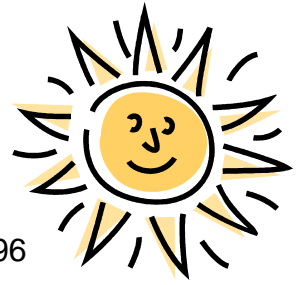




# Hancock County Soil & Water Conservation District Summer Newsletter 2007



190 Bangor Road, Ellsworth, ME 04605

(207) 664-7496

Website: [www.ellsworthme.org/soilandwater](http://www.ellsworthme.org/soilandwater)

## 2007 State Envirothon Winners Announced

Under sunny skies and with warm temperatures the State Envirothon was recently held at Leonard's Mills in Bradley. The Maine Association of Conservation Districts awarded plaques to the top three scoring high school Envirothon teams. The first, second and third place winning teams respectively were: Bonny Eagle High School, Nokomis High School Team A and Bucksport High School Team. A. Thirteen teams representing ten high schools from around the state competed at this event.

Envirothon, Maine's largest high school environmental education program, is an international program representing over 500,000 high school students in the United States and Canada. First place Bonny Eagle High School will represent Maine at the international Canon Envirothon competition to be held at the Hobart and William Smith Colleges in New York in late July.

The major objective of the Maine Envirothon is to provide opportunities for high school students to acquire and increase their outdoor skills and scientific knowledge about Maine's natural resources so that they can make informed, educated decisions about the environment. It provides students with reference materials, workshops, and hands-on, outdoor, real life experiences in five areas including forestry, wildlife, soils, aquatics, and a current issue—this year being Renewable Energy in a Changing World.

*Article used with permission from the MACD website : [maineswcds.org](http://maineswcds.org)*



## New District Manager

The Hancock County Soil and Water Conservation District is pleased to announce their new District Manager, Megan Facciolo. Megan is a Maine native and graduated from the University of Maine. She worked for the

Belknap County Conservation District in New Hampshire and the Audubon Society of New Hampshire. Please stop in and say hi!

## HCSWCD Annual Banquet

On April 14th, the Hancock County Soil and Water Conservation District held its Annual Banquet at the White Birches in Ellsworth. This year's theme was on farmland, open space, and woodlot preservation. Everyone enjoyed the delicious food and lively conversation. Thank you to everyone who came and made this event so wonderful!



## Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program

The Maine Volunteer Lake Monitoring Program (VLMP) is one of the largest and oldest citizen-based lake monitoring programs in the country. Their mission is to provide protection for the nearly 60,000 lakes in Maine through the acquisition of scientific data, and to raise public awareness of the extraordinary ecological, aesthetic, and economic value of Maine's lakes and ponds. Volunteers of all ages are needed throughout the state to collect valuable scientific data. For more information on how you can become a volunteer call (207) 783- 7733 or go to [www.mainevolunteerlakemonitors.org](http://www.mainevolunteerlakemonitors.org).

**Hancock County  
Soil and Water  
Conservation District**

**Board of Supervisors**

President

Paul Birdsall

Vice President

William Thayer

Treasurer

Wilbur Saunders

Supervisors

Lawton Vogel

Gary Sargent

Assoc. Supervisors

Peter Ober

Marjorie Saunders

Ann Haley

Paul Volckhausen

Dennis King

**Personnel**

District Manager

Megan Facciolo

Integrated Crop

Management Specialist

Shari Latulippe

**NRCS Personnel**

District Conservationist

Roland Dupuis

Assistant Conservationist

Rebecca Sargent

**District Board Meetings**



The District Board of Supervisors meets on the third Wednesday of each month, from 6:00pm– 7:30pm. (Winter meeting hours, September - March, are 8:00am - 10:00am). Meetings are open to the public and we encourage your participation! Please contact the District office to learn more: (207) 664-7496.

**Support Your Local Farmers' Market  
This Summer!**

**Eden Farmers' Market**

YMCA Parking Lot, Bar Harbor

May– October

Sundays 9am - 1pm

**Ellsworth Farmers' Market**

245 East Main Street

June– October

Mon., Thurs., 2-5pm, & Sat., 9:30-12:30pm

**Blue Hill Farmers' Market**

Blue Hill Fairgrounds, Blue Hill

May– October

Saturdays, 9am - 11:30am

**Stonington Farmer's Market**

Stonington Community Center

May– September

Fridays, 10am - 12 pm

**Northeast Harbor Farmers' Market**

Across from Kimball Terrace Inn

June– August

Thursdays, 9am - 12pm

**Winter Harbor Farmers' Market**

Mamma's Boy Bistro parking lot

July– August

Tuesdays, 9am - 12pm



For more information visit:

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



**Open Farm Day –Sunday, July 22, 2007**

Come rain or shine and celebrate agriculture in Maine! Over 100 farms throughout the state will be open to the public offering activities that range from educational demonstrations, farm and barn tours, carriage/wagon rides, farm raised products and crafts for sale, and much more! For more information or to get a list of participating farms call (207) 287-3491 or go to: [http://www.getrealmaine.com/visit/open\\_farm\\_day.html](http://www.getrealmaine.com/visit/open_farm_day.html).



