higher than those from unsealed concrete and asphalt surfaces, with mean PAH concentrations of 3500 ppm. Mean PAH concentrations from asphalt-sealed lots were 620 ppm, more than 10 times higher than those from unsealed surfaces. Further analysis showed that the PAHs in the stream sediments more closely matched those from the coal-tar-sealed lot runoff than from asphalt-sealed or unsealed ones.

"The [sealant] material abrades quickly, especially in areas of high traffic," Mahler ex-

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plains. Moreover, if parking-lot purveyors follow the manufacturers' recommendations to reseal every two to three years, they are unwittingly ensuring a continuous release of PAHs. "It looks like much of the PAH load in the watersheds we investigated could be coming just from the sealants," she adds, noting that loads could be reduced to 5–11% of present levels if all lots were left unsealed.

A recently completed, decade-long USGS sediment core study, which is also in this issue of *ES&T* (pp 5567–5574), shows that PAH levels are increasing in most urban lakes and reservoirs nationwide, Mahler adds. "We don't know yet that these are increasing because of parking-lot sealants, but it suggests that these increasing PAH concentrations in areas where there's any development are certainly becoming more of a concern."

The pavement sealant industry "is looking at factors that influence PAH discharge from sealants, but we don't have any suitable alternatives at this time," says Kevin Hardin, chairman of the Pavement Coatings Technology Center, which is a joint enterprise of industry and the University of Nevada, Reno.

As a result of the study, Austin will be considering a ban on coal-tar-based sealants, McClintock says. The U.S. EPA declined *ES&T's* request to comment on the research. — KRIS CHRISTEN

This article was taken from <http://pubs.acs.org/subscribe/journals/esthag-a/39/i15/html/080105news1.html>

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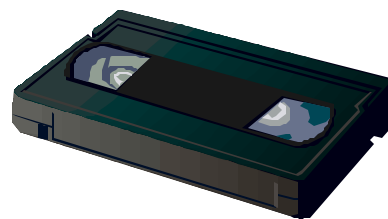
## Two New Forestry BMP Videos

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The N.C. Division of Forest Resources Forestry Nonpoint Source (NPS) Unit has produced two Best Management Practice (BMP) videos for North Carolina's logging and forestry community outlining proper practices to use when establishing stream crossings during forestry operations. The two videos, entitled "Forestry Stream Crossings with Bridgemats," and "Forestry Stream Crossings," were funded through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Nonpoint Source Management / Section-319 Grant Program. A limited number of video copies are available free of charge from the NC Division of Forest Resources, on either VHS or DVD. The total viewing time is approximately 35 minutes.

For free copies, contact:

Forestry NPS Unit  
NC- DFR, DENR  
1616 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-1616  
(919) 733 - 2162 ext.250



Copies can also be requested on-line at:

[http://www.dfr.state.nc.us/water\\_quality/wq\\_inforequestform.asp](http://www.dfr.state.nc.us/water_quality/wq_inforequestform.asp)

Each video also contains a five-page outline, suitable to be photocopied and handed out to

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workshop participants. This outline summarizes the 'take home' message of each video, including some of the Best Management Practices (BMPs) to be implemented for stream crossings as well as some common mistakes to avoid.

Portable bridgemats are highlighted in the first video as the most efficient and effective way to protect water quality and the stream's structure when crossing over a stream during a harvest operation.

The N.C. Division of Forest Resources' has wooden and steel bridgemats available state-wide for loggers to borrow and learn how to use bridgemats or, in some cases, to supplement a set of bridgemats already being used by the logger.

The second video reviews all three of the most frequently used stream crossing methods, including:

- Bridgemats;
- Culverts;
- Fords (these are low-water, hard-surface crossings)

These videos will be used as a component of the required continuing education module for 2005 - 2006. This module is being developed for the North Carolina ProLogger logger-training program in cooperation with the North Carolina Forestry Association. ProLogger provides training and education to loggers and in-woods workers that focuses on good environmental, business, and safety practices. Annual refresher training is required for each participant to retain his or her ProLogger status.

