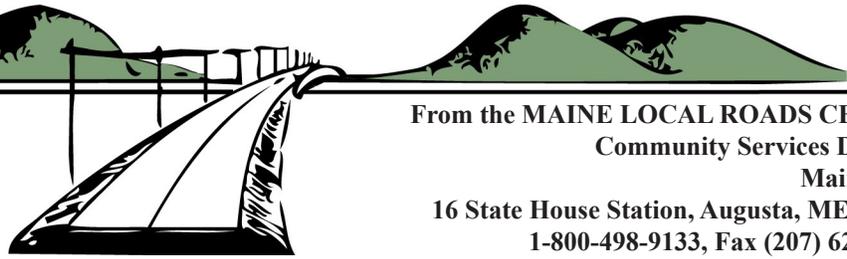




# “MAINE LOCAL ROADS NEWS”

Summer 2007

A Newsletter to Assist Maine  
Towns in Dealing with Local  
Transportation Concerns



From the MAINE LOCAL ROADS CENTER  
Community Services Division  
MaineDOT  
16 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333  
1-800-498-9133, Fax (207) 624-3301



Toll Free Number!  
1-800-498-9133  
Feel free to call us with  
your road questions



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## WORKING WITH GEOTEXTILES



Here’s a quick way to learn a lot about easy-to-use techniques for road repair and erosion control to reduce costly repetitive damages from future storm events.

Recently Dr. Richard N. Downer, P.E., Hazard and Performance Analysis Specialist, FEMA has been holding small workshops throughout Maine with the assistance of the Maine Local Roads Center. Dr. Downer will be presenting more of these 3 hour workshops in the month of September that will cover such topics as Separation, Reinforcement, Drainage, and Slope Stabilization.

Samples of woven, non-woven geotextiles, geomats, geoweb, geofabric, geocells are available on site with examples on how to use these products to solve a number of typical road problems. A variety of literature on geosynthetic materials will also be available.

Audience participation has been a key component of these presentations as their questions determine the examples discussed.

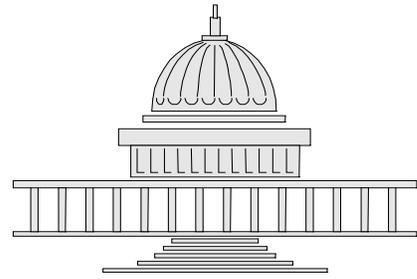
Recent topics discussed have included:

- elimination of potholes
- elimination of in-road springs
- installation techniques
- how to create safe yet deep roadside ditches
- elimination of muddy roads in the Spring
- how to raise a road that crosses a swamp or bog
- stabilization of small landslides at the edge of a road
- use of gabions.

Off-topic questions have been fielded on sizing rip rap, sizing culverts, adding culvert headwalls, twin culvert hydraulics, low-water crossings, and road way armoring at the downstream edge. Also present will be Aaron Sines, Region 1, FEMA representative.

For more information, please call the Center at 1-800-498-9133 or email Nancy Tyler at [nancy.tyler@maine.gov](mailto:nancy.tyler@maine.gov).

**The following law changes are a small sample of recently enacted laws relating to transportation issues in Maine towns and cities:**



**Center Turn Lanes – LD 23, passed as PL 2007, c. 8 (effective September 20, 2007)**

This bill relates to two way center turning lanes which are used to allow turning traffic to get out of the normal flow of through traffic. It is now a proper use of these lanes when a motorist turns into such a lane when making a left hand turn onto the roadway from a driveway or entrance until such time as the vehicle can safely enter the single way travel lane.

**Seat Belts – LD 24, passed as PL 2007, c.60 (effective September 20, 2007)**

After many attempts in previous years, it will now be a primary offense for failure to wear a seat belt in a motor vehicle. This means that a police officer may stop a motor vehicle and issue a ticket even if no other motor vehicle operational violation has occurred. It also specifies that a stop by a police officer solely for the failure to wear a seat belt may not provide justification for a search of the vehicle, the contents of the vehicle, or the operator.

