

Conservation Commission Report

The Lamoine Conservation Commission is dedicated to conservation policy in Lamoine. The Commission meets the second Wednesday of each month at the Town Hall and stresses education and providing a forum for the conservation concerns of Lamoine citizens. The Commission has no regulatory authority or budget. The Commission sets aside part of every meeting to hear the concerns of those attending.

The Commission tries to have an educational speaker for a portion of its meeting several times a year. In April of 2006, Rob Goodwin, of the Lamoine lab of the Department of Marine Resources spoke about the work of the lab and shellfish regulation and safety. In May, there was a presentation by Conservation Commission members Bob Pulver and Carol Korty, staff of the Mitchell Center in Orono and students from the Lamoine Consolidate School and Ellsworth High School. They spoke about the GET WET! water testing program in the schools which grew out of the Conservation Commission's Freshwater Initiative. This presentation was held at the school and well-attended. The GET WET! program is being repeated in the Lamoine Consolidated School in 2006-2007 and is also being tried out elsewhere in Maine. It has also been the subject of a presentation at a national conference.

In July representatives of Bangor Hydro-Electric Company made a further presentation on their plans to run a new transmission line through part of Lamoine. In October, Susan Hand Shetterly and Norman Mrozicki of Surry spoke about land conservation and the ability of motivated conservationists to develop projects for a regional land trust. In December, Fred Stocking of the Conservation Commission followed up on the Surry presentation with an introductory talk on the basics of Conservation Easements.

The third annual roadside clean-up took place in May and many participated. Georgia Munsell once again did the overall organizing. Jeremiah Graham did a fine job staffing the Town Hall on clean-up day. Conservation Commission member Lynda Tadema-Wielandt was successful in getting traffic signs posted at strategic points which encourage drivers not to litter. The 2007 clean-up is scheduled for May 19th. Please join us!

The Recycling Subcommittee has created a brochure on available recycling resources for Town-wide distribution.

Conservation Commission member Lynda Tadema-Wielandt has taken the lead in forming a group to look into specific land conservation opportunities in Lamoine. After several meetings, this group has decided to split away from the Conservation Commission and function either as a citizen's group or a subcommittee of Frenchman Bay Conservancy.

The Conservation Commission also established the Lamoine Conservation Award, accepted nominees and made its first award.

The Conservation Commission would welcome the formation of other subcommittees to take on issues that we are not currently working on due to a lack of time and energy. Conservation within the intertidal zone, education on carbon emissions, an inventory or survey of important conservation resources in the Town and making existing planning data more accessible to decision-makers have all been mentioned as possible projects.

Current Conservation Commission members are Fred Stocking, Chair, Lynda Tadema-Wielandt, Secretary, Tom Spruce, Carol Korty and Donna Theall, with Bob Pulver and Donna Thorburn alternates.