These videos mark the first in a series of short, informational videos produced by the N.C. Division of Forest Resources that will address water quality topics and BMPs for North Carolina forestry activities.

Copies of these videos are being distributed to the Division's District and Regional Offices, Educational State Forests, State Forests, and Forestry Centers for internal use and support of external BMP Program delivery.

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## RFP for Lake Phosphorus Reduction Grants

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Maine DEP is pleased to announce a new RFP for "Stormwater Compensation Fund Grants to Reduce Phosphorus Export in Lake Watersheds" (Stormwater Compensation Fund) is available at DEP website under the "RFPs" page, <http://www.maine.gov/dep/blwq/rfp.htm>

DEP is seeking proposals for "Stormwater Compensation Projects" to reduce watershed phosphorus export in lake watersheds that received compensation fee payments. Stormwater Compensation Projects are intended to achieve long-term elimination or reduction of chronic phosphorus sources. Currently there are funds available for 19 lake watersheds listed in table below.

Maine's Stormwater Management Law (38 M.R.S.A. §420-D.11.) authorizes DEP to accept a compensation fee in lieu of some of the phosphorus reduction necessary from a project to meet its phosphorus allocation for projects in lake watersheds. The law authorizes DEP

to establish a non-lapsing Compensation Fund to receive these fees. The Compensation Fund is dedicated to the payment of the cost and related expenses of compensation projects.

An organization or individual is eligible to receive a grant provided they can comply with the standard provisions of a grant agreement with the State of Maine. The deadline for submitting a proposal is Thursday **October 6, 2005**.

Read the RFP for information about how to apply for a grant, types of projects sought, terms and conditions of grant awards and grant processing timetable. Interested persons may download the RFP from the DEP website. For assistance or if you would like a paper copy of the RFP contact: Norm Marcotte, DEP. Email: [norm.g.marcotte@maine.gov](mailto:norm.g.marcotte@maine.gov) or voice: 207-287-7727

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## Cost & Reputation Most Important When Homeowner is Hiring Contractor

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Bill Laflamme has been surveying folks this summer who participated in watershed survey and LakeSmart training. One of the issues he has been trying to gather information on is how do people select an excavation contractor.

The results are interesting but no surprising. Most people reported they obtain a contractor through word of mouth and place a major emphasis on reputation and past performance.

Erosion control certification is not that important of a consideration although erosion control on the excavation project is. It is also interesting to note that over 83% of the respondents never heard of the Contractor Certification program but over 40% would utilize a certified contractor provided costs were similar.

Finally they best way to provide information to folks is (in order of preference) : direct mail, newsletters and web sites. Remember this is self reporting and may not accurately reflect which method is actually EFFECTIVE.

For more information regarding the survey contact Bill at [William.n.laflamme@maine.gov](mailto:William.n.laflamme@maine.gov) or (207) 287-7726

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## Outcome - NPS Grants Request for Proposals

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### **FFY 2006 Grants for NPS Water Pollution Control Projects**

In a July 29 press release, DEP announced more than three quarters of a million dollars will fund 14 projects designed to reduce pollution in Maine's lakes and streams. NPS projects help local communities recognize water pollution sources in watersheds and take action to restore or protect clean water. Governor John Baldacci notes that "Maine's program is nationally respected. For years, we have invested not just in fixing problems, but in preventing them from occurring as well. That's cost effective and smart."

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NPS grants will be funded with anticipated federal fiscal year 2006 monies provided to Maine by the EPA under Section 319 of the Federal Clean Water Act. DEP issued the RFP on April 5, 2005 and received 23 proposals requesting at total of 1.3 million dollars. This response demonstrates that local community-based partnerships value clean water and are recognizing and finding solutions to NPS problems. A review committee evaluated and scored all proposals. DEP anticipates it will have sufficient monies to grant funds for the 14 highest ranked projects. DEP will be working with grantees to adjust work plans as needed to secure final approval. Grant awards are subject to receipt of federal FFY 2006 319 funds. Grants are tentatively planned to enable start-up of projects in about April 2006. FMI: Contact Norm Marcotte, DEP 207-287-7727 or norm.g.marcotte@maine.gov