**ATV's on public ways – LD 160, passed as PL 2007, c. 33 (effective September 20, 2007)**

This law allows municipalities to direct the use of All Terrain Vehicles (ATV's) on the public rights-of-ways designated as ATV "access routes" provided the ATV traffic travels in the same direction as motor vehicle traffic. This law makes it more flexible than the current law which says ATV's must stay to the "extreme right of the public way". The current law still states that an ATV-access route must be posted conspicuously at regular intervals by the municipality with highly visible signs designating the ATV-access route. Before designating a public way as an ATV-access route, the municipality shall make appropriate determinations that ATV travel on the extreme right of the public way or as directed by the municipality within the public way may be conducted safely and will not interfere with vehicular traffic on the public way.

**Electronic device use by minors while driving – LD 161, passed as PL 2007, c. 272 (effective September 20, 2007)**

Any driver who is 18 years old or younger is prohibited from using ANY electronic device (cell phone, game, I-pod, etc) while operating a motor vehicle unless the device is related to the operation of the vehicle.

**Changeable Signs along roads – LD 830, passed as PL 2007, c. 124 (effective September 20, 2007)**

This law is directed at businesses with changeable signs that promote sales, time/temp, special offers, etc. These signs are now allowed to use graphic, pictorial, or photographic images ONLY if the municipality in which the sign is located adopts a specific ordinance prohibiting such images and is assuming the administrative and enforcement responsibilities of that ordinance. The municipality is also required to notify the MaineDOT Traffic Division, in writing, of the adoption of the ordinance..... otherwise it is not legal. This law also says that continuous streaming of information or video animation on changeable signs is prohibited.

**Structures in or near a State or State Aid highway – LD 921, passed as emergency PL 2007, c. 191 (effective May 30, 2007)**

Structures like walls, buildings, gardens, dead fixed mailboxes, etc will now be scrutinized by the DOT Commissioner who may issue permission by means of a waiver to a landowner who wishes to erect, construct, or install a structure within the non-developed zone within or immediately adjacent to the right-of-way of the state highway. The waiver may be issued only if certain conditions are met including 1) the DOT Commissioner receives a written statement from the municipal officers either requesting or supporting the waiver, 2) the posted speed limit in that area is 35 mph or less, and 3) the DOT Commissioner determines that highway safety and public welfare will not be adversely affected.

**"Good Condition" before transfer to an urban compact town – LD 1018, passed as PL 2007, c. 417 (effective September 13, 2003)**

Only in an urban compact area, when a road section is to be transferred from the DOT to the municipality, the road must be in "good condition" prior to transfer. This can only happen as a result of 1) population growth due to US Census changes, or 2) the municipality meets the definition of a compact section.

*Continued on Page 3*

*Laws continued:***Joint Order to Study Certain Transportation Matters—passed June 20, 2007**

This Order requires the Transportation Committee to meet up to 4 times in 2007 to:

- study the collector and state aid highway network,
- study the evolution of the laws governing state aid roads,
- identify inequities experienced by municipalities under current law,
- compare laws on state aid roads to other states,
- assess the need to adjust state/municipal maintenance and capital improvements responsibilities to state aid roads and amend URIP funding,
- make recommendations on how the state aid system is currently maintained and funded and how any change could create positive or negative impacts to local road and state aid conditions.

For further details on many other bills that passed as new laws relative to municipalities, see the July, 2007 edition of MMA's

## URIP payments

*“get them by electronic transfer rather than a paper check”*



This option is speedy and secure. When your quarterly payment is transferred to your town account, there is:

- ✓ earlier deposit in your account
- ✓ no waiting for the mail
- ✓ no misplaced or lost checks and
- ✓ no trip to the bank to deposit the check

### **How to Sign Up**

If you are interested in Electronic Fund Transfer, you can contact the Office of the Controller for the State of Maine at 626-8420 or visit their web site at <http://inet.state.me.us/osc/>. On the web site, under Office Units, click on “Accounting”, then “Electronic Funds Transfer”. Here you can print out the [EFT Form Activation](#).

Once the Office of the Controller has received your completed and signed Electronic Fund Agreement, the process will take 5 working days after entry in the system.

If a municipality chooses Electronic Fund Transfer of funds, then all State programs participating in the Electronic Fund Transfer program will have that program's funds paid electronically also.

