

**HBMI Natural Resources Department**  
**Natural Resources Department**



88 Bell Road  
Littleton, ME 04730

STANDARD MAIL  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT #2  
HOUTON ME

**Toqaqiw (It is Autumn)**

October 2008

Brenda Commander - Tribal Chief  
Susan Young - Editor

This newsletter is printed on  
recycled paper



**Inside This Issue**

- Fluvial Geomorphology . 1  
Are You Eco-Savvy? . . . . 2  
Fall Cleanup . . . . . 2  
Do You Know What  
Plastic Recycling  
Symbols Mean? . . . . . 3  
“Green” Quiz Answers . 4  
A Fond Farewell . . . . . 5  
Word Search Puzzle . . . . . 6  
Used Oil Collection  
Center Listing . . . . . 6  
Maine Oil Recycling  
Program . . . . . 7  
Daylight Savings Ends . . 8

Pearce Brook Insert

**TELEPHONE LISTING**

(207) 532-4273

**1-800-564-8524 (ME)**

**1-800-545-8524**

**ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING**

Sharri Venno - ext. 215

**WATER RESOURCES**

Cara O'Donnell - ext 212

Rhonda Jewell-Smart - ext 216

Chris Campbell - ext 221

**NATURAL RESOURCES DIRECTOR**

Sue Young - ext 202

**HBMI Natural Resources Department**



# Skitkomiq Nutacomit

## Earth Speaker

### Fluvial Geomorphology??

by Cara O'Donnell, Water Resources Specialist

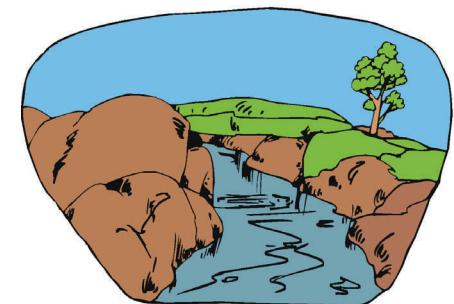
**Fluvial:** meaning rivers

+ **GEO:** meaning earth

+ **Morph:** meaning change

+ **Ology:** meaning study of

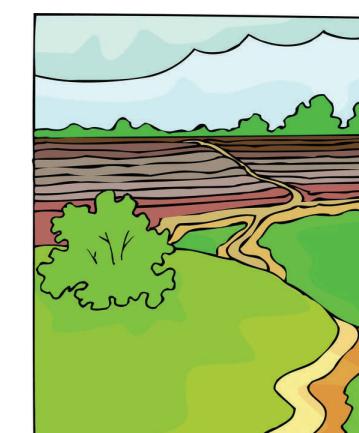
= **Fluvial Geomorphology**



That's a big word, and it's a big project. The Water Resources crew has been swamped (no pun intended) this summer, working on a Fluvial Geomorphology project in the Meduxnekeag Watershed. The project is funded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to study the how land use processes shape streams. It involves movement of sediment into the river, *primarily through erosion*.

The best way to imagine it is as if you were playing in a sandbox. Destabilization of streams typically occurs when the sediment balance becomes altered. Most man-made activities that disturb the land cause an increase in sediment into the river. For example, this is why we need silt fences on construction projects, and need to control erosion from agricultural land, particularly during heavy rain events.

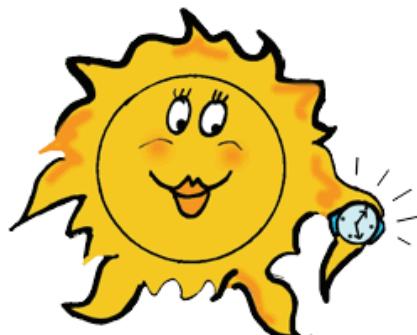
The field crew is still busy working this fall collecting information that will help us understand the overall sediment balance of the Meduxnekeag and all of its major tributaries. We have been using GPS to create maps of 100 miles of stream banks; documenting erosion, bank heights, and bank composition.



The result of excessive sediment over time has caused the channel to over-widen and become shallow, with a loss of cool, deep fishing holes. We hope that the information we collect will help us determine ways to restore the natural shape of the channel, and re-establish fish habitat.

For any questions about this project please contact Cara O'Donnell in the Water Resources program at 207-532-4273 ext 212 or e-mail her at [water@maliseets.com](mailto:water@maliseets.com).

