



Skitkemig Nutacomit

Earth Speaker



Fiddleheads and Fishing

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It's hard to believe that Spring is just around the corner already. Soon we'll be busy with the traditions associated with Spring. As the snow and ice retreat the fiddleheads will begin to emerge and the frenzy will begin.

Wild Harvest located on the world wide web at www.wildharvest.com describes fiddleheads as follows:

"Tiny gray-green spirals reaching into the first really warm days of Spring. Each of them wearing their own little fur overcoat to protect them when it was chillier weather. Snapped up and eaten by whoever has the sense and taste to do it."

Fiddleheads and trout, what more could you ask for on a crisp Spring evening?



HBMI Landscaping Project

Through funding from the Maine Forest Service and HBMI's Housing Authority, there will be a great deal of landscaping done around the houses on the reservation this Spring.

This will be a great opportunity for tribal members to get out and help beautify their surroundings. As part of the project we'll be putting on a supper, complete with door prizes, to explain the project and get folks fired up and ready to plant. On the actual planting day, we'll be providing all the necessary materials for planting plus there will be a big barbecue for all participants.

Each household will be asked to participate in planting. If you're not

able to do the physical work of planting there's plenty of other things to help out with, such as the barbecue.

Each residence will be given a garden hose and will be asked to help with watering the trees and shrubs through the summer and fall to help them get established.

This project should be a lot of fun and will enable us to all work together and beautify the housing area. Keep your eyes open for more information as the date nears. For more info call Sue 532-4273 ext. 202



Telephone Listing

(207) 532-4273

1-800-564-8524 (ME)

1-800-545-8524

- Christel Haley - ext 216
- Dave Joseph - ext 216
- Tony Tomah - ext 221
- Sharri Venno - ext 215
- Sue Young - ext 202

Pollution Prevention & Environmental Justice Grants

HBMI has been awarded funding from HUD to build another 35 housing units on tribal land. We don't want to miss this opportunity to incorporate lessons from the current housing development and create a new kind of community, one that takes into account the Tribe's cultural needs and minimizes the impact of development on the environment.

The Band sought funding from an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Grant to help us create an environmentally friendly residential community. We also found money to involve tribal members, especially those who will live in the new community, in the design and construction of the community. Through hands-on participation in the project, tribal members will have the opportunity to receive training in one or more environmentally sustainable construction techniques and a sense of ownership in and commitment to the success of the project.

Trust lands are a limited resource for the tribe that cannot be moved away from environmental threats. By adopting the environmental principles proposed by these projects you will help to ensure

the health of the environment for future generations.

Here's a few of the benefits of an environmentally friendly community :

- Reduced construction costs by using local and sustainable resources
- Incorporating low flow water technology reduces the costs of running a home in addition to reducing the amount of wastewater generated
- Using energy efficiently will generate not only lower home operating costs, it will conserve our natural resources and reduce emissions
- By clustering homes in a traditional village design we can conserve open space, reduce infrastructure costs and help maintain a sense of community

Get Involved!

A Steering Committee is being formed to oversee these grants. The committee will consist of people from the Maliseet Housing Authority, Tribal Administration, Tribal Council, Natural Resources, Planning and **Two Community Members** to be selected by the Tribal Council. For more information contact Sharri Venno, extension 215.



Environmental Calendar

April

15th - 22nd National Wildlife Week
18 Full Moon (Hare Moon)
21 Lyrid Meteor Shower
22 Earth Day
26 National Bird Day
28 National Arbor Day

May

4 Eta Aquarid Meteor Shower
15 - 19 Maine Arbor Day
18 Full Moon (Dyad Moon)

June

5 World Environment Day
16 Full Moon (Mead Moon)



Maliseet Spring

The Maliseet language is full of words describing Spring. Here's just a few, how many do you know?

Paskipokesson - It is budding
Macekon—Its starting to grow
Pomicuwon - It is flowing
Pesqahsuwehsok - Flower
Ktahqhomuhsis - Blue violet
Kosqehsuhsis - White violet
Apuwiye - It is melting
Skonimin - Seed
Kihkan - A garden
Sispsis - A bird
Wososs - A nest
Sipuhsis - A brook



What the Meduxnekeag River means to me . . .

Sounds like an essay question for school doesn't it? Well in some ways it is. A couple months back, we sent out a letter asking you to help us explain the importance of the river to the Maliseet people.

Why do we want to know this? We want to ensure that the federal government understands all the implications surrounding any decisions they make regarding the Meduxnekeag River, (or any other body of water that is important to Band members) as they implement the Clean Water Act.

The information that we gather from you will help to inform various government agencies of your

concerns regarding water quality and the proposed transfer of authority from the federal government to the State of Maine. We'd also like to put together a collection of stories regarding the past, present and future of the river in a cultural context.

If you'd like to voice your comments and concerns regarding the river, please contact Christel Haley (ext. 216) as soon as possible.

Thanks for your help. We look forward to hearing from you!



Upcoming Training Real Estate Dept.

From April 16th to the 23rd, Tony Tomah will be attending two certification trainings on Federal Indian Lands. The courses cover General Leasing of Tribal Lands and Lease Compliance. Once these courses are successfully completed, Tony will possess a Level I certification as a Federal Indian Land Associate.

Natural Resources / Real Estate

An upcoming two day training session in Old Town will give our Natural Resources / Real Estate staff the opportunity to get some hands on GPS training. The department is fortunate to have GPS/GIS technology available and this training will help us to use this technology to it's full potential.

Tribal Survey

A survey will be circulating sometime this summer asking tribal members to provide the Natural Resources Department with your thoughts and feelings on tribal values as they relate to land acquisition, natural resources and their management. The survey is part of a grant funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs for the benefit of both HBMI and the Aroostook Band of Micmacs.



A fond farewell,

Angie Reed, Water Resources Specialist, has taken a position with the River Network. She's working on water quality issues with tribes all around the country.

Dan Jacobs, Forester/Environmental Specialist has accepted a position with the Maine Forest Service in Island Falls.

Please join us in
wishing them the best.

*Remember -
Everyday is Earth Day!*

Summer Intern Positions Announced

The Natural Resource Department is currently accepting applications for the Water Resources Summer Intern Program.

We are looking for tribal members who would like to work in the outdoors and learn more about protecting and managing the tribe's natural resources. These are temporary positions for the Summer of 2000.

Some of the projects the Water Technicians took part in last year included: monitoring dissolved oxygen levels in the river, placing and collecting rock bags and baskets to collect insects to help evaluate the health of the river, and then on to the lab to begin evaluating the information collected.

These positions are a great chance to take part in protecting and enhancing your surroundings for today and tomorrow.

Please watch your mail for the official job announcements. For more information on these positions or to obtain an application, please contact Personnel Director, Cindy Marriam at 532-4273 ext. 214 or Sue Young at ext. 202



Emergency Forest Fire Training

Next training scheduled for
Saturday May 6, 2000
Katahdin High School

HBMI Natural Resources Department

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