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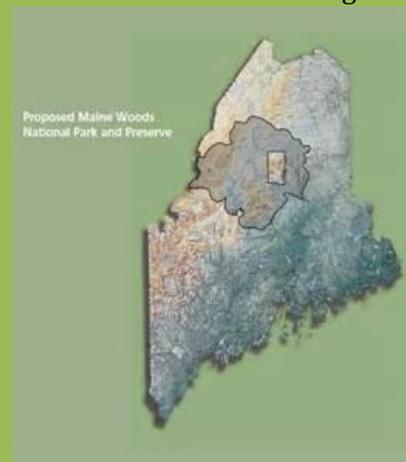
## National Park Proposal

The proposed 150,000 acre national park and recreation area has been the topic of debate for nearly two years. Proponents of the proposal cite the generation of 400-1,000 new jobs, \$40 million in private endowments to maintain the park, and innovate diversification of the region's economy, mostly in the Katahdin region. The park would be located east of Baxter State Park and north of the Millinocket area. Nearly 200 tourism-related businesses have endorsed this proposal.

Opponents do not want to see this plan realized. The Maine Woods Coalition and the snowmobile association have created a list of 224 businesses, directly employing more than 39,000 people, which are opposed to the park proposal. Most of the businesses include some of the biggest logging, papermaking, forestry, land management and trucking companies in the state. Park opponents fear a park would bring federal authority to Maine, generate low-paying jobs, and restrict the state's forest products industry.

The debate over a national park in Maine has been on-going for over a decade and will most likely continue to be debated in future years. Similarly, a proposed mining operation in northern Maine has resulted in fiery debates over economic benefits versus environmental impacts. The legislature has rejected a bill for a second time that would have relaxed mining laws for the proposed Bald Mountain Mining. The legislature rejected the bill based on the high risk of sulfuric acid being released in the environment and the high cost to taxpayers for cleanup.

Maine lakes support 52,000 jobs and generate about \$3.56 million annually.



# Bytes 'N Pieces

**Tom Ford** retired as Rockport's Planning and Development Director in May, 2013 after 13 years of service. **William Naipauer** replaced Tom, but returned to serve his hometown of China, ME after only one year. **Rodney Lynch** was then hired on a part-time consultant basis to assist Rockport in administering several grants. In November, 2014, **James Francomano** took over the position of Planner. James worked as Assistant Planner and Senior Planner at the Cities of Presque Isle and Belfast for the past seven years and later at the Maine Land Use Planning Commission. James enjoys focusing on extensions to critical infrastructure, downtown revitalization projects and addressing concerns about affordable housing at the local level. James' responsibilities in Rockport includes Community Development, Planning and Zoning, Alternate Code Enforcement Officer, Alternate Plumbing Inspector, and Alternate Health Officer.

Last month, **Martin Puckett** was named City Manager of Presque Isle replacing **James Bennett** who relocated to southern Maine to become City Manager of the City of Biddeford. Martin is a native of Hancock, Maine and has over 10 years of municipal experience. He is a graduate

of the University of Maine with a Master's Degree in Public Administration. He serves on many local boards and committees including Maine Municipal Association, International City/County Management Association, Maine Municipal Employee Health Trust board as well as Crown Ambulance Advisory Committee. He is a Past President of the Aroostook Municipal Association, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of Professional Development and Sponsorship Chair for the Maine Town and City Management Association.

On May 29, 2015, the Fort Fairfield Town Council unanimously chose **James Risner** as the new Town Manager replacing Michael Bosse. James is from Virginia. He retired after 31 years of federal service. His last position held was as a Pentagon Liaison for the Program Executive Office of Ammunition. In addition, he has 14 years' experience in municipal government have served in many capacities as town councilor, Chairman of the town planning commission, member of the town and county joint board of zoning appeals and chairman of the Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission.

