



State Representative
Kathleen D. Chase

142 Branch Road
Wells, Maine 04090
(207) 646-2118

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E-Newsletter **2/13/09**

State Issues:

Inland Fisheries & Wildlife (IF&W) Announces 2009 Moose Permit Auction

Bids are being accepted for the 2009 IF&W's Moose Permit Auction. Each year, the IF&W auctions 10 moose hunting permits and awards them to the highest bidders. Proceeds from the auction go to the Youth Conservation Education Fund, which awards partial scholarships to send Maine boys and girls, ages 10-14, to one week of conservation camp at the Bryant Pond 4-H Camp and Learning Center on Lake Christopher in Woodstock or Greenland Point Center on Long Lake in Princeton. More than 400 boys and girls were able to attend conservation camp in 2008 because of these scholarships.

The Moose Permit Auction was created by the Legislature in 1995 specifically to fund youth conservation education efforts. Ten of this year's 3,015 allotted moose permits will be auctioned. Last year, close to \$100,000 was raised from the auction; the 10 winners had a 90 percent success rate. The 10 highest bidders are able to choose their 2009 season hunt dates: September 28 – October 3, October 12 – October 17, November 2 – November 28, or October 31 (Maine Resident Only Day). Successful bidders also may choose the corresponding zone in which they'd like to hunt.

Bids must be submitted to the Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife no later than 5 p.m. on March 31, 2009. A non-refundable bid fee of \$25.00 must accompany each bid. A bid packet is available by calling (207) 287-5207. Submitted bids will be opened April 3 and successful bidders will be contacted. If selected, bidders have 30 days to send in the bid payment and select a moose hunting district, hunting week for the permit and permit type. A subpermittee, if desired, must also be selected at this time. The bid amount covers the resident or non-resident moose permit fee, but does not include the resident or non-resident hunting license fee.

Adult Education Web Portal Launched

The Maine Adult Education Association launched the Maine Adult Education website, which offers a searchable, comprehensive list of courses and programs offered throughout the State. The site also enables Mainers to register for courses.

The Maine Department of Education collected fall registration data from around the state and found that those reporting showed a 29% increase in registration over the previous year. According to the Maine Adult Education Association, since the site went online on January 5, it has logged more than 11,000 visitors and about 500 online registrations.

The Maine Adult Education website is located at <http://www.maineadulted.org>.

Maine State Emergency Response Commission Accepting Plans Electronically

As of January 2009, the Maine State Emergency Response Commission (SERC) will be accepting Facility Emergency Plans electronically. Facilities may submit plans as an attachment to an e-mail, copied on a CD or pasted into the Notes field of its 2008 Tier II report.

The SERC encourages facilities, as they coordinate facility exercises and plan reviews with the local fire department and the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC), to take the opportunity to update their emergency plans and provide them electronically to the LEPC and SERC.

Plans e-mailed to the SERC should be sent to maine.serc@maine.gov. A paper copy will still need to go to the local fire department unless otherwise requested. If you have any questions regarding this change, please contact Robert Gardner or Faith Mayer at 1-800-452-8735 or 207-634-4400.

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