“Having grown up canoeing on Beech Hill Pond, hiking up the granite peaks of Acadia and backpacking in the White Mountains, I have a personal stake in the work of Environment Maine.”

-Matthew Davis, Advocate Environment Maine

From the staff

Ever since I started this work, I’ve been fighting for things I believe in—protections for our waterways, cuts in power plant pollution, wind and solar energy, wilderness conservation.

Having grown up canoeing on Beech Hill Pond, hiking up the granite peaks of Acadia and backpacking in the White Mountains, I have a personal stake in the work of Environment Maine. This year, our work took on an even more personal note for me.

My grandmother, an Ellsworth native and long-time resident, was diagnosed with lung cancer last spring. Like a lot of families dealing with cancer, we want to know why she has been singled out. She has never smoked or lived with a smoker. The only thing we can point to is breathing the air in Maine.

We’ll never really know what has caused my grandmother’s cancer. We can’t say for sure that it was air pollution, even though there’s nothing else to blame. I can say with certainty that our organization’s work to pass the Cleaner Cars Program into law this year made me feel better. It feels good to make a difference for someone else’s grandmother and for future generations.

My grandmother has had great doctors and treatments that have kept her feeling pretty good and able to still enjoy gardening and reading, a few of her favorite activities. No amount of medicine will return her life to normal, nor will it completely conquer the cancer.

Cleaning up the cars in Maine and the power plants from which we get our electricity is too late for her, but it will help my parents, me and my children-to-be. Acting now will clean up the air and avert diseases in the years to come. As they say, an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

With your continued support, Environment Maine will keep working toward prevention: fighting for clean air, clean water and open spaces.

I know we share these ideals, even as each of us has our own very personal reason behind them.

Matthew Davis
Clean air: Cleaner cars victory

Maine suffers from air pollution; half of our counties have unhealthy levels of smog and all counties have elevated risk of cancer from air toxics. The repercussions for public health are significant; Maine has the highest asthma levels in the country.

In June, Environment Maine’s Matthew Davis witnessed the signing of the Cleaner Cars program into law.

Following Gov. John Baldacci’s speech, Davis highlighted the importance of the program to air quality and public health.

Adam Lee, who owns one of the state’s largest group of car dealerships, helped us champion the program and hosted the bill signing at his Augusta dealership.

The Cleaner Cars program, which requires that 11 percent of the new cars sold in the state by 2009 be either hybrids or the cleanest gasoline cars, would cut smog and air pollution by 240 tons per year by 2020.

This small step keeps Maine in line with many other states with strong emissions standards, including Vermont, Mass., Rhode Island, Conn., New York, New Jersey, Calif., Ore. and Wash.

Environment Maine Research & Policy Center recently authored and released “Ready to Roll,” a report highlighting the clean technologies available in hybrid and gasoline cars today, and the benefits for Maine of reducing air pollution and vehicle maintenance costs.

Using these advanced technologies, auto manufacturers can make a car about 90 percent cleaner than the average car on the road today.

Despite the availability of cleaner technology and the threat that air pollution poses to public health, the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers, the Maine Auto Dealers, GM and DaimlerChrysler worked to weaken and defeat the Cleaner Cars program, just like they fought against catalytic converters and air bags.

This fall, the state Department of Environment Protection will be considering adoption of global warming emissions standards for cars, helping to bring the cleanest cars to the state. Environment Maine will continue to advocate the cleanest vehicles in order to clean our air and curb global warming.
A state bond measure to allocate $8.9 million for important environmental programs was approved by the Legislature at the close of the summer, thanks in part to the work of Environment Maine.

Although the bond measure is smaller than had been hoped, it deserves the approval of voters in November 2005. Unfortunately, the state bond measure does not include grants to small towns for sewage treatment improvements. However, the $2.6 million in loans in the bond will assist larger towns and cities in improving their sewage treatment facilities.

“This bond is better than no bond, but the need for investment in our wastewater facilities is much greater,” said Matthew Davis, advocate for Environment Maine. “Maine’s beaches had problems with bacterial contamination all summer, but the Legislature failed to implement one solution: state assistance to improve the worst treatment plants in the state.”

Sewage treatment plants in need
The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) identified 12 towns throughout Maine that needed state assistance this year for their sewage treatment infrastructure, including Calais, Ellsworth, Northport, Presque Isle and Windham. These treatment plants have been discharging raw or partially-treated sewage into Maine’s coastal waters—closing beaches and clam flats up and down the coast and threatening the livelihoods of fishermen.