**~ Remember ~**  
**Daylight Savings Ends Soon!**  
**Turn your clocks back**  
**1 hour on**  
**Sunday**  
**November 2,**  
**2008**



### Word Search Answers

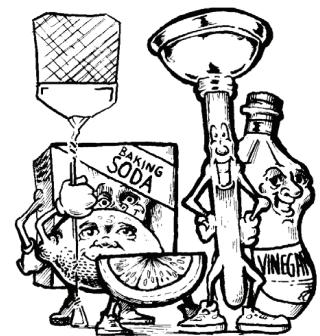
\$	O	N	N	G	F	D	S	X	C	V	O	X
	C	O	N	K	M	J	I	N	F	K	I	A
	K	S	J	H	J	K	N	I	G	F	D	C
		H	W	L	O	N	T	O	I	Y	E	S
	X	A	G	F	H	J	N	K	I	M	N	O
	A	L	C	K	J	N	A	B	G	F	S	D
		T	O	Q	A	G	I	W	K	O	H	I
		U	A	W	O	O	I	P	Q	T	G	U
		C	Z	N	M	S	S	Z	X	C		
		Y	H	N	G	F	H	D	M	S		
			T	O	A	S	D	U	F	I	G	J
			M	N	W	A	P	T	O	B	K	V
			R	I	S	T	A	H	Q	O	N	C
			E	G	T	H	J	K	L	M	N	B
			W	Y	T	R	E	W	Q	A	S	P
			Q	A	S	D	F	G	H	J	S	M
			P	L	P	K	L	M	N	K	I	U



## Are You "Eco-Savvy"? from [www.msnbc.com](http://www.msnbc.com)

See how well you know your "green". Answer True or False to these ten questions then check your answers on page 4.

1. You shouldn't turn your PC (computer) on and off because it will wear out. **True / False**
2. Alkaline batteries aren't recyclable. **True / False**
3. Online banking reduces your risk of identity fraud. **True / False**
4. Hybrid cars are really bad for the environment because there isn't a way to recycle their batteries. **True / False**



## Fall Cleanup

Just mention the word housecleaning and almost everyone immediately thinks - *Spring cleaning*. But just as important may be fall cleaning. The last hurrah before closing up the doors and windows against winter's chill.

This year, try applying some **Do's** and **Dont's** of household cleaning. Not only will you get your house clean and ready for winter - you'll be protecting your family and pets from unnecessary chemicals and pollutants.

**DO - Use the least toxic substance first. Try elbow power instead of chemical power.**

**DON'T - Use substances in a spray can or with a wide-area sprayer if it has a label with the word POISON or DANGER on it. Find something else to use!**

Here are some less toxic ideas to help get the job done.

**Air Fresheners** - Leave an open bowl of white vinegar out. It will remove odors from the air. Mix dried lavender and rosemary in equal parts as potpourri in dishes throughout your home. Be sure to change frequently.

*continued page 3*

5. When beauty products are labeled "organic" or "all natural" they are always better for your skin. **True / False**
6. You should never throw your unused medication down the toilet. **True / False**
7. Roll your car window down (instead of cranking up the A/C). It will save you gas and is better for the environment. **True / False**
8. Bottled water is always safer to drink than tap water. **True / False**
9. Clothes get just as clean in cold water as they do in hot. **True / False**
10. Your appliances don't use energy when they aren't in use. **True / False**



## Maine Oil Recycling Program

Oil has become a part of our every day lives, from the cars and trucks we drive to heating our homes and offices. Improper used oil disposal has unfortunately also become part of our everyday lives. This oil contains many contaminants that pose human health hazards, as well as, contaminants to our water supply.

The Maine Oil Recycling Program (MORP) was initiated to help promote the better management of used motor oil through recycling. The program is geared towards the do-it-yourself (DIY) oil changers. Due to increasing costs many people have begun to change their own automotive oil. Some are unaware that their used oil cannot simply be tossed into the trash, dumped into a storm drain or sewer or just poured out in a vacant lot. In addition to be extremely wasteful practices they are **illegal!**

### Why Recycle?

- It Reduces Environmental Pollution

Used oil is a potential pollutant of Maine's environment and drinking water supplies. It contains harmful contaminants, some of which are hazardous to human health. Oil dumped down storm sewers is carried to the nearest stream, river or lake. Oil that is sent to a landfill or dumped on the ground may end up in waterways or water supplies. Improper disposal of waste oil is a violation of state law. Proper disposal of used oil at a recycling center helps protect Maine's environment and maintain quality drinking water.

- It Saves A Valuable Resource

Every gallon of oil that is discarded is another gallon that must be refined from a finite world supply of crude oil. Recycling used oil saves these resources. Used oil is relatively inexpensive to refine into clean lubricating oil. Also, used oil (free of harmful contaminants) is an efficient energy source when burned. Even the smallest amounts are important - it all adds up.

Recycling used motor oil is easy. Simply drain your used motor oil into a plastic container and deliver it to the nearest collection center. There are many businesses around the state that have volunteered to serve as collection stations. MORP maintains a directory on their website located at [www.maine.gov/dep/rwm/morp/pdf/morpdirc.pdf](http://www.maine.gov/dep/rwm/morp/pdf/morpdirc.pdf) or call MEDEP at 207-287-2651 for the station nearest you.



