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# What's Up, Doc? Fall 2001

Maine Department of Conservation

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# What's Up, DOC?

A NEWSLETTER FOR DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION EMPLOYEES

Fall 2001

## A message from the Commissioner

### OUR GAME PERCENTAGES

Mickey Rivers of the Yankees said, "Pitching is 80 percent of the game. The other half is hitting and fielding." First of all we need to be thankful he played baseball and wasn't the DOC statistician. Likewise with Yogi Berra, who said, "I usually take a two hour nap-- from one to four."

So what is 80 percent of our game?

I say it's customer service; the *other half* is execution and integrity. Customer service is when we deliver what the Legislature tasks us to do, when we give a rapid and quality response to a fire department

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## Project Canopy

On a cool, sunny October morning near the banks of the Saco River, the Maine Forest Service launched a new initiative, Project Canopy, an effort to help Maine municipalities develop long-term community tree programs that maximize the benefits trees and forests provide.

Tom Doak, Director of the Maine Forest Service, outlined Project Canopy's mission, which is to provide education, technical

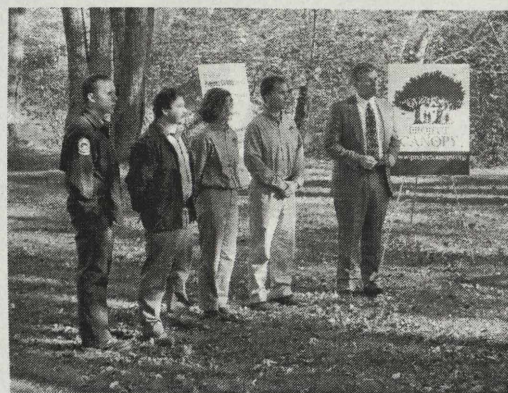


Photo credit: Mark Robinson

Paul Larrivee, Dennis Brennan, Jan Ames, Kevin Doran and Tom Doak prepare for the launch of Project Canopy.

expertise, and help recruit volunteers. Doak also announced that Project Canopy has chosen Biddeford as a "model town." Biddeford officials, including City Manager Bruce Benway and Mark Lessard,

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## Forestry Facts

Maine is the most heavily-forested state in the nation, with 90%, or more than 17 million acres of the land base growing trees.

Maine's forests contain more than 50 native deciduous (trees that drop leaves each fall) and 14 conifer (evergreen) species of trees.



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# Straight Talk

## With Commissioner Lovaglio

Commissioner Lovaglio hosted "Straight Talk", an opportunity for employees to hear the latest information regarding the September 11<sup>th</sup> events, new mail handling protocol, and the state budget. More than 30 DOC employees attended the meeting on Friday, October 19 at the Key Bank Building.

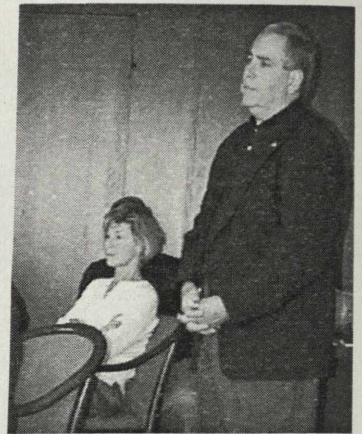


DOC employees ask questions about the new procedures for handling and sorting

Photo credit: Susan Benson

Ron opened his remarks by commending Conservation employees on their reaction to the events of the 11<sup>th</sup>. The evacuation of our Augusta facilities was organized despite the uncertainty of the day. "This was the biggest event to impact US soil and I am proud of the way our employees reacted," remarked Ron.

In addition to the initial attacks on America, anthrax is increasing the already heightened level of concern and anxiousness across the nation. Ron said the State is addressing this issue.



Commissioner Lovaglio addresses DOC employees Friday, October 19 in Augusta.

### Mail Training:

Augusta and regional staff who are the primary mail handlers for their respective offices have been trained to deal with mail sorting and identifying any suspicious packages. "As a department, we receive a diverse number of packages, and it's important that all employees help by increasing their vigilance with respect, not only

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## For More Information:

### Maine State Government

1-800-769-9819

The Employee Assistance Program is available for any state employee who is having difficulty coping.

[www.state.me.us/mema](http://www.state.me.us/mema)

The Maine Emergency Management Agency is the agency that, among other duties, coordinates the response to emergencies.

