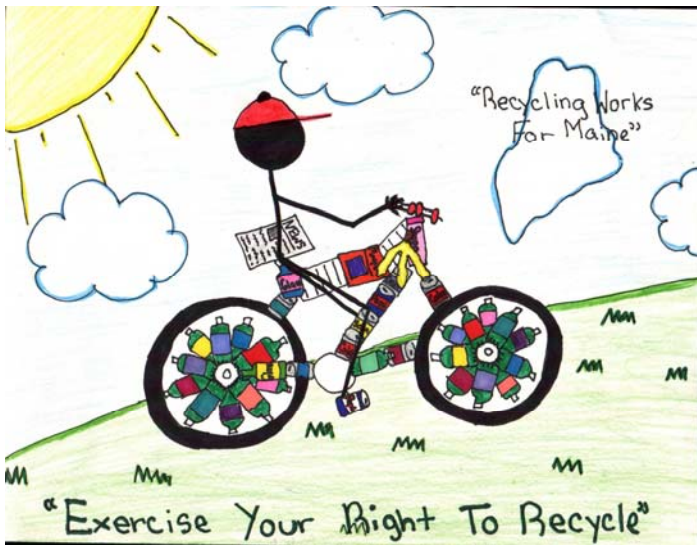


WASTE BYTES!

Newsletter of the Maine State Planning Office, Waste Management and Recycling Program

Maine Recycles Week Approaches

Maine Recycles Week (MRW) is celebrating its tenth year in 2008. Recognized each year on November 8 to 15, MRW is now thought of as the opportunity for each community to celebrate their municipal and individual recycling efforts, while raising the public's awareness toward recycling and the need to purchase items made from recycled materials.



Maine Recycles Week 2008 July Poster Art by Natalie in St. George

Maine Recycles Week has evolved into a program of the municipalities, primarily the schools. MRW should be described as belonging to the municipalities and celebrating each individual success. It is from the grass roots up.

Maine Recycles Week 2008 is made possible by the following committed sponsors:

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Premiere Sponsors - Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments; Casella Waste Systems; Baker Commodities; Dragon Cement Products; The Colony Hotel; New Page; Penobscot Energy Recovery Company; National Semiconductor; Portland Press Herald and Maine Sunday Telegram; The Maine Resource Recovery Association; and the Maine State Planning Office

Champion Sponsors – CPRC Group; Hannaford; L.L. Bean; Waste Management, Inc.; NexCycle; Aggregate Recycling Corporation, and the Auburn SHARECenter

Supporting Sponsors – Bath Iron Works; Maine Recycling; H.P. Hood; Poland Spring Bottling; and the Northern Maine Development Corporation

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The MRRA Meets in East Millinocket

The Maine Resource Recovery Association held its Annual meeting in East Millinocket at the end of September. There was a rather sparse turn out; however through no fault of their planning. Many took advantage of the rented bus that left Lewiston and picked up attendees all along the 95 corridor – much like the marketing coop is thought of in arranging loads from members' partial supplies.



Ferg Lea shows off some of AVCoG's tool kit tricks.

The actual meeting was held at the East Millinocket town offices. Two sessions, one on safety and one on using the Maine Recycles Campaign tool kit, were repeated while a third session freed a group for a tour of the Katahdin Paper Mill. Presenting from their own experiences with the use of the Maine Recycles Tool Kit were Fergus Lea of Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments and Sara Wojcoski of Saco/Old Orchard/Scarborough. In the same session, Sam Morris of the State Planning Office's Waste Management Team presented highlights from a study done by their summer intern on what actions appear to encourage recycling at the municipal level. The Mill tour turned out to be one of the best experienced at any of the MRRA meetings and made the ride to East Millinocket more than worthwhile.

A terrific meal was served up by local caterers and received raves from all present.

Sid Hazelton was elected to the board. Sid joins board members: Sherry Churchill; Mark Draper; Dennis Cox; Ross Nason; Lee Leiner; Ron Slater; Skootch Pankonin; Alison McCrady; Jerry Hughes. Officers selected for the coming year are: Ross Nason, President; Jerry Hughes, Vice President; and Lee Leiner, Secretary/Treasurer.

For more information, visit the MRRA web site at: www.MRRA.net.

Recycling in the Capital Area Region

Each year in October – the Friday before the Columbus Day weekend - the Maine Science Teachers Association holds its annual conference. In recent years, this meeting has taken place at the Gardiner Area High School. This has always been an interesting assignment, to cover a booth promoting recycling, in a community which is in the Hatch Hill Regional Solid Waste District.

A year and a half ago, "Recycle This Newsletter!" announced a grant by the State to study ways of increasing recycling in the Hatch Hill District. It is now understood that any day now the results will be released. There are now recycling committees in Hallowell and Gardiner, and we look forward to seeing the recommendations of the Augusta study efforts.

Maine Recycles Week (cont.)

We encourage you to contact your local schools and municipal leaders to join in this year's events. For more information on Maine Recycles Week and forms for participating in the various activities, please visit: www.recyclemaine.com

In this, our Tenth year!!, we thank those that started and made Maine Recycles Week an opportunity to promote recycling and buying recycled - - Shannon Haynes, Sam Morris, Tom Miragliuolo, and George MacDonald.. Thank you!

Commercials to Re-appear for 'Maine Recycles' Campaign



During the first year of the Maine Recycles Campaign, a contest was presented by the Maine Recycles Committee for audio and video ads to be produced by what started as post secondary programs and became all schools. The Campaign received 84 entries with only one coming from a college – St. Josephs. The first contest created much excitement and certainly some great entertainment at the MRRA spring Conference.

This year, Jetta Antonakos of the SPO Waste Management and Recycling Program, who staffs the campaign for the Maine Recycles Steering Committee has received welcomed technical and financial assistance from the Time Warner Cable Company. Special awards are planned for this year along with a gala celebration later in the school year. In the Maine Recycles competition, cash prizes are made to students and a technical prize is added for the winning school.

More information can be found on the web site – www.mainerecycles.com .

Mail Call! It's that Time of Year!

When the days shorten and the temperature drops at night to prepare a coat of frosty lace covering to greet us in the mornings, we know that summer is gone and maybe even fall is too short a season in New England. The foliage to those in our business is much like another call to save a tree and recycle. As the leaves fall, we may just be thinking of catalog season.

Catalog Choice was new in 2007 and caught almost everyone's eye. For some, the trauma of facing crowds of shoppers and icy days shopping in Maine and especially on the Holidays, make some catalogs welcome though. Catalog Choice, founded by the National Wildlife Federation, the Natural Resources Defense Council, and the Ecology Center, announced that it will assist limiting the catalogues we receive and the services are free. To view the service, view www.catalogchoice.org .

A press release from Catalog Choice suggests that 19 billion catalogs are mailed to American consumers each year. The Environmental Defense Calculator estimates the impact of these catalogs to be:

- 53 million trees
- 3.6 million tons of paper used
- 38 trillion BTUs of energy (enough power for 1.2 million homes)
- 5.2 million tons of carbon dioxide (equal to the annual emissions of 2 million cars)

Maybe this opportunity isn't too early to think of everyone for the Holidays?