

NATURAL RESOURCE IDENTIFICATION AND REGULATION WORKSHOP REID STATE PARK WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2008

Back by popular demand, MAPSS/MAWS/MASE will again be sponsoring the Natural Resource Identification and Regulation Workshop held last year at Reid State Park in Georgetown, Maine. This was a first of its kind workshop designed to address a number of natural resource issues that many consultants and regulators face every day. The workshop includes a field portion requiring visits to seven sites. Attendees will be provided with a set of questions to answer for each of the sites (for your own use only). There will be assistants at each site to help direct attendees to the specific parts of the sites to be evaluated and will also provide all appropriate natural resource maps of the sites necessary to make proper determinations. You will be asked to make a number of field determinations including:

1. determination of what is and isn't a vernal pool and whether or not it is significant
2. determination of what is and isn't a stream
3. determining where the starting point is for measuring shoreland zone setbacks for river, stream, wetland, lake and ocean settings
4. determining the upland/wetland boundary
5. determining what is and isn't a wetland of special significance
6. determining where the boundary is between a coastal and freshwater wetland (how to tell the difference)
7. determining the spring tide elevation at a beach and rocky shoreline

In addition to field determinations, you will be asked a number of regulatory questions for each site. After visiting the sites and answering the questions, there will be a discussion of the sites, accompanied by a power point presentation at a very scenic pavilion. Participating in the discussion will be Jay Clement from the ACOE, Mike Mullen and Jim Cassida from DEP, Marsha Spencer-Famous from LURC, Doug Coombs from the State Plumbing Program and Steve Dickson from the Department of Conservation who is a sand dune expert. The idea is to provide a field exercise similar to what many of us face with our jobs on a daily basis and then to get closure for the many gray areas we typically encounter by having all of the appropriate regulators present to discuss each site and answer questions.

This workshop should have broad appeal to people who work with natural resources including: soil scientists, wetland scientists, site evaluators, foresters, planners, code enforcement officers, municipal officials, natural resource regulators, conservation commission members, lake association members and the general public who are interested in natural resource issues. It will be held in a very attractive location at a great time of year. If you are interested, please use the following form to register.