### Proposals Summary

<i>Project Type</i>	<i>Funds Requested</i>	<i>Funds to be Awarded</i>
Watershed Projects	\$1,186,407 17 proposals	\$684,989 10 proposals
Watershed Surveys; or Watershed Management Plans	\$100,848 7 proposals	\$85,637 4 proposals

### Projects to be Awarded NPS Grants in 2006

<i>Proposal Title</i>	<i>Sponsor</i>	<i>Grant</i>	<i>Match</i>
Long Lake Conservation Project - Phase II	Cumberland County SWCD	70,145	48,177
N. Great Works River Watershed Improvement	York County SWCD	34,593	27,981
Kennebunk Pond Watershed Improvement	York County SWCD	49,333	34,242
Little Sebago Lake Conservation - Phase II	Cumberland County SWCD	79,854	73,386
Pleasant Pond NPS Abatement	Kennebec County SWCD	70,100	50,700
Thomas Pond Conservation Project - Phase II	Casco, Town of	64,939	50,120
Little Madawaska Lake Conservation	Madawaska, Town of	79,700	57,500
Sheepscot W. Branch NPS Control - Phase III	Kennebec County SWCD	79,330	59,550
Pushaw Partners NPS Watershed	Penobscot County SWCD	96,090	79,960
China Lake NPS Reduction	China Region Lakes Alliance	60,905	47,048
Protecting WQ / Salmonids in Bond Brook	Trout Unlimited - Maine Chapter	49,450	34,800
Square Pond Watershed Survey	York County SWCD	12,445	11,372
Nequasset Lake Wshed Survey	Androscoggin Valley SWCD	14,604	9,785
McWain Pond Wshed Survey	Lakes Environmental Association	9,138	8,107

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## Development of Private Forests to Impact Watersheds

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A new report by the USDA Forest Service underscores the impact of development on many of America's watersheds.

The study, "Forests on the Edge: Housing Development on America's Private Forests" provides national maps of forested watersheds projected to be developed and a list of the top 15 watersheds, including watersheds in Maine, North & South Carolina, Mississippi, New York, Georgia, Virginia and either other eastern states.

The study shows that increasing housing density in private forests over the next 25 years will impact natural resources.



"Every day, America loses more than 4,000 acres of open space to development or more than 3 acres per minute and the rate of conversion is getting faster all the time," said Forest Services Chief Dale Bosworth.

The study was conducted by scientists in the agency's research stations and the private sector. It suggests that by 2030, housing density will increase substantially on more than 44 million acres or 11 percent of private forest land, an area greater in size than New England.

The Forest Service found that nearly 700,000 acres of forest were converted each year from 1982-1997, but this leapt to one million acres annually during the last five years of this period and is projected to continue at a strong rate.

The agency estimates that private forests in the Southeast, where three-quarters of all U.S. private forests are located, will experience the most extensive changes. Forestland development pressures will also be high in parts of the Northeast, the Pacific Northwest and California.

Private forests comprise nearly 60 percent (430 million acres) of America's total forestland and provide nearly 30 percent of all fresh water and 92 percent of all U.S. timber harvested in 2001.

The study and maps can be found at [www.fs.fed.us/projects/fote/](http://www.fs.fed.us/projects/fote/)

(Editors note: This story was taken from Buffer Notes July 2005—a publication of National Association of Conservation Districts. [www.nacdnet.org/buffers](http://www.nacdnet.org/buffers))

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## New Institute on Community Design (a.k.a. Growth management)

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News for Release: Tuesday, July 12, 2005. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Contact: Dave Ryan, 202-564-4355 / [ryan.dave@epa.gov](mailto:ryan.dave@epa.gov)

(Washington, D.C. -- July 12, 2005) Responding to a growing number of requests from states for assistance in managing growth, three former governors with a long history of promoting smart growth -- Christie Whitman (New Jersey--also former EPA Administrator), Parris Glendening (Maryland) and Angus King (Maine) -- today joined EPA and the National Endowment for the Arts in

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announcing a new Governors' Institute on Community Design. The Institute is intended to support governors' leadership in good community design and sound planning.

