

Poskehtokok Soining of the Branches

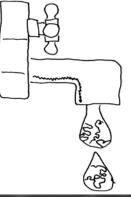
Photo: Martin Neptune

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Penobscot Indian Nation Department of Natural Resources

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Penobscot Nation, Children and Water - A great combo!



The Penobscot Nation hosted two sessions at the 2004 Northern

Maine Children's Water Festival on October 12. And Mr. T's class from Indian Island School spent the whole day at the Festival learning about different aspects of water in fun and interesting ways! This annual event happens in the fall at the University of Maine (UM) and brings schools from as far away as Indian Township, Machiasport, Skowhegan and Hodgdon. It is organized by Maine Department of Environmental Protection, George J. Mitchell Center, Americorps volunteers, UM Cooperative Extension, and Maine Department of Education and funded by a variety of sponsors.



PIN Water Resources staff, Angie Reed and Jan Paul, brought our pollution prevention ramp and helped three classes learn about watersheds and pollution prevention. The kids got to dress like a water drop to experience how pollution is collected as it runs over the land. And then they

got to see how trees, shrubs and leaves slow water down and let it soak into the ground helping to clean it before entering the

river. As has happened at each of these workshops, the kids had a lot of fun!



Every child at the Festival also got to hear from PIN's Cultural and Historic Preservation Office and youth from the community. James Eric Francis talked about



Penobscot culture and told a few legends that were about water. Gabe Paul read a story in Penobscot that James translated into English. And Maulian Dana shared a song used to keep cadence

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when paddling a canoe. It was a great educational opportunity for non-Native youth and a time for both the Indian Island and Indian Township children to see their Wabanaki culture represented and respected.

Other topics to which the kids were introduced included: the water cycle, energy and pollution, stormwater, tidepools, stream insects, lakes, wetlands, the interaction of trees and water, forestry practices, agriculture, turtles, puffins, mapping, drinking water, alien plants and how much water each of uses in one day. In addition to many interactive workshops the kids tested their knowledge and timing in quiz shows.



Green Cleaning Tip

Say goodbye to mold and mildew using tea tree oil in your laundry or by spraying it on surfaces. *Melaleuca alternifolia*, or Australian tea tree as it is more commonly known, is a native Australian plant with many remarkable properties. When crushed and distilled, the leaves of this plant yield a 100% natural oil which is an antiseptic, a fungicide, and a mild solvent. You can buy this essential oil at most health food stores, like the Natural Living Center on Stillwater Ave in Bangor.

- Add 1/2 teaspoon tea tree oil to your laundry for towels and other fabric prone to getting moldy.
- Combine 2 teaspoons tea tree oil and 2 cups of water in a spray bottle. Shake to blend, and spray on problem areas. Do not rinse. This can be stored in the bottle for an indefinite amount of time.

These tips comes from www.care2.com/channels/lifestyle/home

Penobscot River Research Opportunities Abound: Science Forum Serves as Stepping Off Point

ORONO, Maine -- (Mostly taken directly from www.penobscotriver.org) Approximately one hundred members of the scientific community, including PIN staff Clem Fay, Dan Kusnierz, and Angie Reed, met for two days at the University of Maine in Orono Oct. 19 and 20 to review scientific research on the Penobscot River watershed and discuss needs and opportunities for new research related to the dam removals proposed as part of the Penobscot River Restoration Project.

The Penobscot River Science Forum was convened by Penobscot Partners, a coalition of the Penobscot Indian Nation and conservation groups. The Senator George J. Mitchell Center for Environmental and Watershed Research at UMaine co-sponsored the meeting. National experts in dam removal and river restoration were on hand to give presentations, including Steve Gephardt from the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection and Brian Winter, the Elwha Project Manager from Olympic National Park.

One constant theme of the forum was the opportunity that the Penobscot River project represents to the research community, both in the timing and diversity of potential topics. The dam removals will not occur for a number of years, and researchers will have the opportunity to jump-start collection of baseline data that will assist them in the long-term assessment of the project. In addition, there was a strong sense that the unique multi-party collaboration that has brought the project thus far must be carried over into the scientific community to maximize project success.