



Photo: Martin Neptune

Pəskehtək^wok

Joining of the Branches

Spring 2004 ~ Issue 3

Penobscot Indian Nation
Department of Natural Resources

SPRAY, DUNK AND ROLL - DNR Workshop a big success!

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Air Technician	7340
David Almenas, Forest Technician	7335
Ron Bear, Forest Technician	7335
John Banks, DNR Director	7330
Rhonda Daigle, Water Quality Monitoring Program Coordinator	7326
Clem Fay, Fisheries Manager	7362
Yvonne "Cookie" Francis, Administrative Assistant	7331
Tim Gould, Game Warden Supervisor	7395
Dan Kusnierz, Water Resources Program Manager	7361
Frank Loring, Game Warden	7392
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Jason Mitchell, Water Resources Field Coordinator	7381
Eric Nicolar, Air Quality Manager	7336
Jim Pardilla, Game Warden	7392
Ed Paul, Game Warden	7392
Jan Paul, Water Resources Field and Lab Technician	7382
Angie Reed, Water Resources Planner	7360
Russ Roy, Forest Manager	7339
Dennis Stevens, Forester	7337
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What an amazing experience it was to watch over 100 children and adults have fun learning about the sources of non-point source pollution and how water collects and carries it while running downhill into rivers, streams, lakes and wetlands. The success of this workshop was possible because of the dedication and creativity of the



Sam Wright, from the Penobscot County Soil and Water Conservation District, helps Cameron Mitchell, Nicky Nicholas, Danielle Altwater, Kaleb Newell and Joseph Attean to learn what happened to non-point source pollution when it "rained" on the plastic watershed model.

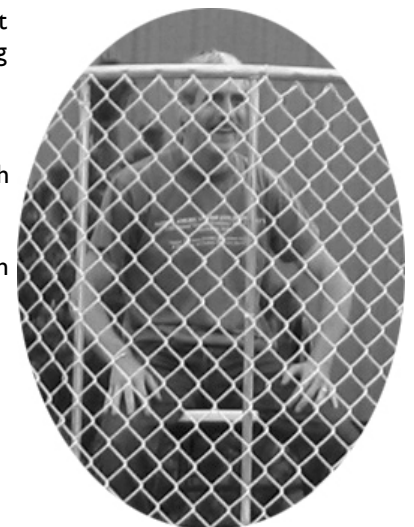
DNR Water Resources staff. The night started with informational presentations by Jason Mitchell and Dan Kusnierz. Although they were a hard act to follow, the food by Panda Garden produced many smiling faces and full stomachs. After dinner everyone gathered outside for the activities designed to get people to learn in a FUN and INTERACTIVE way.

The watershed model gave people a chance to see and talk about where non-point source pollution comes from while they were sprinkling various powdered substances that represented them, including

cocoa and Kool-aid, onto the plastic "ground." After the pollution was present participants were invited to simulate rain with their spray bottles. Everyone got to see the pollution run off the land and collect in the river ~ making a big yucky-colored mess.

After they put the vegetated buffer strips in place much less pollution was able to reach the river.

And what fun-loving person wouldn't want to dunk Seth Mitchell or John Banks? In this activity both the people sitting in the tank and the ball that was thrown



John Banks waiting to be dunked!

at the target represented pollution. When

UPDATE ON \$20 GIFT CERTIFICATES

For everyone who got one of these at the workshop please come in and see Jason Mitchell to exchange it!

With the new certificate you will be able to purchase plants at Dawn 'Til Done and they will not expire.

(Continued on next page)



Seth Mitchell staying dry with the buffer strip to protect him.

(Continued from first page)

the picture of the vegetated buffer strip with a very small hole was in front of the target nobody was able to hit the target ~ showing that buffer strips help prevent pollution from entering water. But as soon as the buffer was removed our brave representatives of pollution went in! Seth's wife, Sherri, sent him swimming right away. And even though John stayed dry while a few folks tried, eventually Jeremy Lamson sent him in too!

And you should have seen how cute the children were in their blue felt water drop



Right: DNR staffer Angie Reed helps Naya Mitchell get her daughter Jayden Love ready to roll down the hill while Amy Cocchia waits her turn. Jayden was the water drop who stuck the most to the buffer strip.

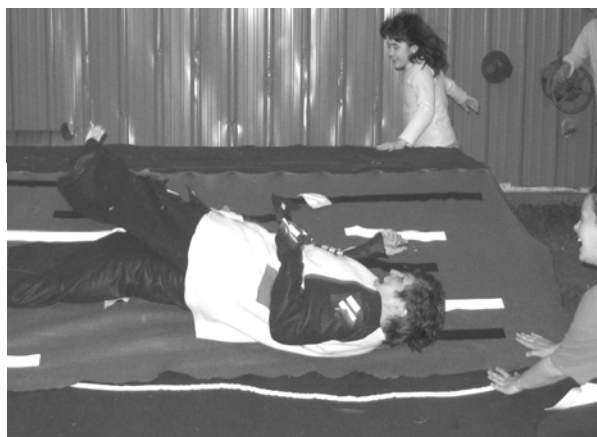
suits! As they rolled down the artificial hill pretending to be water their suits collected the velcro-enhanced non-point source pollution particles. The first simulated vegetated buffer we demonstrated was narrow with thin velcro and close to the bottom of the hill (near the pretend river). Most of our water drops rolled right over it without losing any pollution particles. But when we made the buffer wider and added heavy duty velcro, things changed dramatically - and got a lot funnier! Especially the very small water droplets were seriously slowed down ~ arms sticking while they were still trying

to roll ~ and a greater number of their pollution particles were removed. The messages were clear and we laughed a LOT while we learned.



