



STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND RURAL RESOURCES
BOARD OF PESTICIDES CONTROL
28 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0028

WALTER E. WHITCOMB
COMMISSIONER
HENRY S. JENNINGS
DIRECTOR

To: Board of Pesticides Control Members
From: Mary Tomlinson, Pesticides Registrar/Water Quality Specialist
RE: Water Quality Program Update for 2010-2011
Date: February 14, 2012

2010 Sediment Sampling Results

The sediment samples collected in Portland and South Portland, in December 2010, still have not yet been completely analyzed by the University of Maine Food and Chemical Safety Laboratory. The results should be available by the end of February or early March 2012.

In October 2011, I met with the Trout Brook Residential Planning Group in South Portland to explore ways the Board of Pesticides Control (BPC) would be able to support the group. There was an interest in more sediment sampling for lawn care pesticides along the length of the brook and assistance with outreach materials and speakers. No further sediment sampling has been conducted due to the lack of 2010 results and funding concerns. The group has also not requested any further assistance from the BPC at this time for outreach assistance.

2011 Ground Water Sampling Project

In accordance with the *Hexazinone in Ground Water Monitoring Program* and the State of Maine *Generic State Management Plan for Pesticides and Ground Water*, 53 randomly selected domestic wells, within ¼ mile down gradient of active blueberry fields, were sampled in the spring for hexazinone, hexazinone metabolite B, terbacyl, propiconazole, diuron, tribenuron methyl, and mesotrione. Asulox was to be included, but the lab did not analyze for this.

Results were returned in October for 52 wells. Forty-one percent of the wells had detectable levels of hexazinone, 33% had detectable levels of hexazinone B, and 8% had detectable levels of terbacyl. These detections were well below the EPA maximum contaminant level, the EPA health advisory level, and the Maine maximum exposure guidelines. There were no detections for propiconazole, diuron, or tribenuron methyl. The lab was unable to assay mesotrione. The data has not yet been fully analyzed to determine trends or probability of well contamination in Maine.