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Maine Nonpoint Source Training News

Brought to you by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection

Training Sessions Slated for Winter/Spring of 2013

The Maine Department of Environmental Protection is again offering a robust schedule of erosion and sediment control classes for the Winter-Spring of 2013 to ensure that earthmoving contractors who did not get DEP -certified by Jan. 1, 2013 have a final opportunity to become so before the 2013 construction season begins.

Classes in basic and advanced erosion and sediment control practices will be held in 13 locations throughout York, Cumberland, Kennebec, Knox, Lincoln, Franklin, Hancock, Penobscot and Aroostook counties. These sessions are sponsored by private businesses, municipalities and local soil & water conservation districts. FMI, please see the schedule on page 2.

DEP is again partnering with Maine Audubon to offer four training sessions in "Stream Smart" road crossings. The Department is also partnering with E.J. Prescott Inc. on a coastal erosion control workshop. These programs are currently being scheduled and will be added to our training center schedule at www.maine.gov/dep/training/npstrc-



schedule.html when dates and locations have been confirmed. Winter/Spring 2013 | Volume 15 Issue 1

Fall 2012 Training Season Hosts Over 700 Participants

The Department's NPS Training and Resource Center trained 720 individuals from October through December. Programs were held for excavation and snow plow contractors, municipal public works staff and property managers.

A total of 13 erosion and sediment control courses were held, including two continuing education programs. In all, 651 participants attended these sessions.

For snow plow contractors municipal road maintenance staff and property managers, two salt management workshops were held in November to assist these groups in minimizing salt use for winter maintenance activities. Important points covered at the workshops included pre-wetting the salt with a 23% salt brine solution and pre-treating areas with this same brine prior to a storm to increase the effectiveness of the salt treatment. The workshops also recommended increasing the rate of salt, or using an alternative like calcium chloride, when temperatures go below 15 degrees, the temperature at which salt loses much of its effectiveness.

DEP would again like to thank advisory committee members, instructors, sponsors, J.E.T.C.C and others who made our Fall 2012 training season our busiest ever!

Winter /Spring 2013 Training Schedule

Naples, January 24, Town Office To register, contact Renee Carter at 693 -6364

Ashland, January 30, Maine Forest Service Office, To register, contact Doug Cyr at 554-7026

Appleton, February 6, Town Office To register, contact Toupee Rooney at 322-2436 or 785-4722

Boothbay, February 8, Fire Station, To register, contact Dan Bryer at 633-2192

Union, February 12, Town Office To register, contact Rebecca Jacobs or Hildy Ellis at 596-2040 Acton, February 21, Town Hall To register, contact Ken Paul at 636-3497 ext. 410

Ellsworth, February 27, City Hall To register, contact Lori Roberts at 667-4910

Portland, February 28, Portland Water District To register, contact Bethany Courchene at 729-6716 or 775-3964

Bangor, March 5, Parks and Recreation Center To register, contact Chris Brewer at 990-3676 ext. 3

Gorham, March 13, Shaw Bros. To register contact Martha Catevenis at 485-4749 or Martha@ABCMaine.org

Augusta, March 20, AGC Maine Training Room, To register, contact Sandy Metrano at 622-4741

Randolph, March 21, Coutts Bros To register contact Martha Catevenis at 485-4749 or Martha@ABCMaine.org

Farmington, April 3, University of Maine at Farmington To register, contact Rosetta Thompson at 778-4279



Number Of Certified Individuals Soars To 1600+

Department staff and those at the state's soil & water conservation districts have been busy this fall handling the many requests from individuals in need of certification in erosion and sediment control practices. The numerous requests are no doubt related to increased promotion by DEP of the January 1, 2013, deadline established under Title 38 Section 439-B requiring contractors working in the shoreland zone to have a certified individual on-site to supervise the installation and maintenance of erosion control practices. Throughout 2012, the Department has certified over 600 individuals, bringing the total of those certified to 1650. "The explosion in program participation in the past two years is not just a result of that upcoming deadline but because Maine's contractors take seriously their role as critical partners in providing protections and so do the people hiring them," explained DEP's Bill Laflamme." There are countless benefits to hiring a certified contractor, including assurance

that work will be done in an environmentally-sound manner. Erosion control maintains water quality, protects property values, fish and wildlife habitat, drinking water supplies and vital environmental, economic and recreational resources and contractors and their customers see great value in that."

In the 15 years the program has been in place, only two certified individuals have ever been involved in an enforcement action because of violation of Maine's erosion and sediment control law. Two certified individuals have also won the "Contractor of the Year" award from the International Erosion Control Association.

Paul Labbe of Ray Labbe & Sons Construction of Brunswick said he uses his certification as a "selling point" when seeking excavation work. "Certification levels the playing field and acknowledges those of us who are abiding by state environmental laws and are committed to protecting Maine's natural resources," he added.

To find a certified contractor by town or name, visit <u>www.maine.gov/dep/land/training/ccec.html</u> If you are a contractor who wishes to learn more about certification, visit <u>www.maine.gov/dep/training</u> or contact Bill Laflamme at (207) 215-9237 or willliam.n.laflamme@maine.gov.