"States have always been laboratories for innovation," said Governor Whitman. "Through the Governors' Institute we hope to inspire a new level of innovation that will make our communities economically stronger, healthier, and more attractive places to live and work."

The Institute, funded by EPA and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) will be jointly administered by two organizations with extensive experience in helping states address development and related quality-of-life issues -- the Smart Growth Leadership Institute and the National Center for Smart Growth Research and Education, both at the University of Maryland.

"Many governors want to address housing, transportation, health or other issues related to land use and development, but need the tools to do so," said Governor Glendening. "There are many examples of successful community design. Our goal is to share those strategies with governors and their staffs."

EPA and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) are each providing \$200,000 to launch the Institute. EPA's funding is being provided through its national water and smart growth programs. EPA's Smart Growth program encourages development that protects environmental resources and human health, expands economic opportunity, and creates and enhances places that people love.

"There is no substitute for strong, consistent and determined leadership to create great places that people will love for generations," said Governor King. "We hope that through the Governors' Institute, we can equip state leaders with the strategies that can produce real change."

Joining the governors in today's announcement were EPA Assistant Administrator for Water Benjamin H. Grumbles and NEA Chairman Dana Gioia.

"Air and water quality, Brownfields, water infrastructure and wetlands protection are all linked to how and where we grow," said Grumbles. "Working in collaboration with states, we will enhance our understanding of the implications of growth. Thinking strategically, the participating governors will help their states' dollars go farther while protecting and preserving their environment."

The Governors' Institute builds on the NEA Mayors' Institute on City Design (MICD), which since 1986 has brought mayors and designers together to generate ideas on better city planning. The MICD has graduated more than 675 mayors, and resulted in many specific physical improvements from restored waterfronts to downtown revitalization projects. Through the Governors' Institute, the NEA hopes to inspire state leaders to capitalize on their roles as chief state "designers" to identify innovative design approaches that improve the way people live in cities, suburbs, and countryside.

"The NEA has a positive track record of encouraging stewardship in public design at the urban, rural, and now at the state level," said NEA Chairman Dana Gioia. "Through the Governors' Institute, we will offer governors key resources to help them address regional and statewide design issues."

In the coming year, the Institute will conduct up to four workshops to pair governors and their cabinets with top planning experts to identify strategies that spur smarter development -- development that serves the economy, public health and the environment. Other forms of assistance that will be available to governors include ongoing advice on technical issues and a publication listing a range of policy options to consider.

For more information about the Governors Institute, visit:  
[http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/gov\\_institute.htm](http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/gov_institute.htm)

For more information about EPA's Smart Growth program, visit:  
<http://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth>

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## Update - NPS Priority List Review Proceeding Slowly

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Work is continuing on the review of the NPS Priority Watersheds Lists for lakes, rivers & streams and coastal waters. Work groups consisting of representatives from natural resource agencies and interested non-government organizations were convened last winter to review the existing lists that were adopted in 1998. Those groups have compiled draft lists, which will be released for a 30 day public comment period, most likely by October 2005. Following the comment period, the lists will be sent to the Land & Water Resources Council, consisting of senior managers from the natural resource agencies, for final approval. The NPS Priority Lists are used in the evaluation process for 319 NPS Grant applications.

For more information contact Don Witherill, MDEP 207-287-7725 or [donald.t.witherill@maine.gov](mailto:donald.t.witherill@maine.gov)

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## Shoreland Zoning Amendments Posted for Public Comment

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Board of Environmental Protection voted to post the draft amendments to the Department of Environmental Protection's rules, Chapter 1000, the *State of Maine Guidelines for Municipal Shoreland Zoning Ordinances* (Guidelines) to public hearing. The hearing is scheduled for September 8, 2005 at the Holiday Inn/Ground Round adjacent to the Augusta Civic Center. It will begin at 2:30 p.m.