### GUIDELINES FOR RETURNING USED OIL

- \* If possible, please return used oil during non-rush periods of business
- \* Please return oil in a non-breakable, closed plastic container (for example, an empty bleach bottle)
- \* Please take container with you after depositing your oil
- \* Deposit only used crankcase oil and transmission fluids

**NOTE:** Battery acids, gasoline, antifreeze and other similar materials are not to be deposited at these collection sites. The only exception is for a collection center which has a separate antifreeze collection container.

### PRECAUTIONS YOU SHOULD FOLLOW

- \* Avoid prolonged skin contact with used motor oil.
- \* Remove motor oil from skin by washing thoroughly with soap and water; waterless hand cleaner is an effective cleansing aid.
- \* Do not use gasoline, thinners or solvents to remove oil from skin.
- \* Avoid prolonged skin contact with oil-soiled clothing, and wash soiled clothing before re-use.
- \* Discard oil-soaked shoes and unwashable articles of clothing.



If you see an oil spill, please report it to the Dept. of Environmental Protection so it can be cleaned up before it causes further damage.

### TO REPORT AN OIL SPILL

**1-800-482-0777**

for Environmental Assistance

1-207-287-2651

Maine State Police

1-800-452-4664

MORP

1-207-287-2651



## A fond farewell

David Lombard, HBMI's Environmental Protection / Forestry Specialist has left the Tribe's Natural Resources Department to pursue other opportunities.

In his years with HBMI, David has worked on many projects including building the tribal nature trail, erecting and maintaining nesting boxes on tribal land, setting up the department greenhouse and starting ash trees from collected seed, planting American Chestnut trees, generating tribal maps to name just a few.



*Apc oc nitap!*



Please join us in wishing David all the best for the future.



## Maliseet Word Search Puzzle

Find the bold Maliseet words in this puzzle

**Isomeqehs** - Osprey  
**Kakskus** - Cedar  
**Kisuhs** - Sun  
**Lontoqiyehs** - Wood Duck  
**Mip** - Leaf  
**Mit** - Poplar  
**Monoqan** - Rainbow  
**Oqim** - Loon  
**Sips** - Bird  
**Stahqon** - Fir Tree  
**Toqaqiw** - Autumn  
**Tuhp** - Alder  
**Waptoq** - Canada Goose  
**Wocawson** - Wind

Q	A	S	D	F	G	H	J	S	M	K	L	P
I	S	O	M	E	Q	E	H	S	I	O	I	U
W	Y	T	R	E	W	Q	A	S	P	P	D	F
E	G	T	H	J	K	L	M	N	B	S	S	C
R	I	S	T	A	H	Q	O	N	C	X	Z	M
M	N	W	A	P	T	O	Q	B	K	V	C	X
T	O	A	S	D	U	F	I	G	I	H	J	Y
Y	H	N	G	F	H	D	M	S	S	Z	X	C
A	W	O	O	I	P	Q	T	G	U	H	Y	U
T	O	Q	A	Q	I	W	K	Q	H	I	C	K
L	C	K	J	N	A	B	G	F	S	D	S	A
X	A	G	F	H	J	N	K	I	M	N	O	K
H	W	L	O	N	T	O	Q	I	Y	E	H	S
K	S	J	H	J	K	N	I	G	F	D	C	K
C	O	N	K	M	J	I	N	F	K	I	A	U
O	N	N	G	F	D	S	X	C	V	O	X	S

call 207-287-2651 for other locations in Maine

## Used Oil Collection Centers

Aroostook County - Maine

### Beaulieu's Garage

Caribou 207-492-2471

### O'Clair's Tire & Service

Ashland 207-435-2781

### McLaughlin Auto & Wrecker

Ft. Fairfield 207-473-7557

### Pine Tree Waste

Houlton 207-532-4264

### Steelstone Industries

Houlton 207-532-2675

### Delmont Wood & Sons

Mapleton 207-764-1220

### Kelco Industries

St. Francis 207-398-3569

### Ed Pelletier Construction Co.

Madawaska 207-728-3802

## Fall Cleanup (continued)

**Metal Polishes** - Brass - Dissolve 1 teaspoon salt in 1 cup vinegar. Add enough flour to make a paste. Apply to brass and let sit for an hour. Rinse with clean water and dry off. Use olive oil to reduce tarnishing. Polish off.



Silver - mix baking soda and water to form a paste. Apply to silver and rinse off. Polish with a soft cloth.

To polish silver flatware - boil 2 quarts water with 1 tsp baking soda and 1 tsp. salt and a piece of aluminum foil with the flatware. Rinse and polish with a clean dry cloth.

