


Brenda Commander - Tribal Chief
Susan Young - Editor

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The Wonderful World of Weather

You know that old saying, "If you don't like the weather, just wait a minute it'll change" well that sure has been true this year. We started off with a strange winter, that was cold, wet and seemed to drag on forever.



Bill Tomah, Dave Joseph & Brian Reynolds work to clear fallen trees from Bell Road

This summer has taken us from hot and dry to hot, muggy and rainy. Late July and August has been full of extreme weather. On July 30th, a powerful storm blew through this area, pounding the Administration

offices while leaving the Housing Authority Offices virtually untouched. We were treated to heavy rains, pea sized hail and very heavy winds. The winds broke a number of trees in the nearby beaver pond and parking lot, and dropped a number of trees across Bell Road. Bill Tomah, Dave Joseph, and Brian Reynolds used chainsaws and a bucket loader to clear the road so we could get out at the end of the day.



Following that adventure the rains came. We had almost a week of solid rain with very high humidity. For days on end we had humidity readings of 90% or more, with many 100% readings. On the plus side, the Meduxnekeag River was flowing at a higher level than it has in the past few Augusts. During the height of the rainy spell, the water level in the Meduxnekeag rose over 5 feet as evident in these pictures of the Lowery Bridge!



Water levels under the Lowery Bridge previous years (left) August storm week (above)

Tribal Nature Trail



This summer, David Lombard and his summer technicians, Luke Joseph & Josh Toner constructed a nature trail on tribal property. The trail loop measures approximately 2 miles and travels through the woods, along a field road, passing agricultural fields and riparian buffer plantings. Depending on how you look at it, the trail begins or ends near the Administration office.

This trail offers an opportunity to get some exercise while learning about the diversity of our tribal lands. Still in the works are informational signs for the trail, a brochure and video. We plan to have guided walks on the trail for Recognition Day so be sure to stop by.

David, Luke & Josh working on bog bridge

Storm Sampler



Cara Ellis installing ISCO sampler in river



This summer the Water Resources Program obtained an ISCO sampler to help gather and analyze storm water and its affects on water quality in the river.

This unit gathers water samples at regular intervals during a storm event enabling the water resources staff to monitor the changes in water quality. Through the use of the ISCO sampler we hope to gain valuable data to enhance our understanding of the health of the river.

***A fond farewell
to this year's summer technicians
Patty Howe - Julie Ivey
Luke Joseph - Joshua Toner***

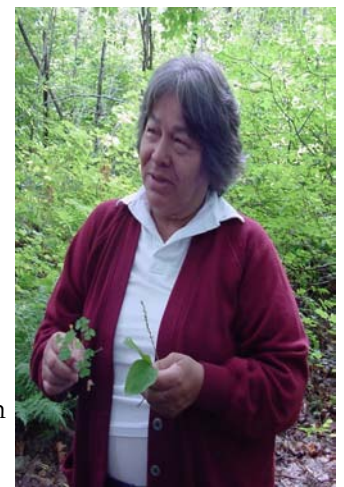
Best of luck in the future

NAFWS Northeast Regional Conference

This August, Sharri Venno, David Lombard, Luke Joseph & Josh Toner traveled to Akwesasne, NY, home of the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe to attend the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society's Northeast Regional Conference.

This year's conference was full of interesting topics ranging from Indian Tribal Trust Duties and the Endangered Species Act, Using GIS to preserve Mohawk Resources, A Five Year Water Level Study in the St. Lawrence Seaway, Funding through Partners for Fish and Wildlife to talks on Invasive Species and Birds of the Wetlands. In October, David Lombard will return to Akwesasne to attend a Black Ash Workshop.

A highlight of the conference was a medicine walk led by Mohawk Elder and Medicine Woman Cecelia Mitchell. During this walk, Sharri, David, Luke and Josh got hands on knowledge of some of the plants vital to Mohawk culture. For example, unlike this area, sweetgrass is less common and therefore not used as freely in ceremonies like smudging



Cecelia Mitchell, Mohawk Elder and medicine woman conducting medicine walk

Nuci Kotunkahticik

For the Hunters

Fall brings to mind changing colors, falling temps and the start of the hunting and trapping seasons.



- nuci-kotunket* - a hunter
- nuci-punawet* - a trapper
- 'tomawey* - tobacco
- oqiton* - canoe
- laputihikonol* - binoculars
- mihqotanis* - knife
- lontoqiyehs* - wood duck
- muniqehs* - ground hog
- qapit* - beaver
- mus* - moose
- otuhk* - deer
- muwin* - bear
- kiwhos* - muskrat
- peskuwat* - gun
- mahtoqehs* - rabbit
- espons* - raccoon
- qaqsoss* - fox
- yap* - buck

Word Search

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

- | | | |
|----------|---------|-----------|
| Autumn | Equinox | Moose |
| Bear | Fungus | Partridge |
| Canoe | Grouse | Seasons |
| Cattails | Hiking | Swamp |
| Cedar | Hunting | Trail |
| Deer | Leaves | Venison |

Radon Testing

As fall and winter approach, it's time to start thinking about testing your home for radon. The winter is an excellent time to test for radon since most homes are closed up tight against the cold. This winter we will begin testing the 19 newly constructed homes on tribal land along with the new HeadStart building. Those of you in Aroostook County who haven't had your homes tested, look for a letter in the mail asking if you want your home tested this winter.

Just What Is Radon Anyway?

Radon gas occurs from the natural (radioactive) breakdown of uranium in soil, rock and water. You can't see, smell or taste radon.



Nearly 1 in 15 homes in the United States is estimated to have high radon levels. Radon can be a problem in schools and workplaces too. The Surgeon General has warned that radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States. Only smoking causes more lung cancer deaths. ***If you smoke and your home has high levels of radon, your risk of lung cancer is especially high.*** What better incentive to get your home tested and to quit smoking?

So just how does radon enter these buildings? Radon can enter the cellar (or slab) through:

- ⇒ Cracks in solid floors
- ⇒ Construction joints
- ⇒ Cracks in walls
- ⇒ Gaps in suspended floors
- ⇒ Gaps around service pipes
- ⇒ Cavities inside walls
- ⇒ The water supply and move into the rest of the building. Radon is not often found in public water supplies but has been found in well water.

If you are planning major structural renovations to your home, such as converting an unfinished basement into a bedroom or other living space, it is a good idea to test for radon. If your test shows a radon problem, a variety of radon resistant techniques can be incorporated into your project. It is always a good idea to test again after the work is completed.

(Source: *A Citizens Guide to Radon - The Guide to Protecting Yourself and Your Family From Radon*)

**HBMI Natural Resources
Department**

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Help Us Name the Nature Trail



Tribal Trail - Maliseet Walking
Trail - Cedar Lane - Critter
Path - Skicin Awt - Moccassin
Trail - (fill in the blank)

Here's your chance to make a lasting impact on the new nature trail. We need a name for the trail. Send us your suggestion in writing by mail, fax, email or in person by

Friday October 31, 2003 at 4:00pm

for a chance to win a \$50.00 prize. An entry bucket will also be available at Recognition Day.

Good luck! Send your suggestions to :

**HBMI Natural Resources
88 Bell Road Littleton, ME 04730**

By fax to: 207-532-6883

By e-mail: ogs1@maliseets.com



Word Search Answers

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