**Below is a list of participating farms from Hancock County:**

Town	Farm Name & Location	Farm Type
Dedham	<u>Peaked Mountain Farm</u> 16 Ellery's Lane	Wild Blueberry Farm
Gouldsboro	<u>Mandala Farm</u> 46 Youngs Farm Road	Diversified Organic
Hancock	<u>Simons Hancock Farm</u> Route 1	Vegetable and Fruit Farm and Greenhouse
North Orland	<u>Happy Town Farm</u> 1138 Happy Town Road	Diversified Organic Vegetable and Sheep

## **LAKE SMART: A WAY YOU CAN HELP PROTECT YOUR LAKE**

What you do on the land does affect the lake! The *LakeSmart* Program recognizes property owners in lake watersheds who manage and landscape their property to protect lake water quality. Declining water quality can affect the type and number of fish species that inhabit the lake and can harm recreational uses as well as the local economy. Studies have shown that as water quality declines the value of shorefront property also decreases. This results in higher taxes for the other property owners in the watershed.

Homeowners on **Branch Lake** may request a visit to be evaluated for a *LakeSmart* Award by contacting the Hancock County Soil and Water Conservation District office at 664-7496.

***(Keep in mind that these visits are for education not for enforcement and the DEP pays for up to a 1.5 hour visit.)***

**The evaluation involves a site visit to review the landscape and maintenance practices in four categories:**

- |                                     |                              |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| * Road, Driveway & Parking Areas    | * Structures & Septic System |
| * Lawn, Recreation Area & Footpaths | * Shorefront & Beach Area    |

### **Property owners from other lakes:**

If you would like to get your lake involved, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) requires that you have the following key elements in place before you can start the *LakeSmart* program:

- 1) Formal commitment by the Board of Directors to actively support LakeSmart for a 3 year period.
- 2) Identification of a Specific LakeSmart Coordinator for each project. One or more people who will commit for the 3 year period to work directly with Christine Smith or Bill Laflamme, of the DEP, to learn what is necessary to run a successful program. The coordinator will recruit homeowners to have properties evaluated, schedule these evaluations, and arrange publicity and an award ceremony for winners.
- 3) Strong communications between the lake association and its watershed. This means your group distributes at least 2 newsletters a year in which you can and will publicize the program.
- 4) Willingness to offer incentives to encourage homeowner participation in LakeSmart. Incentives can be such things as a discount at a local nursery, a native plant appropriate for the homeowners location, a LakeSmart Walk N Talk training, or even a small grants program.

When you have these 4 elements in place, contact the Hancock County Soil and Water Conservation District at 664-7496 to be put on the consideration list for future LakeSmart projects. If you need help in acquiring the 4 key elements listed above, please visit the **Maine Congress of Lake Associations** website at [www.maineola.org](http://www.maineola.org). For more information on the *LakeSmart* program, please visit [www.maine.gov/dep/blwq/doclake/lakesmart/](http://www.maine.gov/dep/blwq/doclake/lakesmart/).





**Hancock County Soil & Water  
Conservation District**

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**PERMIT # 102**

All programs of the Hancock County Soil & Water Conservation District and USDA are offered on a non-discriminatory basis without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, and marital or financial status. Persons who require alternative means of communication of program information should contact USDA's Target Center at (207) 720-2600.

To file a complaint of discrimination, write to USDA Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326W Whitten Bldg. 14th and Independence Ave., SW, Washington D.C. 20250-9410, or call (292) 720-5964.

## Hancock County Soil & Water Conservation District Summer Newsletter 2007

### Important Dates:

**July 22nd-**  
Open Farm Day

**August 3rd-**  
Bulb orders due

**October 11th & 12th-**  
Bulb pick up days

### **It's Time For Our Annual Bulb Sale!**

Support conservation efforts in  
Hancock County by sending in  
your order today!



**See inside for more details...**