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Bulletin: Prepared for the Employees of the Maine Department of Conservation, March 1990

Maine Department of Conservation

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BULLETIN

Prepared for the Employees of the Maine Department of Conservation

March 1990

Commissioner's Column

It won't be long now until field season. It is Sportsman's Show time already, and field preparations are underway as the days grow longer. The SERVE/Maine program sent out a long list of projects to recruit volunteers for Conservation and other departments. This list reminds us again of the excellence and diversity of our programs.

Department employees are responding well to the Voluntary Savings Program. The options are good ideas which many employees have been interested in for a long time. If you are interested, but haven't yet sent in your yellow information sheet, you can still do so. We will provide more information once the Legislature acts on the program. But remember, you need to send in your sign-up sheet indicating your interest.

We have also received several good ideas from you in the Employee Suggestions Program. This program has no deadline—send your suggestions any time. The purpose of the program is to find ways to save money through innovative ideas. Judy Andrews has more details.

Enclosed this week is information regarding the U.S. Savings Bond program. The new program has modern, attractive rates with several new advantages. This program is something you can do for yourself—and it will pay good dividends.

Earth Day preparations are in full swing to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the first Earth Day. Several programs in the department are making plans for Earth Day and Earth Week events—including exhibitions, speeches, field trips, publications, events in the parks, and other worthwhile activities for public participation. We have also been asked to participate in events being sponsored by several other organizations. You will be hearing a great deal more about these plans over the next several weeks. I hope that each of you will participate or attend any of the events in which you may be interested.

Ed Meadows

Thirty-six Graduate from Conservation Officer Law Enforcement Academy

Thirty-six forest rangers, state park rangers and park managers graduated from the Conservation Officer Law Enforcement Training Program at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy in Waterville on Wednesday, February 14.

The graduates were the third class of Maine Department of Conservation employees to graduate from the four-week long Conservation Officer Law Enforcement Academy. One-hundred and twenty Department employees with law enforcement responsibilities have graduated from the program since last February.

Stephen Giorgetti, Director of the Criminal Justice Academy; C. Edwin Meadows, Commissioner of the Department of Conservation; John Cashwell, Director of the Maine Forest Service and Herb Hartman, Director of the Bureau of Parks and Recreation, were among the graduation speakers.

Department employees contributing to the Academy's success included: Peter Bouchard, Sally Doyle, Sheila Elliot, Jill French, Lin Gosselin, Tim Hall, Bill Hamilton, Russ Horning, Ed Jones, Andy Mendez, Mike Myster, Dick Morse, Don Norman, Mike Ricci, Chris Shedyak, Lisa Sirois, Bruce Small, Anne Soucy, Andy Swain, John Titus, Dave Wight, Leslie Wiles and Billy Williams.

John Cashwell told the graduates that the Academy was one of the most ambitious interbureau training programs the Department has ever undertaken.

"The most important contribution that can be made to the management of Maine's natural resources is an investment in our resource managers," Cashwell said

Herb Hartman said that although the primary roles of parks staff are to ensure that visitors to State Parks and Historic Sites enjoy their visit and that the park resource is protected, "there will be situations where enforcement action beyond a verbal or written warning is required."

"Our facilities are receiving increased use; many of the users are less experienced than those of the past; dangerous situations may occur more frequently; and new responsibilities for resource management have been given to the Bureau. All this comes at a time when public expectations concerning the capabilities and performance of resource managers are higher than before. This training has better prepared you and perhaps given you some new insights for dealing with these and other issues the future holds," Hartman said.

The 170 hour comprehensive course, covering the basics of law enforcement and conservation law, was designed by the Department of Conservation and the Criminal Justice Academy. It was presented by the Academy's staff and visiting law enforcement specialists from several agencies.

Department employees enforce land use, forestry, snowmobile, forest fire prevention, ATV, State Park and environmental laws and regulations.

The Graduates

Frank Appleby	Arnold J. Martin
Dan Bell	Tom Martin
Randall Billings	Phil Mayo
Burrill A. Bridges	Russell R. McCloskey
Tim Caverly	Susan A. Myers
Charles L. Clukey	Michael Myster
John J. Ganley	Delmar O. Nason
William Getchell	Joseph Pelletier
David Guerrette	Wendell P. Rafford, Sr.
Tim Hall	Bruce C. Reid
Arthur D. Holman	Fred Richards
James Kelly	John Scott
Dalton Kirk	Keith A. Smith
Laverne S. Knapp	Jerry S. Torrey
John S. Knight	Steve Vondell
Kendall E. Knowles	Scott Woodruff
Mike Leighton	Ronald E. Wright
Dewayne Long	David A. York

