

Brownfields and VRAP Public Meetings

The Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MEDEP) will be holding public informational meetings in early August to educate and solicit comments on the Brownfields and Voluntary Response Action Programs. The purpose of these programs is to encourage re-development at properties where there may be contamination due to prior industrial activities. This is accomplished by working with municipalities and potential owners to assist them with conducting investigations and remediation where necessary to allow for productive re-use of brownfields sites.

The EPA announced the Brownfields grant recipients in early May and 22 grants were awarded to communities throughout the state totaling 6.15 million dollars. The Maine DEP received \$400,000 for site assessments at petroleum and hazardous substance sites. These three regional meetings will provide an educational and meaningful opportunity for the public to learn more about and comment on this important state-wide process. These meetings will be held as follows:

- **August 4, 2009:** Best Western Black Bear Inn, Orono at 1:00 pm.
 - 4 Godfrey Drive, Orono, Maine – From Interstate 95 take Exit 193 (Stillwater Old Town Exit) and travel toward Orono. The first road on the right is Godfrey. The Best Western Black Bear Inn & Conference Center is 300 yards past the gas station.

- **August 5, 2009:** Holiday Inn, Augusta at 6:00 pm.
 - 110 Community Drive, Augusta, Maine – From the South: Take Exit 112 off I-95. At the first light turn right. The Hotel is on the right. From the North: Take exit 112 off I-95. Take the first left off of the exit. At the second light turn right. The hotel is on the right.

- **August 6, 2009:** Holiday Inn Express, Saco at 1:00 pm.
 - 352 North Street, Saco, Maine – From the South: There is an exit directly off of I-95 for the Hotel and Conference Center just before the Saco exit (36). From the North: Take Exit 36 off of I-95 to merge onto I-195 towards Saco/Old Orchard Beach. Take Exit 1 and make a left onto the Industrial Park Road. At the light make a right onto North Street (RT. 112). The Hotel is a ¼ mile on the left.

For more information, please contact Jean Firth at 207-287-7716 or jean.m.firth@maine.gov.