The Legislature adjourned in June, having failed to approve a state bond package because legislative leaders could not agree on how much funding to include. So, Environment Maine staff took to the streets.

Environment Maine staff talked to over 10,000 Mainers, collected over 3,500 postcards to deliver to state representatives in support of $15 million in state grants for wastewater improvements, brought the issue to the media’s attention, and met with legislators to convince them of the importance of improving sewage plants.

Over the course of the summer, all those conversations and public comments paid off—leadership from both parties met to discuss the amount of the bonds. The bond will be matched by $13 million in federal money from the State Revolving Fund for wastewater.
Maine’s beautiful coastline is threatened by pollution from inadequate, aging sewage treatment plants.

Conservative legislators argued that borrowing more money for a larger bond would leave the state in financial ruin, despite the importance of sewage infrastructure for our state’s tourism-based economy.

If the state had allocated $15 million for grants to towns’ sewage treatment plant improvements, those towns would also qualify for $22 million in federal assistance. Towns like Calais would use grants to increase capacity so that partially-treated sewage would not be dumped during rainstorms. These improvements would help the nearly 100 clammers that are out of work because of bacterial contamination from the plant.

Waterways need further attention
Environment Maine hopes that voters will support the environmental bond measure on the ballot in November 2005. Staff will continue to meet with leaders in the Legislature and Gov. Baldacci to propose and approve a larger bond for wastewater upgrades next year.
Environment Maine won two major victories for our waterways when the state’s two largest blueberry growers agreed to halt aerial pesticide spraying.

The action came after Environment Maine, along with three other environmental organizations, announced their intent to take legal action against Cherryfield Foods, Inc. and Jasper Wyman and Son.

Environment Maine charged the two companies with violating the Clean Water Act by discharging pesticides directly into Downeast waterways—like the Pleasant and Narraguagus Rivers, which are home to the endangered Atlantic salmon.

In total, 17,000 acres of fields and waterways will no longer be sprayed with pesticides by planes and helicopters—an inaccurate and unsafe method of spraying.

**Pesticides contaminate waterways**
State pesticide monitors have found chlorothalonil (a fungicide), and phosmet (an insecticide), in nearby rivers after Cherryfield sprayed its blueberry fields. Similar studies showed that the active ingredients in three different pesticides—phosmet, propiconazole, and fenbuconazole—landed directly in the Narraguagus River and its tributaries after being sprayed by Wyman aircraft.

Studies show that phosmet disrupts fish development and poses a serious threat to young salmon that spend the first few months of their life in streams adjacent to blueberry fields. Pesticides have also contaminated local drinking water supplies, including ones at Narragaugus High School and the Columbia Falls Elementary School.

Despite pesticide contamination in our rivers and groundwater, companies such as Cherryfield and Wyman had been aerially spraying without permits. Regulating this practice under the Clean Water Act would not only reduce the amount of pesticides released into waterways, but also hold pesticide users more accountable to the public.

Either one of these cases would have been one of the first Clean Water Act claims in the nation against an agriculture company for aerially spraying pesticides into rivers and coastal waters, and could have resulted in the state limiting pesticide applicators from spraying into waterways.
Human Health Effects Of Blueberry Fungicides

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Active Ingredient</th>
<th>Trade Name</th>
<th>Acute Toxicity</th>
<th>Possible Carcinogen</th>
<th>Reproductive and/or Developmental Effects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Benomyl</td>
<td>Benlate</td>
<td>Slightly Toxic</td>
<td>Yes (Possible)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Captan</td>
<td>Captec</td>
<td>Highly Toxic</td>
<td>Yes (Probable)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlorothalonil</td>
<td>Bravo</td>
<td>Highly Toxic</td>
<td>Yes (Probable)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyprodinil</td>
<td>Switch</td>
<td>Slightly Toxic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fenbuconazole</td>
<td>Indar</td>
<td>Slightly Toxic</td>
<td>Yes (Probable)</td>
<td>Yes (Suspected)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fludioxonil</td>
<td>Switch</td>
<td>Slightly Toxic</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Propiconazole</td>
<td>Orbit</td>
<td>Moderately Toxic</td>
<td>Yes (Possible)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pyraclostrobin</td>
<td>Pristine, Cabrio</td>
<td>Moderately Toxic</td>
<td>Yes (Possible)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triforine*</td>
<td>Funginex</td>
<td>Slightly Toxic</td>
<td>Yes (Possible)</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prior to threatening legal action, Wyman had refused to halt spraying at a meeting with Environment Maine, National Environmental Law Center, Sierra Club and Toxics Action Center. Despite evidence that the pesticides have fouled rivers, the firm denied any wrongdoing.