### US Postal Service

Suspicious Mail Alert

[www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com)

If you receive a suspicious letter or package:

1. Handle with care. Don't shake or bump.
2. Isolate it immediately
3. Don't open, smell, touch or taste.
4. Treat it as suspect. Call local law enforcement authorities.

### Dealing With The Mail

It's a good practice that after ever mail sorting, employees should wash their hands.

1. Wash hands, first under streaming water for a few seconds
2. Add an antibacterial soap
3. Lather and wash thoroughly for 20 or 30 seconds.

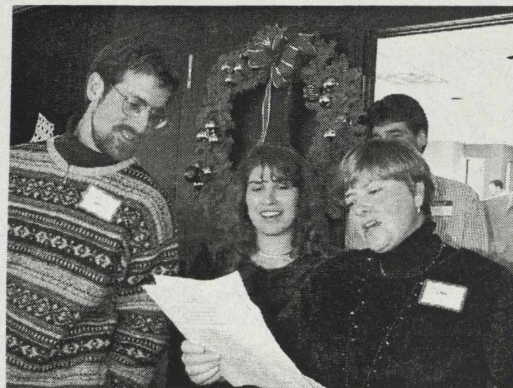


# DOC Holiday Party

*Mark Your Calendars!*  
*(and tune your guitars)*



DOC "Unplugged": Patty Bailey, Will Harris, Carol DiBello, Tom Driscoll and Scott Woodruff



Conservation Carolers:  
Andy Fisk, Marlene Bowman and Deb Phillips

*Friday, December 14*

*11:00am - 2:00pm*

*Key Bank Building, 9th Floor*

*All DOC Employees are invited*

*More information will follow*

Photo credit: Susan Benson

## Straight Talk

*Continued from Page 2*

to the mail, but in our day-to-day activities as well," stated General Services Director Will Harris.

### Gatekeepers:

For most state employees, mail has been screened at least two, if not three times before they receive it. In the greater Augusta area, the US Postal Service offices in Portland and Augusta screen mail, and then the State's Postal Center in Augusta reviews it.

Un-powdered, plastic, non-latex gloves and dust masks are being made available to employees who handle mail. Placing a trash can with a plastic liner in the area where mail is sorted is a smart move to make. If an item looks or feels suspicious, it can be wrapped up in the plastic bag, reducing the level of exposure.

### Budget Update:

In October, Governor King implemented a hiring freeze statewide. Budgets continue to be managed at the department level and at this point in time, Ron stated that layoffs are not part of any current discussions. Updates will

occur over the coming weeks and the most timely budget information will occur at regularly scheduled staff meetings.

Ron summarized the meeting by stating that we need to help each other work through this tragedy as Conservation employees, Mainers, and Americans. The degree of the impact of these events will range from person to person, and it's up to us all to lend a helping hand to our neighbors. "No doubt, we will emerge a stronger country, united in spirit, as a result," said Ron in closing.



# Kudos Corner

## Natural Areas Program: Partner of the Year

The Maine Natural Area's Program received the "Partner of the Year Award" from The Nature Conservancy (TNC) at its annual fall banquet.

According to Barbara Vickery, TNC's Director of Conservation Programs, they rely on NAP's information, expertise, and exceptional skill and leadership abilities.

Congratulations to the Maine Natural Areas Program!



Photo credit: John Picher

Bill Peabody, Treasurer with the Maine Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration, presents BPL Director Tom Morrison with the Public Administrator of the Year Award.

## Tom Morrison: Public Administrator of the Year

The American Society for Public Administration named Tom Morrison, director of the Bureau of Parks and Lands, Maine Public Administrator of the Year.

Tom has been a state employee for over 21 years, starting his career as a Forester on Spruce Budworm projects to his current position.

During his tenure, more than 100,000 acres have been added to Maine's conservation and public land acquisition program.

Congratulations, Tom!

## Commissioner's Column

*Continued from Page 1*

asking for training help, good maps when a geologist is seeking knowledge for her client, or when we go out of our way to help someone who has locked keys in their car at a park.