**Stainless Steel** - same as silver.

**Copper** - Use lemon juice or hot vinegar with salt.

**Chrome** - Use white flour on a dry rag.

**Aluminum** - dip a cloth in lemon juice, polish and rinse with warm water.

**Mold and Mildew Cleaners** - 2 parts vinegar and 1 part water or 1 part vinegar, 1 part borax and 1 part water.

**Oven Cleaners** - mix paste of baking soda and hot water. Scour inside of older ovens. Steel wool and pumice will remove black spots.

**Toilet Cleaners** - Soap and borax to clean and disinfect. Baking soda and water to freshen. Remove stubborn rings with vinegar and pumice stone.

Developed by  
the **Women's Health and Environmental Network (WHEN)**

Sources: **Home Safe Home** by D.L. Ladd;  
**Hints for a Healthy Planet** by Heloise.

## Do You Know What Plastic Recycling Symbols Mean?



Have you ever wondered about the numbers on the bottom of products we buy that are packaged in plastic containers? These numbers, created by the plastic industry, were designed to help make it easier to separate the different types of plastic by consumers and recyclers.

### Number 1 Plastics PET or PETE

#### Polyethylene Teraphthalate

- Found in:** Soft drinks; water and beer bottles, mouthwash bottles; peanut butter containers; salad dressing and vegetable oil containers; ovenable food trays.

- Recycling:** Pick up through most curbside recycling programs \*

- Recycled into:** Polar fleece; fiber; tote bags; furniture; carpet; paneling straps; (occasionally) new containers.

bottles; some trash and shopping bags; motor oil bottle, butter and yogurt cups; cereal box liners,

- Recycling:** Pick up through most curbside recycling programs, although some only allow those containers with necks.

- Recycled into:** Laundry detergent bottles; oil bottles; pens; recycling containers; floor tile; drainage pipe; lumber; benches; dog houses; picnic tables; fencing

HDPE carries low risk of leaching and is readily recyclable into many goods.

### Number 3 plastics - Vinyl/Polyvinyl Chloride (PVC)

- Found in:** Window cleaner and detergent bottles, shampoo bottles, cooking oil bottles, clear food packaging, wire jacketing, medical equipment, siding, windows, piping

*continued page 5*



**“Green” Quiz Answers**

1. **False.** Computers will not be damaged by lots of powering on and off if purchased in the last 10 years. Today's PC's are designed to handle 40,000 on/off cycles before a failure, and that's a number you likely won't reach during the computer's five-to-seven year life span.



2. **True.** For the most part. Most alkaline batteries collected through household battery collection are disposed of in hazardous waste landfills; even stores that have take back programs admit they often end up in the trash. We recommend buying rechargeable batteries, which not only can be used up to 30 times, but can also be recycled.

3. **True.** Internet banking does reduce the threat of identity theft and banking fraud. In fact, a study by Javelin Strategy & Research found the average time to detect fraud for online banking users was 18 days; for non-online users it was 114 days. Online banking also uses 128-bit encryption, one of the most advanced technologies available for safeguarding sensitive information. Plus, it saves a ton of paper! If all U.S. households viewed and paid bills electronically, we'd save 18.5 million trees and 15.8 billion gallons of water per year.

4. **False.** Hybrid car batteries are made of nickel metal hydride, which is fully recyclable. Toyota and Honda say they will recycle dead batteries and dispose of them properly - Toyota even puts a phone number on each battery and pays \$200 for the return of a dead battery to ensure it's properly recycled. Additionally, hybrid battery packs are designed to last the lifetime of the vehicle, between 150,000 and 200,000 miles.

5. **False.** There are no federal certifications for the labels ‘natural’ or ‘organic’ when it comes to beauty products. Anyone can claim their product is natural or organic. The best thing to do is carefully read the list of ingredients, or consult the cosmetics data base Skin Deep ([www.cosmeticdatabase.com](http://www.cosmeticdatabase.com)) which analyzes many beauty products for safety.

6. **True.** Wastewater plants are not designed to handle household hazardous wastes like expired medication. Medications can end up in our water supplies in trace amounts and also get into the soil and become environmental hazards, as well as

creating a health hazard for wastewater personnel. Unused meds should be returned to your pharmacy - they can properly dispose of them for you.

7. **True.** But only if you are going 45 mph and under. Kick on the A/C if you are going more than 45mph - the drag from the windows ruins the fuel savings by not using the A/C.

8. **False.** A lot of bottled water on the market today is really just repackaged tap water. The bottled water industry is not required to test for pharmaceuticals (just like with tap water) and the FDA does not ensure the safety of bottled water, so it isn't like there's a clear cut advantage to buying bottled water for safety purposes.