If a municipality decides this system does not meet their needs it has the option to deactivate the electronic funds transfer program by completing the [Deactivation EFT form](#) on the web site.

Also ask about the Paymode-Link Clareon if more information with the payment is desired then what is furnished by regular EFT.

# 2007 “Roads Scholars”



Dale Mitchell  
Senior Project Manager  
HNTB



David Kinney  
Town Manager  
Lincolntonville



Dave Sokolich  
Public Works Director  
Aroostook County



Dean Camber  
Foreman  
Union



Richard Goodwin  
Road Commissioner  
Shapleigh



John Evans  
Equipment Operator  
South Portland



Kenneth Richardson  
Public Works Director  
Denmark



Leigh Stilwell  
Public Works Director  
Houlton



Marcel Roy  
Foreman  
Lewiston

# 2007 “Roads Scholars” *continued*



Kevin Tingley  
Dep. Public Works Director  
Houlton



Ronald Brown  
Laborer  
Skowhegan



Steve Belanger  
Equipment Operator  
Auburn



Tim Robbins  
Mechanic  
Auburn



Robert Clark  
Mechanic  
Easton



Robert Percshy  
Public Works Director  
Berwick



Michael Picard  
Road Commissioner  
Grand Isle



Kevin Doyle  
Sale Representative  
TENCO

**NO PHOTOS AVAILABLE**

Jimmy Schlaefter  
Public Works Director  
Tremont  
and  
Steve Wilson  
Equipment Operator  
Yarmouth

**“TIMEOUT FOR TRAINING” PRIZE WINNERS**  
**16th Annual Highway Congress June 7, 2007**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>ASSOCIATION</b>	<b>DONOR</b>	<b>PRIZE</b>
Brian Prescott	?	Beauregard Equipment	Display Model Grader
Brent MacArthur	Arundel	Jarrold Jamieson Distribution, Inc.	3 Hats
Craig Turner	Arundel	Palmer Spring Company	T-Shirt & Hat
David DeWitt	Arundel	Jordan Equipment Company	3 Bobcat Baseball Caps
Nick Macdonald	Arundel	McFarland Spring Corporation	T-Shirt & Hat
Ron Boular	Arundel	White & Bradstreet	Tool Box, Hat, T-Shirt, Sea Dog Tickets
Chuck Neal	Auburn	Maine Local Roads	\$25 Gift Certificate Marden's
Paul Allen	Auburn	Milton CAT	CAT Impact Gloves High Performance
Joe Gauthier	Augusta	Ted Berry Company, Inc.	T-Shirt & Hat
Mark White	Augusta	Culvert Rehabilitation Services (CRS)	Hat & Golf Shirt
Bryan Levitt	Bath	TransCOR	T-Shirt
Jacob Dodge	Bath	Jacob, Edwards, & Kelcey	Polo Shirt
Ken LaVallee	Bath	Gagne Precast	Sweatshirt and Coffee Mug
Arthur Thompson Sr	Benton	Perma-Line Corporation	Denim Shirt
Arnold Brewer	Brunswick	Jordan Equipment Company	Baseball Cap
Dale Lawless	Cumberland	Safe Road Services, LLC	SAFE BIND Hat and Shirt
Wendy Burr	Cumberland	Jordan Equipment Company	3 Bobcat Baseball Caps
Hill Artman	Dexter	Bellemore	\$50 Certificate Kittery Trading Post
Jasper Hatch	Dexter	Maine Oxy	\$25 Gift Certificate to Maine Oxy
Keith Worster	Dexter	Brake Service & Parts	LIN 1147 Grease Gun & Heater
John Perry	FHWA	Tenco New England	\$25 Gift Certificate Hannaford's
Jeff Goldrup	Freeport	Sherwin Williams	\$50 Gift Certificate to Sherwin Williams
Dale Mitchell	HNTB	Ray-Tech Infrared Corporation	\$50 Gift Certificate Stonewall Kitchens
Charles Haskell	Jay	Exxon Mobil Pipeline Company	\$25 Gas Card
Terry Greenleaf	Jay	Maine Local Roads	\$25 Gift Certificate Marden's
Andy Parker	Lewiston	McFarland Spring Corporation	T-Shirt & Hat
Marc Cyr	Lewiston	Perma-Line Corporation	Golf Shirt
Duncan Daly	Lisbon	Exxon Mobil Pipeline Company	\$25 Gas Card
Cal Yeaton	MaineDOT - Augusta	NH Bragg	Flashlight, Lighting Tool, Torpedo Level
Gina Pelletier	MaineDOT - Augusta	Tenco New England	\$25 Gift Certificate Hannaford's
Dale Barter	MaineDOT - Fleet	Jacobs, Edwards & Kelcey	Polo Shirt
David Chasse	MaineDOT - Fleet	Gagne Precast	Sweatshirt and Coffee Mug
David Sherlock	MaineDOT - Region 1	Salso, Inc.	Blade Sharpening Kit
Dean Lessard	MaineDOT - Region 1	DJ's Municipal Supply	1 Extension Cord Reel
John Schnoor	MaineDOT - Region 1	Jacob, Edwards, & Kelcey	Polo Shirt
Norm Haggan	MaineDOT - Region 3	White & Bradstreet	Tool Box, Hat, T-Shirt, Sea Dog Tickets
Berk Goodridge	MaineDOT - Region 4	Ted Berry Company, Inc.	T-Shirt & Hat
Dale Small	MaineDOT - Region 4	Jordan Equipment Company	Baseball Cap
Wally Brown	MaineDOT - Region 4	Jordan Equipment Company	Baseball Cap
Jerry Waldo	MaineDOT - Region 4	White & Bradstreet	Tool Box, Hat, T-Shirt, Sea Dog Tickets
Mark Theriault	MaineDOT - Region 4	Safe Road Services, LLC	ICE BAN Hat and Shirt
Steve Harrington	MaineDOT - Region 4	American Concrete	ACI Winter Jacket

