

5-4-1983

DOC News, May 04, 1983

Maine Department of Conservation

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalmaine.com/conservation_newsletters

Recommended Citation

Maine Department of Conservation, "DOC News, May 04, 1983" (1983). *Conservation Newsletters*. 138.
https://digitalmaine.com/conservation_newsletters/138

This Text is brought to you for free and open access by the Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry at Digital Maine. It has been accepted for inclusion in Conservation Newsletters by an authorized administrator of Digital Maine. For more information, please contact statedocs@maine.gov.

C 72 24: 2/9
C.1



DOC NEWS

MAINE STATE LIBRARY

Volume II - Number 9
May 4, 1983

LIBRARY USE ONLY

- SCHOLARSHIP - The James C. Durham Scholarship Award, which is given to a forestry student at the University of Maine at Orono, has been awarded to Keith Morse of Old Town, who has worked for the Department of Conservation for the past 3 summers with the Bureau of Public Lands. In a letter of appreciation to Bob Umberger, Keith stated that "it is a nice feeling to know that others are taking an interest in my education."
- BIG TREES - The Department of Conservation has been informed by the American Forestry Association that we now have two new National Champion Big Trees in Maine. A yellow birch in Deer Isle (circumference 21', height 76', crown spread 91') and a tamarack in T13 R8 (circumference 11'11", height 92', crown spread 31'). These will be added to the current list of National Champions on which Maine already has listed a paper birch located in Hartford (circumference 18'1", height 93', crown spread 65') and a pitch pine located in Poland (circumference 11'5", height 101', crown spread 51').
- MAINE PRODUCTS - Maine manufacturers of wooden products will have an opportunity to display their wares at the Maine Products Show, May 18-21 at Portland's Maine Mall. The Maine Forest Service is coordinating participation in the show by the makers of wooden products and is especially anxious to help small businesses take part. They are hoping to have at least 70 producers show their Maine-made wood products. Since many producers are low volume with only one or two products in their line, arrangements will be made to pool their resources to make participation possible. For more information, contact Peter Lammert at 289-2791.
- SPEAKERS - Commissioner Anderson and Steve Oliveri will be travelling to Mt. Snow, Vermont to attend and speak at the 1983 Northeast Fish and Wildlife Conference, May 15 - 18. Commissioner Anderson will speak on the implications of intensive timber management practices on wildlife in the northeast: A policy overview; and Steve will be speaking on the environmental impacts of spruce budworm suppression projects in Maine and eastern Canada.
- REEHL PERFORMANCE - Vaudevillian entertainer Benny Reehl, of the Buckfield Leather'n Lather Traveling Variety Show, will perform at the State House Hall of Flags today at noon. The event, sponsored by the Maine State Commission on the Arts and Humanities as part of its ongoing concert series, is free and open to the public. Mr. Reehl has been involved in professional theater for 20 years and was recently featured on the NBC Today Show. His performances incorporate a mixture of stories and recitations presented through the skills of mime, vocal characterization, and juggling.
- BRIEFLY - Ken Hendren, MFS, Old Town, recently passed his physical and exam to obtain his private pilots license...Sharon and Delbert Ramey, Presque Isle, are the proud new parents of a baby girl, Kathleen, born on April 28 weighing 6 pounds, 7 3/4 ounces...CONGRATULATIONS!

MAY 12 1983

C.1

LEGISLATIVE
UPDATE

- The Department's efforts at the Legislature are generally being well received, but several major issues are still unresolved. They include Fire Control funding, the Governor's rivers initiative, the Finance Authority of Maine and funding for a Forest Resource Assessment and Marketing Program, a bond issue to fund several new parks, and a bill to regulate white water rafting. Herb Hartman, Director of the Bureau of Parks and Recreation, has been the Department's representative on the White Water Rafting Commission. The Legislature has now formed a Joint Select Committee on Commercial White Water Rafting. Herb will continue to work with this Joint Select Committee in an effort to promote competition in the white water rafting business, as well as to protect rafting on the major rivers.

A bill to create the Maine Conservation Corps, which would place out of work young adults in jobs on publicly-owned lands has been printed and will be heard by the Legislature in the next few weeks. Bob Umberger of the Bureau of Forestry ran the pilot project for this proposal last summer on the Public Reserved Lands at Rocky Lake in Washington County.

BUDWORM

- Approximately 911,000 acres of spruce-fir forest are included in the 1983 Spruce Budworm Suppression Project according to Tom Rumpf, Forest Insect Manager, MFS. The project is tentatively scheduled to begin on May 15 and end by June 30. The project will employ approximately 280 people and cost an estimated \$6.3 million.

LOGGERS'
EXPO

- Commissioner Anderson will present welcoming remarks and speak on the importance of the forest industry to the economy of Maine at the upcoming Northeastern Loggers' Congress and Equipment Exposition, May 12-14 at the Bangor Civic Center.

FIRE
SEASON

- The 1983 forest fire season has begun with grass and brush fires reported in all regions of the State except Aroostook according to George Bourassa, Supervisor of Forest Fire Control. People have started spring clean-up and are burning accumulations of plant debris. Because debris burning was the single most frequent cause of forest fire last year, the State law now requires a permit for all grass, brush and debris fires with stiff fines for burning without one. "Below average snowfall this winter means grass and brush will dry fast and be a hazard until green-up sometime in May. When this dry grass and brush begins to burn, the fire moves fast and the dead grass and weeds are often near buildings which may be endangered when a small, clean-up fire gets out-of-hand," Bourassa said. Damage caused by such fires as well as the cost of putting them out may be charged to the person responsible.

JOBS
BILL
GRANT

- Fifty thousand dollars has been earmarked by the DOC for the improvement of public parks. The money is part of a Small Business Administration Jobs Bill grant to the State of Maine. Proposals for projects creating lasting public benefits and involving small businesses which provide jobs to unemployed workers will be considered. Grant awards will be made according to the need for the projects and the levels of unemployment in the community on a first come, first served basis. Municipal officials who wish to apply for a grant should contact Fred Bartlett at the Bureau of Parks and Recreation, 289-3821.