By kicking the bottled water habit you are saving tons of waste and cash - 1.5 million tons of plastic are used globally each year in water bottles alone AND the bottled water costs more than gasoline! If you cut down on one bottle of water per week you could save close to \$1000/year.

9. **True.** Cold water works just as well for washing your day-to-day clothes. You'll save cold, hard cash - like \$61 per year per household on average by forgoing the hot for the cold. 80%-90% of the energy used to do your laundry goes just to heating the water. It's better for your clothes (cold water keeps your clothes looking newer longer) AND it's better for the planet. In a year, each household that switches keeps 1,281 of CO<sub>2</sub> from entering the air.

10. **False.** A ‘phantom load’ refers to the energy your appliances use when they are plugged in but not turned on. In the average home, 40% of all electricity is used to power home appliances when they are not in use! You can save around 30% on your electric bill by simply plugging your electronics (e.g. cell phone charger, computer, TV, DVD players) into a power strip and flipping the switch when you leave home. They even have selftimming power ships that automatically shut down.

Visit [www.GreenIsUniversal.com](http://www.GreenIsUniversal.com) to learn more about these and other important facts about being green.

Find the quiz at:

[www.msnbc.msn.com/id/24097263](http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/24097263)

**Plastic Symbols (cont'd)****Number 3 Plastics (continued)**

- **Recycling:** Rarely recycled; accepted by some lumber makers.
- **Recycled Into:** Decks, paneling, mudflaps, roadway gutters, flooring, cables, speed bumps, mats.

PVC contains chlorine, so it's manufacture can release highly dangerous dioxins. If you must cook with PVC, don't let the plastic touch food. **Never burn PVC, because it releases toxins.**

**Number 4 Plastics - LDPE  
Low Density polyethylene**

- **Found in:** Squeezable bottles; bread, frozen food, dry cleaning and shopping bags; tote bags; clothing; furniture; carpet.
- **Recycling:** LDPE is not often recycled through curbside programs but some communities will accept it. Plastic shopping bags can be returned to many stores for recycling.
- **Recycled Into:** Trash Can liners and cans, compost bins, shipping envelopes, paneling, lumber, landscaping ties, floor tile.

Historically, LDPE has not been accepted through most American curbside recycling programs, but more and more communities are starting to accept it.

**Number 5 Plastics - PP (polypropylene)**

- **Found in:** Some yogurt containers, syrup bottles, ketchup bottles, caps, straws, medicine bottles
- **Recycling:** Number 5 plastics can be recycled through some curbside programs.
- **Recycled Into:** Signal lights, battery cables, brooms, brushes, auto battery cases, ice scrapers, landscape borders, bicycle racks, rakes, bins, pallets, trays.

Polypropylene has a high melting point, and so is often chosen for containers that must accept hot liquid. It is gradually becoming more accepted by recyclers.

**Number 6 Plastics - PS Polystyrene**

- **Found in:** Disposable plates and cups, meat trays, egg cartons, carry-out containers, aspirin bottles, compact disc cases
- **Recycling:** Number 6 plastics can be recycled through some curbside programs.
- **Recycled Into:** Insulation, light switch plates, egg

cartons, vents, rulers, foam packing, carry-out containers

Polystyrene can be made into rigid or foam products - in the latter case it is popularly known as the trademark Styrofoam. Evidence suggests polystyrene can leach potential toxins into foods. The material was long on environmentalists' hit lists for dispersing widely across the landscape, and for being difficult to recycle.

**Number 7 Plastics - Miscellaneous**

- **Found in:** Three and five gallon water bottles, ‘bullet proof’ materials, sunglasses, DVDs, iPod and computer cases, signs and displays, certain food containers, nylon
- **Recycling:** Number 7 plastics have traditionally not been recycled, though some curbside programs now take them.
- **Recycled Into:** Plastic lumber, custom made products.

A wide variety of plastic resins that don't fit into the previous categories are lumped into number 7. A few are even made from plants (polyactide) and are compostable. Polycarbonate is number 7, and is the hard plastic that has parents worried these days, after studies have shown it can leach potential hormone disruptors.

from The Daily Green, March 31, 2008.  
[www.mercola.com](http://www.mercola.com)

**RECYCLING PAYS  
IN MANY WAYS**

# PEARCE BROOK WATERSHED NON POINT SOURCE PROJECT



## Urban Extent of the Pearce Brook Watershed

Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians  
Littleton, Maine  
August 2008

Created by D. Lombard

There is a lot going on in and around Pearce Brook these days! Last year the Town of Houlton and the Maliseet Tribe organized a successful trash clean-up day along the banks of Pearce Brook. Also, in 2007 Maine Department of Environmental Protection began removing contaminated soil in the area surrounding the junction of North and Military Streets adjacent to the Brook. This year, MDOT road repairs include replacing and upgrading the Bangor Street/Pearce Brook stream crossing with a large culvert that will ensure fish passage and address other road drainage issues.