**Highway Congress Prize Winners continued**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>ASSOCIATION</b>	<b>DONOR</b>	<b>PRIZE</b>
Steve Moore	MaineDOT - Region 4	Palmer Spring Company	T-Shirt & Hat
Bob Watson	MaineDOT - Region 5	Milton CAT	Check-A-Tread CAT Identification Guide
Jim Plante	MaineDOT - Region 5	Sherwin Williams	\$50 Gift Certificate to Sherwin Williams
Joe Tedford	MaineDOT - Region 5	DJ's Municipal Supply	25 person 1st Aid Kit
Mark Pradis	MaineDOT - Region 5	E.W. Sleeper Company, Inc.	Rotating Beacon Strobe Light
Timothy Irish	MaineDOT - Region 5	Coastal Metal Fabrication	Convert-A-Ball Hitch
Terry Marks	MaineDOT - Richmond	Palmer Spring Company	T-Shirt & Hat
Bruce Balfour	Monmouth	Safe Road Services, LLc	Safe Road Services Hat
Michael Costello	Monmouth	Jacobs, Edwards & Kelcey	Fleece Jacket
Rodney Bubier	Monmouth	DJ's Municipal Supply	1 Shovel Set
Tom Gregor	Monmouth	Milton CAT	CAT Rain Suit (Hat, Rain Pants & Jacket)
Gerald Picard	MTA	Maine Local Roads	6 Pairs of Tiger Cat Gloves
James King	MTA	Ted Berry Company, Inc.	Canvas Bag
Nicole Chase	MTA	Waterman Farm Machinery	Scale Model Case Tractor
David Fowler	Norridgewock	Ted Berry Company, Inc.	T-Shirt & Hat
Joe Bishop	Norridgewock	Maine Local Roads	WILBAH's Surprise Bag
Walter Booker	Norridgewock	Beauregard Equipment	Display Model Artic Datco Truck
Richard Rideout	Orono	S.A. McLean	XL 3 Button Shirt
Stanley Giguere	Pleasant Ridge	McFarland Spring Corporation	T-Shirt & Hat
Adam Daigle	Portland	Messer Truck Equipment	Portland Sea Dog Tickets (4 box seats)
April Crowley	Portland	Exxon Mobil Pipeline Company	\$25 Gas Card
Betsy Beely	Portland	DJ's Municipal Supply	\$25 Gift Certificate Sam's/Walmart
Brian Cogill	Portland	Milton CAT	CAT Pull Shop Towels (2 sets)
Brian Parent	Portland	Exxon Mobil Pipeline Company	\$25 Gas Card
Charles Fairbrother	Portland	Salso, Inc.	2 Hats
Duane Cote	Portland	HP Fairfield	\$50 LL Bean Certificate
Greg Thompson	Portland	Maine Water Works	\$50 LL Bean Certificate
Stan Mason	Portland	Safe Road Services, LLc	Coleman Remote Control Lantern
Tammy Vir	Portland	Road Recycling Council	\$50 LL Bean Certificate
Wesley Sobieray	Portland	Wright-Pierce	Wright-Pierce Denim Shirt
Phil Wentworth	Pownal	Ted Berry Company, Inc.	Hat & T-Shirt
Carl Rollins	Reed	O'Connor GMC	Cobra 40 Channel CB Radio
Bob Howe	Richmond	McFarland Spring Corporation	T-Shirt & Hat
Gary Murphy	Richmond	Jarrod Jamieson Distribution, Inc.	3 Hats
Bill Washburn	Skowhegan	Jordan Equipment Company	Baseball Cap
Charles Bess	Skowhegan	Freightliner of Maine	CB Radio
Ron Brown	Skowhegan	White & Bradstreet	Tool Box, Hat, T-Shirt, Sea Dog Tickets
Tony Costa	Skowhegan	Beauregard Equipment	Display Model Loader
Walter Powell	Skowhegan	Spaulding Mfg., Inc.	Columbia Winter Jacket
Russ Lunt	South Portland	Ted Berry Company, Inc.	Canvas Bag
Roger Mosley	Standish	Maine Oxy	\$25 Gift Certificate to Maine Oxy
Roy Chase	Standish	Aerican Concrete	ACI Winter Jacket
Terry Thibodeau	Van Buren	Beauregard Equipment	Display Model Backhoe
Jesse Moon	Yarmouth	Messer Truck Equipment	Portland Sea Dog Tickets (4 box seats)