The execution part comes from doing what we say we will do and delivering it at the expected time. For example, we tell legislators we give 24-hour turn-around on their requests for information. If we

can't deliver within that time frame, we will call within the 24 hours and explain why we are not able to have the answer and when they can expect it. Execution is when it is delivered on that date or earlier. That is a standard we strive for all customers. The department has made great progress on customer service and execution. Park reservations, Ice Storm forestry grants, and LURC permits come quickly to mind. People come up to me and tell me, "Your department gets the job done."

Finally, integrity that embodies trust, honor and loyalty. Over time, if we carry ourselves with integrity, we earn people's confidence, respect,

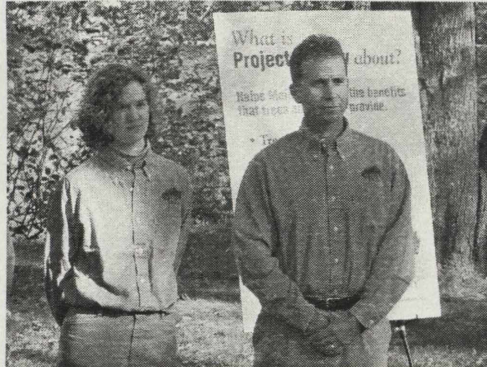
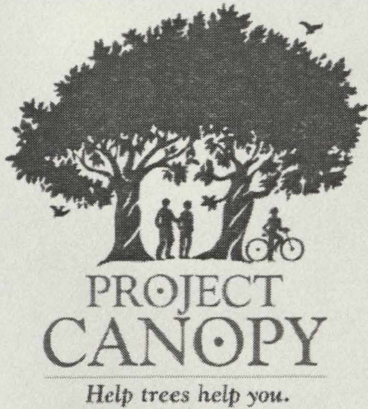
support, and repeat business. No matter how good a deal is, we are usually reluctant to buy from someone whom we feel does not have integrity.

All that's a tall order --like having perfect pitching, hitting and fielding. Maybe that's why it adds up for Rivers to be 130 percent. I'm very proud to say all these qualities are alive and well at the department. How do I know? Customer comments, remarks, and the support we get at the legislature. Customer Service, Execution, and Integrity--Thanks everyone!



# Project Canopy

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Pine Tree State Arboretum Coordinator Jan Ames and Maine Forest Service Educator Kevin Doran prepare to field questions from reporters.



MFS Director Tom Doak presents Biddeford City Council President Mark Lessard and Mayor Cheryl Dion with Project Canopy shirts.



Members of the media attend the October 9 press conference at Rotary Park in Biddeford. Far left, City Mayor Dion advances to the podium.

City Council President, will work with the Maine Forest Service in the next year to implement a long-term community forestry program in the city.

Doak said that because Maine is the most forested state in the nation, Maine people tend to have a false sense of security about how well communities cultivate the

benefits that trees provide.

"We often don't have trees in the right places. It would be a great mistake to assume that we take advantage of all the great things trees have to offer," he said.

Now that the first community is on board, the MFS is looking for its second model town, one smaller, and perhaps in central or northern Maine. Kevin Doran, program director

of Project Canopy emphasized that the services are flexible and tailored to the individual community.

"We don't impose, we complement. First we help develop a program that reflects a town's personality, then we help make the program successful."

Updates will be posted on the project's Web site at [www.projectcanopy.org](http://www.projectcanopy.org)



# DUC Employees Do Great Work!

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JUL 05 2001

LURC-AUGUSTA

July 3, 2001

Ms Agnieszka Pinette

Maine Land Use Regulation Commission  
Department of Conservation  
22 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0022

RE: LURC permit, Harfords Point Map 1 Lots 81 & 82; Deed

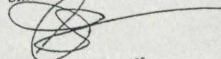
Dear Aga:

Thank you very much for all of your assistance in processing my LURC application quickly and efficiently. I appreciate the prompt response and service I received and am pleased to report that we were able to complete the closing on Friday, June 29, 2001. That we were able to close on time and in fact ahead of schedule is due in large part to your efforts. My wife and daughter are very excited about the new camp.

As required by the permit, I have enclosed for your file a copy of the duly executed and recorded warranty deed from William Murphy.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. Thank you again.

Sincerely,

  
Andrew R. Sarapas

ars

Plans/Personal/Camp/Pinette.ltr.070301.doc

Mike Butler  
261 Stillwater Avenue  
Old Town, ME 04468

19 October 2001

Mr. Morton Moesswilde, Water Quality Specialist  
Maine Forest Service  
Department of Conservation  
22 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333-0022

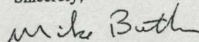
Dear Morton,

Thank you for providing us with the Maine Forest Service's excellent Cove brook watershed and Atlantic salmon habitat maps. As you may recall, we are a locally organized council established to preserve, protect, and enhance the Cove brook watershed.