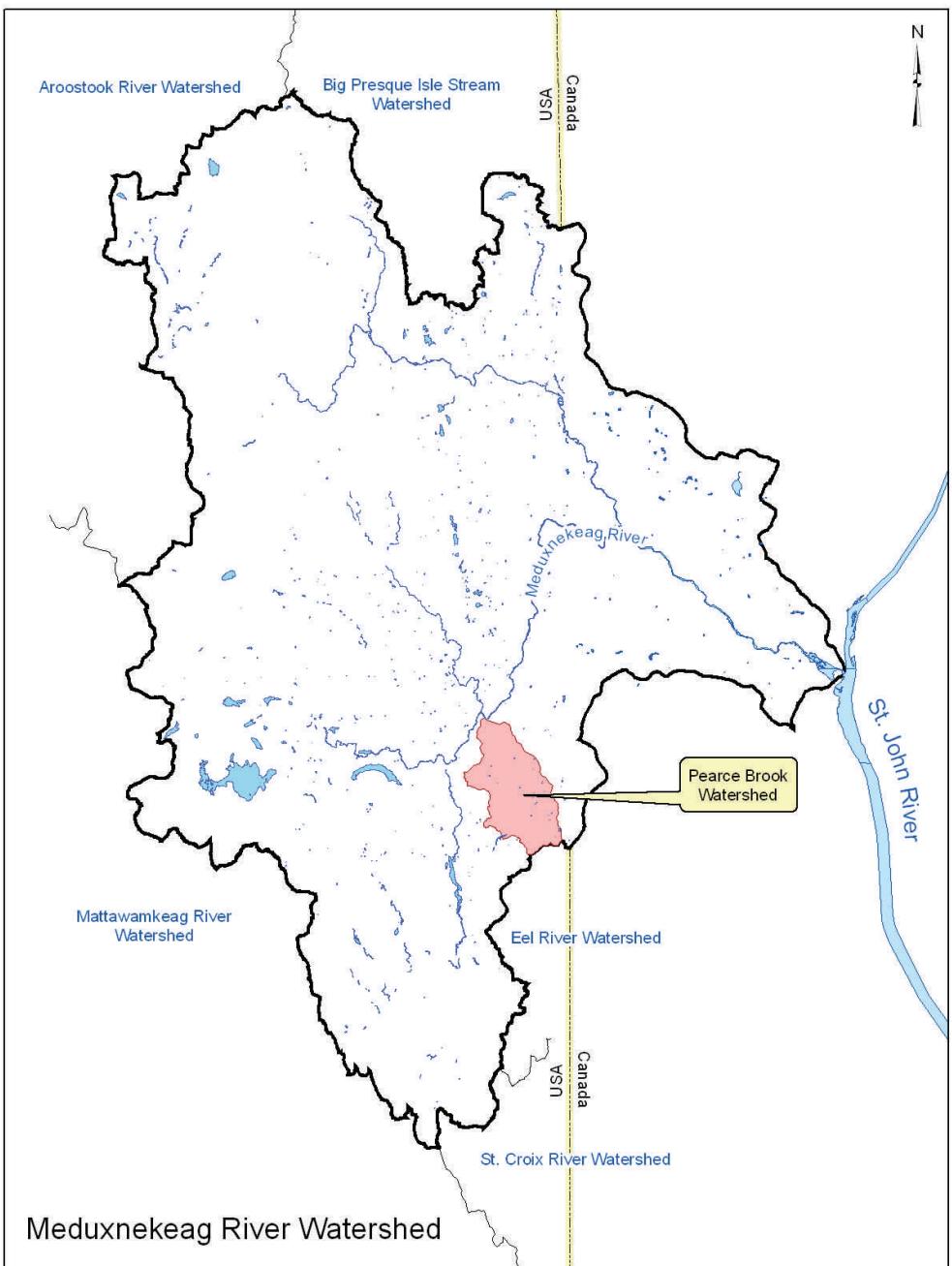
The latest effort involves the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians, the Town of Houlton, University of Maine Cooperative Extension Service, Southern Aroostook Soil and Water Conservation Service, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, S.W. Collins, Pine Tree Ltd, and Maine Department of Environmental Protection. These groups are working together on a water quality project in Pearce Brook Watershed which will result in a watershed based plan to restore habitat and improve water quality and stormwater management structures at several commercial locations along the Brook. This watershed project is funded through a grant from the Environmental Protection Agency.

