



PAUL R. LEPAGE
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY
BOARD OF PESTICIDES CONTROL
28 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

WALTER E. WHITCOMB
COMMISSIONER

HENRY JENNINGS
DIRECTOR

To: Board of Pesticides Control Members
From: Mary Tomlinson, Pesticides Registrar/Water Quality Specialist
RE: Water Quality Program Update for 2013-2014
Date: December 31, 2013

Sediment Sampling

Sediment sampling will resume in 2014 now that a contract with the Montana Department of Agriculture (MTDA) laboratory is in effect. Historically, sediment sampling was conducted to determine presence or absence of a limited number of pyrethrins and pyrethroids, in sediment, downstream of residential run-off areas, in Portland and South Portland, including the Back Cove. The Montana laboratory has the ability to screen for 14 pyrethrins and pyrethroids and the synergist piperonyl butoxide with turn-around time of two to three weeks.

Due to recent concerns about the impact of pyrethroids and other pesticides on invertebrates in the Gulf of Maine, the staff suggests redirecting the sediment sampling program to screen for pyrethroids in sediment in the near-shore marine environment. An initial, inter-agency planning meeting has been set for late January.

2014 Ground Water Sampling Project

Ground water monitoring will resume in late winter of 2014, in accordance with the State of Maine *Generic State Management Plan for Pesticides and Ground Water*. Historically, due to cost and technical limitations of the laboratory, analysis was limited to approximately 30 pesticides and metabolites. The Montana laboratory employs its own universal method using LC/MS/MS, to screen water, for 90 plus pesticides and metabolites, including newer chemistries. Quantification is to parts per billion (ppb) and to sub-ppb for some analytes. Turn-around time for results is two to three weeks.

The BPC is currently collaborating with the Maine Health and Environmental Laboratory (HETL) to financially support that laboratory's training and technology acquisition. The BPC receives EPA grant monies dedicated for state laboratory training and the purchase of equipment. The ultimate goal is for all BPC samples to be analyzed by HETL in the future.