Conservation Notebook

BPL has submitted a study on submerged lands rental fees to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources. The study was requested by the Committee as a result of changes in submerged land rental fees enacted last year. •• Six timber and 2 recreation prescriptions will be reviewed by BPL staff to ensure that field activities meet the Bureau's mandate for multiple-use and sustained yield. •• Management Plans for the Seboeis Unit and the Richardson Unit are available. •• **Steve Oliveri** spoke to New Hampshire legislators and agency personnel about submerged lands on March 9. •• **Herb Hartman** and **Craig Ten Broeck** recently attended a meeting of the St. Croix International Waterway Commission. The Commission is charged with making recommendations to the Maine and provincial governments for the multiple-use management and protection of the river's resources. •• **Merleen Ahearn** has recently started a special data entry and clerical project position with the Bureau of Parks and Recreation and the Maine Conservation Corps. •• **Tom Cieslinski** travelled to Saratoga Springs, New York to attend a symposium sponsored by Northeastern Recreation Research. Tom presented a paper at the symposium on using vehicle registration data and public use to predict outdoor recreation trends. •• **Catherine Carroll**, Senior Project Analyst, and **Roger Johnstone**, Project Analyst at the Land Use Regulation Commission attended a wetlands workshop conducted at the annual meeting of the Maine Association of Professional Soil Scientists. •• **David Allen**, **Gloria LeVasseur**, and **Scott Foster** of the Commission attended a workshop on environmental regulations sponsored by the New England Regional Council on Forest Engineering. Gloria LeVasseur presented a workshop on the Commission timber harvesting and road building standards. •• Allagash Rangers **Brady Scott** and **Jim Kelly** report a 10% increase in tent camping on campsites on Chamberlain, Eagle, and Allagash Lakes. The campers, who primarily come to ice fish, have braved cold temperatures and 4 1/2 feet of snow. •• **Tom Quinn**, a UMPI student intern, has been working in the Allagash this winter building picnic tables, privies, and assisting Jim Kelly with ranger duties.

MCC Spring Projects Set

The MCC announced it will establish three job training projects to accomplish conservation work this spring. The projects are with the Saint Croix International Waterway Commission to conduct user surveys, scout for new campsites and maintain existing facilities; with the Waterboro Parks and Recreation Commission to develop facilities at a new park and prepare existing parks for summer use; and with the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife on Swan Island to work on the campground including shingling lean-tos. Corpsmembers for the project teams will be recruited by local job training offices.

Twenty-two MCC worksites are currently being developed for the summer.

Holbrook Island Project

Bureau of Parks and Recreation staff based at Cobscook Bay State Park are devoting two months of their winter work schedule to building floats for mainland and island docking facilities at Holbrook Island Sanctuary State Park in Brooksville and Castine. Once the docks are in place, Holbrook Island, which was donated to the Bureau of Parks and Recreation in 1988, will be open for public use for the first time. Regional Supervisor Bill Cleaves, with assistance from Joe Powers, has administered the project. Park staff Stuart Wagner, Dennis Preston, and John Lavers are building the floats. The entire project, including design work, construction, and final installation, is being coordinated by the Department's Engineering and Realty Division.

New Appointments

□ George Bourassa has been named Director of the Maine Forest Service's Forest Management and Utilization Division.

George joined the Forest Service as a Utilization Forester in 1974. From 1980 to present, he was the Director of the Forest Fire Control Division.

□ Bill Galbraith has been appointed Supervisor of the Maine Land Use Regulation Commission's Enforcement Division.

Bill was employed by the Commission as a Project Analyst from 1985 to 1988. He joined the Department of Environmental Protection in 1988 where he worked in the Bureau of Oil and Hazardous Material Control as Supervisor of the Oil and Remediation and Claim Unit.

DOC Celebrates Earth Day

Several bureaus are planning activities including field trips and events to observe the 20th anniversary of Earth Day. Complete information will be included in the April edition of the *Bulletin*.

The Bureau of Parks and Recreation will celebrate by taking programs to third, fourth, and fifth grades statewide in the first two weeks of April. The program, developed by Pat Bailey, uses slides, hands-on activity, and preparatory and follow-up activities to show that parks are part of a beautiful but threatened world in which everyone's actions make a difference.

In the regional offices Sandra Cleaves, Pam Tibbetts, Doris Scott, and Nancy Marsters report that a number of teachers have already called to schedule programs. Demand has been high in the capital area, too.

Speakers will include the following Augusta office staff, regional supervisors, and park managers: Frank Appleby, Mike Leighton, and Stuart Wagner; W. E. Burnham, Scott Woodruff, Gordon Bell, Dalton Kirk, and Mick Rogers; Ken Wiley and Bruce Farnham; Tom Skolfield, Tim Hall, Dan Bell, Gordeen Noble, and John Scott; Steve Curtis, Tom Cieslinski, John Titus, and Pat Bailey.

Volunteers Needed

SERVE/Maine is looking for a few hundred volunteers who want to make a contribution to Maine's environment and natural resources according to Libbey Seigars, the Department's SERVE/Maine Program Coordinator.

Ten agencies, including the Bureaus of Parks and Recreation and Public Lands, have listed dozens of needed projects in the 1990 SERVE/Maine Directory. The Directory is currently being mailed to 450 people who have already expressed an interest in becoming a SERVE/Maine Volunteer or who have previously worked in the program.

Volunteers are needed as guides and naturalists at state parks and historic sites, and as observers and visitor census takers on public lands.

In 1989, 400 SERVE/Maine Volunteers contributed 20,000 hours of work valued in excess of \$100,000.

Savings Bonds Available

The 1990 Maine Savings Bond Campaign begins today. A letter from Governor McKernan supporting the campaign and a payroll deduction application are included in your pay envelope.

Savings bonds have become more attractive than ever this year because of the new tax-free Education Bond program. This is a good opportunity to consider joining the savings bond payroll deduction program or increasing your deduction if you are already participating.