### *So, what is a watershed?*

Everyone lives in a watershed. Rivers, brooks, lakes and other waterbodies are defined by their watersheds. Watersheds are land areas connected to a waterbody by their topography. A watershed is a bowl-shaped land area that literally "sheds" or drains storm water into the underlying water table and its low lying places such as wetlands, ponds, streams and rivers.

Watersheds can be very large, such as the Wolastoq (Maliseet for beautiful, shining river) a.k.a St. John watershed at 21,230 sq. mi. or as small as Pearce Brook watershed at 6200 acres and even smaller. Every waterbody has a watershed from which it receives replenishing rainwater.

**Fun Fact:**  
*at 418 miles, the  
St. John/Wolastoq River  
is the second longest  
river between the  
St. Lawrence Seaway and  
the Mississippi River!  
(Source Wikipedia)*



## **What is nonpoint source pollution?**

After rainwater falls to the ground, we call it stormwater. Stormwater filters into groundwater and refills our wells. Stormwater runoff “washes” over the land picking up any pollutants it encounters on the way. These pollutants are then carried along by the stormwater runoff to ditches, swales, and storm drains that eventually lead to a brook, pond or other waterbody. Because these pollutants don’t come from one “point” like the waste water discharge pipe of a treatment plant it’s called “nonpoint” source pollution.

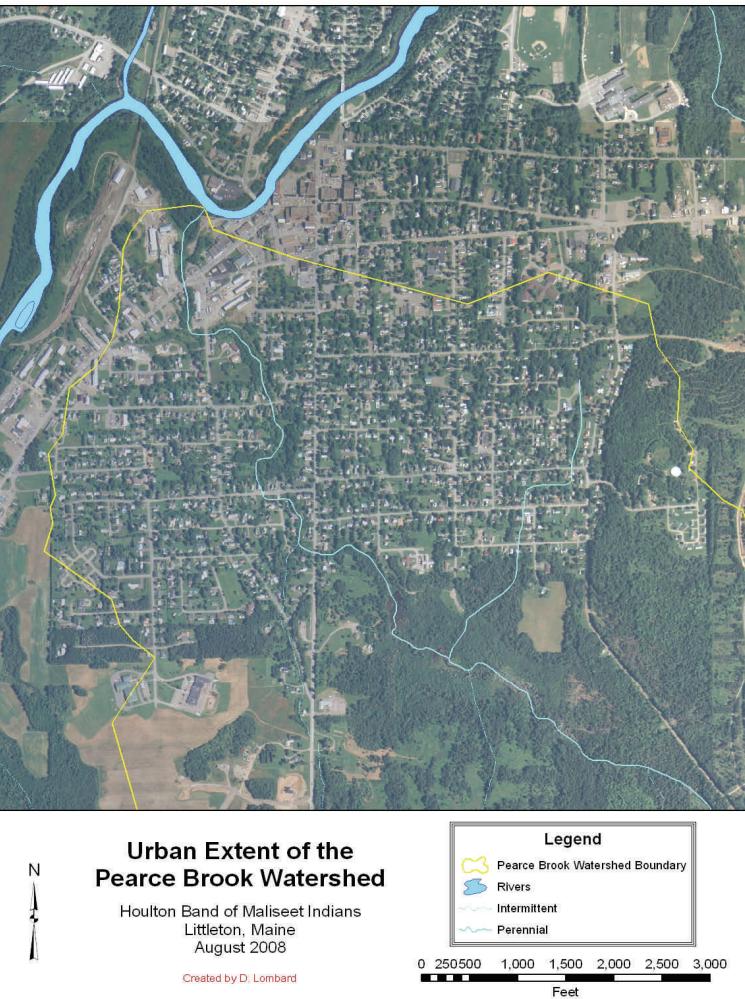
Much of Houlton proper is in Pearce Brook Watershed. This makes Pearce the most urbanized tributary of the larger Meduxnekeag Watershed.

*Why is this a concern?* Urban areas have more “impervious surface” than other types of land use such as forest or farmland.

Impervious surfaces like roads, roofs, driveways and sidewalks don’t filter stormwater. Instead stormwater accumulates as runoff. The more impervious surface in a watershed the larger the volume of runoff and the greater the speed with which it flows. This increased quantity and speed of runoff causes erosion, carries pollutants, and damages the physical structure of brooks and streams. This damages habitat for fish and other species that rely on these water bodies.

## **Some Effects of Urbanization on Habitat**

- Stream widening and erosion
- Reduced fish passage
- Degraded habitat structure
- Loss of pools and riffles
- Fragmented tree canopy along stream banks
- Streambed covered with silt or mud destroying gravel/cobble spawning areas



Stormwater entering Pearce Brook

### **Typical Pollutants found in Urban Stormwater**

- Suspended solids/ sediments
- Nutrients (nitrogen/ phosphorus)
- Metals (copper, zinc, lead, cadmium)
- Oils & greases
- Bacteria

Pearce Brook is a special place to many people. According to David Basely, IFW Fisheries Biologist, as early as the late '50s or early '60s, Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife designated this stream as “fishing restricted to persons 16 years of age and younger” to provide recreational opportunity for school children living in the area. But Pearce has its problems.