“It’s too bad it took the threat of a lawsuit to convince Wyman and Cherryfield to comply with the law, but this is nonetheless a victory for keeping toxic pesticides out of Maine’s waters,” said Environment Maine Advocate Matthew Davis.

Aerial spraying still unregulated
In the meantime, other growers are still using aerial spraying. Davis said, “these pesticides are getting into our water. In our view, that means the government needs to step in and regulate the growers, just as they would any other company that discharges wastes into our waterways.”

Environment Maine will continue to work toward an end to aerial spraying and an increase in oversight and testing of pesticide application. Environment Maine is also working to give the public better access to information about specifically when, where and in what amounts pesticides are sprayed. our communities.

Report: Catching The Toxic Drift

According to “Catching the Toxic Drift,” a report written by Toxics Action Center and released with Environment Maine, 31 percent of the pesticides used in the blueberry industry are possible carcinogens, 26 percent cause reproductive or developmental effects and 35 percent are toxic with acute exposure.

Of the 10 insecticides recommended for use on blueberry crops:
• 33 percent are possible carcinogens according to the EPA.
• 40 percent cause reproductive or developmental effects or are endocrine disrupters.
• 60 percent are moderately to highly toxic through acute exposures.

Of the nine fungicides recommended for use on blueberry crops:
• 67 percent are possible carcinogens according to the EPA.
• 44 percent cause reproductive or developmental effects or are endocrine disrupters.
• 33 percent are moderately to highly toxic through acute exposures.
More than 83 percent of Maine’s electricity comes from dirty sources of power like nuclear reactors, fossil fuels, and municipal solid waste—and a lot of it comes from out-of-state.

That means we’re producing soot, smog and radioactive waste—threatening our natural heritage and damaging our health.

What dirty power generators are not saying is that Maine could build enough wind farms and solar installations right here in the state to satisfy our electricity needs, getting free fuel and cutting smog and soot pollution by over 10,000 tons.

These new generators need a guaranteed buyer of their energy to get started, so we’re working with Sen. Michael Brennan (Portland/Falmouth) to pass legislation (LD 1065) to require that 10 percent of the state’s electricity come from wind, solar or other clean energy by 2015.

Wind is cost-competitive with other sources over the long run, and would save consumers money as fossil fuel prices skyrocket. Additionally, clean energy would benefit the local economy with tax revenue and installation, construction and maintenance jobs.

The bill was held over to the next legislative session for further research and discussion. Environment Maine will work to pass this legislation when it comes up again.

**Maine House fails on efficiency bill**

Environment Maine worked with a coalition of environmental, health and consumer groups on an energy efficiency bill (LD 1435) that would cut energy waste by setting minimum efficiency standards for 19 common household and commercial appliances.

Despite giving the bill preliminary approval, the Maine House failed to pass the bill. In the Maine Senate, the bill won wide bipartisan support with a vote of 25-10.

The legislation would have saved Maine’s businesses and homeowners nearly $450 million—more than $17 million each year for the next 25 years—and would have cut 200,000 metric tons of global warming pollution in 2020.

Benefits to consumers and the environment would continue to add up as more new, efficient products
Maine has great potential for clean renewable energy from wind, solar, tidal and biomass.

are purchased and installed. Since the Maine House overlooked the bill, the U.S. Congress approved energy efficiency standards on 14 of the appliances in the Maine bill. Environment Maine will propose efficiency standards on other appliances and products in the near future.

**Small step for clean energy**

Environment Maine joined Gov. John Baldacci, a group of bipartisan legislators and solar energy experts for the signing of a law to promote household solar hot water and electric systems (LD 1586).

The law will provide rebates to homeowners installing these systems, thus promoting renewable energy and reducing demand for electricity and natural gas.

For homeowners installing a solar hot water system that costs $5,000, the rebate would be $1,250. For those installing a $24,000 solar electric system with a capacity of 2,400 watts, consumers are eligible for a rebate of $6,400.
This year, Environment Maine Research & Policy Center publicly criticized the Bush administration’s plan to roll back protections on pristine areas of our country’s national forests.

Despite widespread criticism from recreational and conservation groups, the rule was finalized by the U.S. Forest Service in the spring. Environment Maine Research & Policy Center again blasted the Bush administration’s decision to defy the public and repeal protections for our most precious forests that had been protected under the Roadless Area Conservation Rule.

The rule protected 58.5 million acres of national forests, including 6,000 acres in Maine’s White Mountain National Forest, from logging, oil drilling and mining.