The Mandatory Shoreland Zoning Act (38 M.R.S.A section 438-A) requires the Board of Environmental Protection to adopt, and from time to time update and amend, minimum guidelines for municipal zoning and land use controls that are designed to carry out the legislative purposes of the Act. The last time that the Guidelines were comprehensively reviewed and amended was in 1990.

In addition to the oral comments at the September 8th hearing, the Board will be accepting written comments until September 19, 2005 at 5:00 p.m. Written comments must be addressed to:

Richard Baker, Shoreland Zoning Coordinator  
Department of Environmental Protection  
State House Station 17  
Augusta, Maine 04333

A copy of the amendments can be found at <http://www.maine.gov/dep/blwq/rule.htm> .  
For more information contact Rich Baker at 207-287-7730 or [rich.p.baker@maine.gov](mailto:rich.p.baker@maine.gov)

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## Draft Stormwater Management BMP Manual

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The first volume in a draft format of the new Stormwater Management BMP manual is online <http://www.maine.gov/dep/blwq/comment.htm> Please check it out and send any comments to Marianne Hubert at [marianne.e.hurbert@maine.gov](mailto:marianne.e.hurbert@maine.gov) or 207-287-4140.

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## Upcoming Events

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September 18-21. Northeastern ArcInfo Users Group (NEARC) annual meeting this year is in Portland. The conference is 3 days of GIS training and presentations, posters, and an ESRI 'doctor's office' where you can talk to ESRI professionals directly.

Conference registration is \$200 (\$250 after Sept 12)

Student registration is \$100 (\$125 after Sept 12)

One-day registration is \$125 (\$150 after Sept 12)

Register or read more at <http://www.northeastarc.org>

Sept. 25, 2005. World Rivers Day. [www.un.org/waterforlifedecade](http://www.un.org/waterforlifedecade) or [www.riversday.bcit.ca](http://www.riversday.bcit.ca)

Sept. 26-27, 2005. National Groundwater Association Focus Conference on Eastern Regional Groundwater Issues. Portland Maine. FMI 1-800-551-7379 or [www.ngwa.org](http://www.ngwa.org)

Oct. 17-20, 2005. 4th National Conference Nonpoint Source & Stormwater Pollution Education Programs. Chicago Ill. Cosponsored by Chicago Botanic Garden & US EPA. FMI [www.chicagobotanic.org/aquatics/nonpoint](http://www.chicagobotanic.org/aquatics/nonpoint) or Bob Kirschner [bkirschn@chicagobotanic.org](mailto:bkirschn@chicagobotanic.org)

Oct. 20, 2005. Grow Smart Maine Summit. Augusta Civic Center

Nov. 3, 2005. State of The Bay. South Portland.

Nov. 15-16, 2005. Stream Restoration Conference. U Mass. Amherst.

November 15-17, 2005. Stormwater Institute. Lansdowne, VA. The 2005 Stormwater Institute was developed specifically for the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) community stormwater professional. This intensive, interactive three-day program. FMI <http://www.cwp.org/SI05/si05info.html>

December 2, 2005. [Stormwater Funding and Utility Development](#), [BMPs: Pollutants, Selection and Maintenance](#) & [The Complete NPDES Program From Design to Implementation Full Day Workshops & Exposition](#). By StormCon. FMI [www.stormcon.com/nashville](http://www.stormcon.com/nashville)

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## Resources

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Field Guide to Aquatic Phenomena. New online guide. Photos and descriptions of weird colors and objects you may encounter in lakes, rivers and streams. [www.umaine.edu/waterresearch/FieldGuide/](http://www.umaine.edu/waterresearch/FieldGuide/) Produced by the University of Maine and the Maine DEP.

Maine Association of Nonprofits—Education & Training Opportunities. [www.nonprofitmaine.org/education.asp](http://www.nonprofitmaine.org/education.asp)

**Clean water starts with you!**



MDEP  
1235 Central Drive  
Presque Isle, Maine 04769

Please consider receiving your newsletter via email. It saves time, paper, postage and money! Email me at [Kathy.m.hoppe@maine.gov](mailto:Kathy.m.hoppe@maine.gov)