Left: Sarah Fields, Marcus King, and Maya Attean show off the pollution particles they collected after their talented roll down the hill.

Right: The tremendously wonderful Ruth Jewell was the only adult participant brave enough to ask to be a water droplet. She went through collection and removal of pollution with all of the kids cheering "Go Ruth" from the sidelines.



In addition to great food and fun some big prize winners got gift certificates to Sprague's Nursery:

- \$200 went to SC Francis
- \$300 went to Tami Connolly
- \$500 went to Ann Pardilla

If you would like a copy of any of the publications we gave out that night please come see Jason Mitchell. We hope to have you join us next time - for either your first or second time!

CONTRACT FORESTRY WORK
STILL AVAILABLE

- **CONTRACT THINNING:** We plan on having a contract thinning program again this year. Interested members should contact Russ Roy at 817-7339.
- **CONTRACT ROAD WORK:** We may have some road work to contract out. Members who may be interested in bidding for such work should contact Russ Roy at 817-7339.

Madames (Alewife)

Maine Rivers, a statewide non-profit (www.mainerivers.org), is engaging in educational presentations on the ecological and cultural importance of alewives. It's believed that of all the migratory fish that came up Penobscot rivers, alewives were the most abundant. One aspect of the cultural information in their work describes the relevant Penobscot words.

Madames is Penobscot for a single alewife
Madamascontes means plenty of alewives



Help keep
 Hemlock
 Woolly
 Adelgid
 OUT of Maine



Image of a Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Infestation

The hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA) is a beetle native to Japan and China and can be a destructive pest of any forest and ornamental hemlock trees in the eastern United States. HWA causes the needles on infested branches to dry up, turn a grayish-green color, and then drop from the tree. Little, if any, new growth is produced on heavily infested branches, and most buds are also killed. Dieback of major limbs can occur within two years and typically progresses from the bottom of the tree upward. Trees may die within four years, but some survive longer with only a sparse amount of foliage at the very top of the crown.

Hemlock is abundant in Maine, and is the clearly-favored softwood for deeryards. It is used for construction lumber and pulp, and accounts for 10% of the annual forest product consumption in Maine. The species is also commonly used in landscape plantings, and that's the origin of the problem.

The majority of hemlock nursery stock sold in Maine comes from out of state, and before 2000 this stock often came from areas infested with HWA. The pest has been detected in Maine in controllable occurrences in 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002. There currently is a quarantine against the importation of infested hemlock trees and logs into the state of Maine (www.state.me.us/doc/mfs/idmhwa.htm.)

Below are some tips, especially for people who have planted hemlocks in the last five years. Never put a bird feeder in a hemlock tree. If a tree is infested, birds can easily spread the pest to other hemlock trees. Also, when buying hemlock at a nursery or garden center, only buy certified stock. In Maine, hemlock stock can only be certified if it is free of the hemlock woolly adelgid. To identify signs of problems people should:

1. Check the underside of hemlock twigs at the base of the needles,
2. Look for one or more small, puffy white balls the size of a Q-Tip.
3. **DO NOT** disturb an infested tree in any way.

ALSO, please give Russ Roy a call at 817-7339 if you find any potential signs of infested hemlock trees. Although there are no problems on PIN land now, he is working hard to prevent any from happening in the future.

Nahmun's River

Reflections

This story by Butch Philips is continued from the Spring Issue 2 and will continue to be told over multiple upcoming issues of this newsletter.

As Nahmun fished, his mind drifted back to the days and tried to visualize how the river looked when his ancestors traveled this river. He thought how peaceful and beautiful this river must have been. The river was clean, pure and free flowing. The woods and waters had an abundance of fish, game and medicines that provided all the material needs of the people.

Nahmun remembered what the elders had said about the sacredness of the river and about the creatures that lived there. The elders stressed the importance of respect and reverence for Mother Earth and all her creatures. He recalled the stories about Gluscabe, the cultural hero, and how he taught the people to live harmoniously with the creatures of Mother Earth and to live by the ancient practices of conservation of the bounty. Gluscabe said we must always consider the consequences of our actions today and the effects they will have on tomorrow and the next seven generations.

The people lived by the belief that if you disrupt the harmony on the Sacred circle of life, you will eventually harm mankind. As he gazed at the beauty of the river, Nahmun suddenly felt a special connection to the river and his ancestors. In his day dream, he could see the people traveling up the river by canoe to their family hunting grounds to hunt the animals and to gather the plants for medicine and to eat. He saw thousands of salmon, shad and alewives ascending the river towards their spawning streams. The People gathered at their customary areas to spear and net the fish. The fish was dried and stored to sustain them for a long time. The People were content and happy. The river was taking care of the people and all their relations.

Nahmun wondered why the river had changed so much and why the People and their traditions had changed also. (to be continued)