## MAINE LOCAL ROADS NEWS

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Augusta, ME 04333

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Fax: 207-624-3301  
<http://www.mainedot.gov> (click on the Municipal tab)  
E-mail us at: [local.web@maine.gov](mailto:local.web@maine.gov)



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**THIS IS A NEWSLETTER ABOUT LOCAL ROADS. IT IS WRITTEN TO ASSIST MAINE MUNICIPALITIES IN DEALING WITH TRANSPORTATION-RELATED CONCERNS.**

**NEWSLETTER EDITORS**  
Peter M. Coughlan, Director  
Jerry Douglass, Program Manager  
Bob Stevens, Technical Assistant  
Nancy Tyler, Admin. Assistant

The Maine Local Roads Center is part of the Local Technical Assistance Program (LTAP)- a nationwide effort jointly funded by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the various state departments of transportation, and state universities. Its purpose is to decode technical information on roads, streets, bridges and public transportation and put it into a form that is useful to local government personnel.

The Maine Local Roads Center is sponsored by the Maine Department of Transportation (MaineDOT) and FHWA. This quarterly newsletter is intended to keep you informed about training opportunities in the form of workshops and seminars and about publications, techniques or products that might help you in your work. It will also provide a place where useful information can be exchanged among Maine towns on whatever road and street related topics are of interest to you.

Other resources which are available from the Center include:

- Statewide workshops on a wide variety of subjects
- The Maine "Roads Scholar" program
- A large library of videotapes and publications which are either free or available at a very nominal cost
- Practical advice and technical support by phone, email, or website
- A traveling "Road Ranger" who can provide local training or advice
- Several software programs for managing road maintenance, equipment maintenance, or sign maintenance.

We request articles from any source for inclusion in this newsletter. They should be sent to the Maine Local Roads News, Community Services Division, MaineDOT, 16 SHS, Augusta, ME 04333-016. Any findings, conclusions or recommendations presented in this newsletter are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of FHWA or MaineDOT.

**Maine Local Roads Center**