“Once again the Bush administration has put a piece of America’s natural heritage at risk for short term industry profits,” said Heidi Overbeck, preservation associate of Environment Maine Research & Policy Center.

“Last year, the clean drinking water, wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities our wild forests provide were protected, and today they lie at the mercy of loggers and the mining industry,” Overbeck continued.

White House drops forest protections
Under the Bush plan, state governors will be required to file a complex petition requiring federal approval to keep wild forests protected.

These petitions are nonbinding, and the U.S. Forest Service is free to accept, reject or modify them, with no guarantee of protection for America’s last pristine forests.

Fortunately for Maine, Gov. John Baldacci has agreed to work with Environment Maine Research & Policy Center on protecting these pristine areas within our White Mountain National Forest.

“Our wild forests are vital for outdoor recreation in the Western Mountains,” said Gov. Baldacci. “I will petition for protection of these roadless areas—the public wants these 6,000 acres protected.”

As the petition process gets underway, Environment Maine Research & Policy Center staff will be working to demonstrate again the support of the public and recreational businesses.
Environment Maine Supporters

Citizen support is the cornerstone of Environment Maine and Environment Maine Research & Policy Center. Thousands of Maine residents supported Environment Maine by making membership contributions in fiscal years 2005. The members listed below were particularly generous in backing the organization.

**Development Committee**
Members of the Development Committee supported Environment Maine with contributions of $500 or more or are PUBLIC INTEREST PARTNERS giving $40 or more each month.

Melinda Anderson • Arletta Ashe • William Bodine • Thomas Chappell • Mark & Nancy Davis • Brockway McMillan • Corey Noel • Douglas H. Phelps

**Patrons**
Patrons supported Environment Maine with contributions of $250 to $499 or are PUBLIC INTEREST PARTNERS giving $25 or more each month.

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**Sponsors**
Sponsors supported Environment Maine with contributions of $150 to $249 or are PUBLIC INTEREST PARTNERS giving $15 or more each month.

John Annala • Eleanor Baker • Jamison Betit • Kathleen Brown • Elaine Clark • Patricia Conley • Suzanne Connolly • Martha Degrand • Tracy Demoura • Casandra Fitzherbert • Julie E. Franklin • Syrie Fried • Faye Gallant • Jennings Garnett • Heather Goddu • Jane Gordon • Sally Haley • Patrick Hanna • Vanessa Hettinger • John Hewey • Deb Himmelfarb • Abby Hodgkins • Kris Hollenkamp • William Irish • Doris Kain • Pam Kasa • A. Keevan • Leslie Lakides • Judith Lambert • Gordon Lind • Marjorie Lloyd • Valerie S. McCandless • Kevin McCoole • Robert Meehan • Patricia Michaud • John Nale • Lillian Ouellette • Christopher Paulu • Walter Phillips • Timothy Pratt • Charlie Reiss • Williams Rhones • Hannah Russell • Joan Sandberg • Pamela C. Saunders • Kristen Sciacca • Jesse Shapell • James Shavel • Sarah Shed • Gail Simonds • David Small • Caelie Smith • Tracey Spizzuco • Ronnette Stoddard • Jim Swain • Jon Swaney • Suzanne Sylvester • John F. Thompson III • Gerald W. Trull • Mark A. Truman • Andria Vachon • Robert Waggener • Nancy Wakefield • Ron Wappler • John Whittow • Herbert Wiley • Barbara Williams

**Foundation Support**
The Environment Maine Research & Policy Center, a 501(c)(3) organization, conducts research and public education on emerging public interest issues. Contributions to the Environment Maine Research & Policy Center are tax-deductible.

The following foundations supported the Environment Maine Research and Policy Center’s work in 2005. To find out more, call Matthew Davis at 207-253-1965.

- Energy Foundation
- Rockefeller Brothers Fund
- Oak Foundation
- John Merck Fund
- Patagonia
- Pew Charitable Trusts
- Breakthrough Technologies Incorporated

**Financial Information**
The following financial information is for Environment Maine Research & Policy Center, Environment Maine and Environment Maine Citizen Corporation for fiscal year 2005.

**FY05 Income**
- Citizen Contributions 67%
- Foundation Grants 33%

**FY05 Expenses**
- Program 73%
- Fundraising 21%
- Administrative 6%

**FY05 Program Expenses**
- Coastal Water Protection 40%
- No More Mercury 25%
- Clean Air/Cleaner Cars 10%
- Environmental Defense/Preservation 8%
- Clean Energy 7%
- Wild Forests 6%
- Clean Water 4%
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