## **Water Quality Problems In Pearce Brook**

**Sediment** from eroding stream banks, road ditches, sidewalks, driveways, and bridge embankments.

**Conductivity** (a measure of pollutant load) exceeds the range of all other tributaries in the Meduxnekeag Watershed except Jimmy Brook, and increases dramatically after Pearce flows through its urbanized stretch.

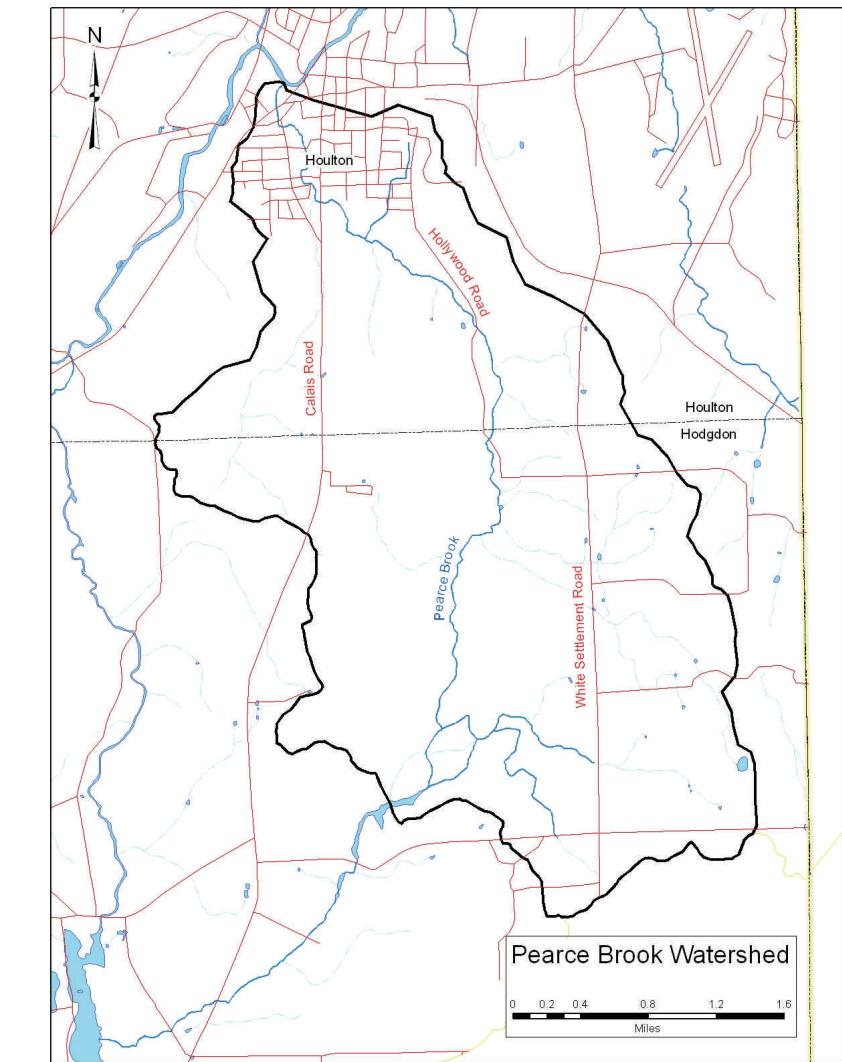
**Bacteria** above natural background levels, and commonly exceeds state standards - found at high levels in storm drains.

**Dissolved oxygen** impairments in the lower watershed.

**Aquatic invertebrates** at Class B levels, other tributaries attain a higher standard (Class A).

**Fuel Contamination** a historical legacy of over 30 underground gas/fuel storage tanks.

## **Do you live in Pearce Brook Watershed?**



### **Did you know?**

Pearce (“purse”) Brook is named after the Pearce family who farmed the adjacent land before it was developed into a residential/commercial part of town. Many streets are named after members of the Pearce family e.g. Franklin Ave. named after their patriarch.  
(source: Leigh Cummings).

The Towns of Houlton and Hodgdon are hosting three public meetings to discuss your issues, concerns, and values regarding Pearce Brook and its future.

Wednesday, Oct 21st 3:00p.m. Houlton Town Office  
Wednesday, Oct. 21st 5:00p.m. Houlton Town Office

Saturday, Oct. 25th 10:00a.m. Hodgdon Town Office

For more information call Wade Hanson, Community Development Planner at 532-7111.