The two maps you provided are being professionally dry mounted for display at the Winterport town office and for public presentations. Part of the council's mission is to educate the general public about issues effecting the watershed. The maps provide excellent detail for people unaware of watersheds and their ecological function.

On behalf of the CBWC, thank you again. We look forward to establishing a strong and productive relationship with the Maine Forest Service in our efforts to save Maine's wild Atlantic salmon, and to protect the Cove brook watershed from further environmental degradation.

Sincerely,



Mike Butler,  
Director, Cove Brook Watershed Council

Frank I. Brown Elementary School  
37 Highland Avenue  
South Portland Maine 04106

James E. Minott  
Principal

September 25, 2001

Mick Rogers  
Park Manager  
Bradbury Mountain State Park  
528 Halliwell Road  
Pownal, Maine 04069

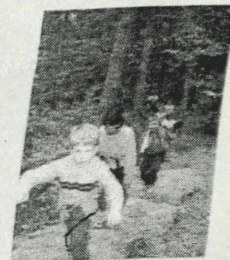
Dear Mick,

I am writing to express our appreciation to the staff at Bradbury Mountain for the wonderful whole school field trip that the Brown School community enjoyed this past week. The park was the perfect spot for our school to begin the year with activities climbing the mountain, playing cooperative games, and sharing a lunch.



The introductory comments by Park Ranger Justin during our whole school meeting was a wonderful way to start our day. Even a red squirrel in a nearby pine tree chirped his welcome as the kids embarked on a day of discovery and working together.

We are fortunate, indeed, to be blessed with the great resources in the state of Maine. We look forward to future trips to Bradbury Mountain.



With great appreciation,

  
Jim Minott

C. Steve Curtis



# Employee News

## Anniversaries

### 30 Years

Steve Curtis  
Steve Day

### 25 Years

Deb Phillips

### 20 Years

Mike Gallagher  
Frances Guthrie  
Leslie Wiles

### 15 Years

Mike Foley  
Dawn Gallagher  
Bill Greaves  
Jeannine Lapointe  
Elaine Pepler  
Darrell Rich

## Transitions

Jeff Senterman,  
Environmental  
Specialist II of LURC  
has accepted a  
position with the  
Massachusetts  
Aeronautics  
Commission

Kurt Shoener formerly  
of Lake St. George,  
has transferred to  
Damariscotta Lake  
State Park as the  
new Park Manager

## Promotions

George Powell is the new  
Director of the Boating  
Facilities Division

## New Hires

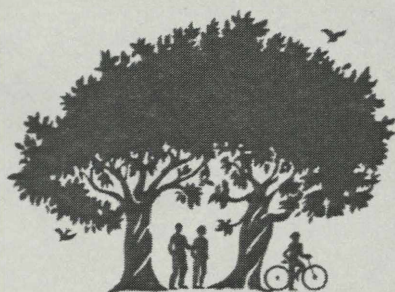
### LURC

Chris Rushton,  
Environmental Specialist IV

### Parks & Lands

Stephen Richardson  
Senior Forest Technician

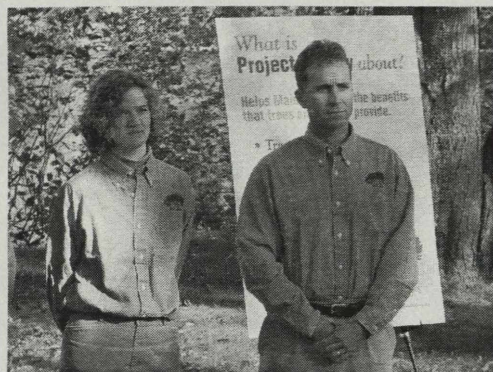




## PROJECT CANOPY

*Help trees help you.*

Story on Page 1



Pine Tree State Arboretum Coordinator Jan Ames and Maine Forest Service Educator Kevin Doran attend the press conference that launched Maine Forest Service's new initiative, Project Canopy.

*Send in your story idea for the next issue of "What's Up, DOC?"*

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