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## *MCDA Welcomes New Members*



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Tanya Emery is the Director of Community and Economic Development for the City of Bangor. In this role, Tanya oversees the Economic Development, Community Development, Code Enforcement, and Planning divisions of the City. Tanya and her capable team are responsible for many of the development projects that make Bangor a great place to live, work, and play.

Prior to joining the Bangor team, Tanya was Deputy Director of Economic Development for the City of Brewer for five years, and spent five years before that working at Eastern Maine Development Corporation. She is a relentless volunteer and community leader, including being a past chair and founder of Fusion Bangor and serving as an elected member of the RSU #22 School Board.

Tanya grew up in Hampden and attended Trinity College in Hartford, CT, where she earned a Bachelor's in Political Science. Before returning to Maine, Tanya spent several years with a startup company in the wireless industry, living and working across the country.



Robin Beck and her family are transplants to Livermore Falls. Robin hails from the Midwest. She was born and raised in Ohio but spent 20 years in Indiana. Robin graduated from Bethel College in Mishawaka, Indiana in 1994 with an associate's degree in nursing and Indiana University in 2009 with a bachelor's degree in Political Science and Public Policy prior to moving to Maine.

A 2011 graduate of the Muskie School of Public Service in Portland, Robin's master's degree is in Community Planning and Development with special emphasis on food

systems, agricultural preservation and rural revitalization. Robin hit the ground running when she moved to the area and has served on the Livermore Falls Planning Board and is the founder and coordinator of the Spruce Mountain Buying Club. Robin is very active in local and state politics and in 4-H as a leader of the Androscoggin Valley Livestock Club and is president of the Androscoggin and Sagadahoc 4-H Leader's Association.

As Interim Executive Director of Maine Rural Partners, Robin looks forward to continuing to realign MRP with the original mission of being Maine's Rural Development Council through an exciting project, outreach and advocacy for our rural citizens.

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## SANFORD MILL REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT WINS PHOENIX AWARD

The 2013 redevelopment of the Sanford Mill building in downtown Sanford was recognized with the prestigious Phoenix Award at the 2015 National Brownfields Conference at the Chicago Hilton in Chicago, IL. Sanford City Planner Jim Gulnac and City Manager Steve Buck, as well as Sanford Regional Economic Growth Council Director, Jim Nimon, were all on hand at the awards ceremony. The Phoenix Award was created in 1997 to honor groups working to solve critical environmental or social challenges, transforming blighted and contaminated areas into productive new uses and sustainable development projects. These awards are widely recognized as the outstanding award for achievement of excellence in Brownfield redevelopment. The Phoenix Award winners represent outstanding brownfield or environmental projects from each of the 10 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regions.



Jim Gulnac is a member of MCDA and was president of the association from  
Congratulation to Jim on his retirement!

# 2015-2019 Five Year Consolidated Plan

MaineHousing and the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development held public forums in July, 2015 in Augusta and Presque Isle. The purpose of the public forums was to solicit public input on the HUD 2016 Annual Action Plan. The plan identifies the annual goals, priorities, and objectives for using the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnership Program (HOME), and the Emergency Solutions Grant Program (ESG).

**2015 Funding:**

- CDBG \$10,765,432
- HOME \$ 3,002,167
- ESG \$ 1,329,400

**Priority Needs Identified in the 2015-2019 Five-Year Consolidated Plan:**

- *Help Maine People Attain Housing Stability*
- *Expand the Supply of Affordable Housing*
- *Improve Housing Quality*
- *Improve Economic Opportunity*
- *Improve Public Infrastructure*

For more information on the Consolidated Plan, contact either:

- Paula Weber, MaineHousing Compliance Officer, (207) 626-4600, [pweber@mainehousing.org](mailto:pweber@mainehousing.org) or
- Deborah Johnson, Director, Office of Community Development, (207) 624-9817, [Deborah.Johnson@maine.gov](mailto:Deborah.Johnson@maine.gov)

## News from the CDBG Program –

The Office of Community Development anticipates the 2016 CDBG funding to remain at the 2015 funding level. In 2015, the CDBG allocation was as follows:

• Downtown Revitalization Grants .....	\$400,000.00
• Home Repair Network Program.....	\$1,700,000.00
• Housing Assistance Grants.....	\$1,000,000.00
• Maine Downtown Center Assistance .....	\$100,000.00
• Public Facilities Grants.....	\$0.00
• Public Infrastructure Grants .....	\$2,700,000.00
• Special Projects.....	\$178,123.00
• Urgent Needs Grants .....	\$0.00
• Workforce Development Grants.....	\$750,000.00
• Business Assistance Grants .....	\$2,700,000.00
• Micro-Enterprise Assistance Grants .....	\$700,000.00

In other news, OCD staff will meet with John Butera, Gov. LePage’s Senior Economic Advisor, in the upcoming weeks to review the 2016 allocations. Proposed changes in the 2016 program will be distributed to MCDA members as well as posted on the Office of Community Development’s website at [www.meocd.org](http://www.meocd.org) at a later date.

# Northern Border Regional Commission

On Friday, September 4, 2015, the Northern Border Regional Commission (NBRC) announced the selection of six (6) Maine projects for grant investments totaling \$1,356,000.

1. The Town of Jay will receive \$250,000 to upgrade a portion of a municipal roadway. This is part of a larger effort to encourage private investment in an adjacent quarrying operation and granite curbing plant.
2. The Old Town-Orono Fiber Corporation will also receive \$250,000 to help create a high speed fiber optic network in which numerous internet service providers can competitively offer services.
3. The Lincolnville Sewer District's \$250,000 will be utilized as part of a substantial upgrade of the District's shoreline wastewater system. The improvements will eliminate any overboard discharging of waste and help improve the water quality for Penobscot Bay's tourism recreation and clamming industries.
4. The Town of Kingfield's application was approved for \$247,000 and will partially fund upgrades to the municipality's aging wastewater pump stations. The upgrades

will ensure property utility service to the Town's expanding downtown businesses.

5. The City of Presque Isle was awarded \$250,000 to construct improvements to a municipally-owned building that will accommodate a product line expansion for Acme Monaco, a long time Aroostook County manufacturer of surgical staples and medical guidewires. The company has indicated that moving to the new building will result in the retaining of 72 existing jobs while creating 23 new jobs.
6. The Town of Greenville will utilize \$109,000 for energy efficiency upgrades to a 11,000 square foot municipally-owned building that it leases to GlacierWear, a manufacturer of fur products that is a preferred provider to film makers and moves production companies nationwide. The lower energy costs will assist the company in creating an additional 10 jobs over the next two years.

The City of Presque Isle is an MCDA member. Congratulations to the City and all other five towns. The NBRC was created by the U.S. Congress in 2008. It is a federal-state partnership whose mission is to help alleviate economic distress and encourage private sector job creation throughout portions of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and New York.

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## Funding Opportunities. . . . .

**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency** - Training and Technical Assistance to Improve Water Quality and Enable Small Public Water Systems to provide Safe Drinking Water - 11 awards anticipated for a total of \$12,678,000 available. Visit their website at: [www2.epa.gov/home/grants](http://www2.epa.gov/home/grants) for more details.

**U.S.D.A.** - 2015 Specialty Crop Multi-State Program is not available for applications. USDA anticipates

*Funding Opportunities Continued on Page 6*

awarding 10 applications for a total of \$3,000,000 available. For more details, [www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/scmp](http://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/scmp).

**U.S. Housing and Urban Development** – Jobs Plus Pilot Initiative – <http://portal.hud.gov>

**Maine Community Foundation** – Fund for Maine Land Conservation proposals are due by October 15, 2015. Maximum Available Funding per applicant is \$7,500. [www.mainecef.org](http://www.mainecef.org).

**Norman Foundation** has available funding ranging from \$20,000 to \$30,000 for nonprofit organizations. Funding uses are to strengthen the ability of communities to determine their own economic, environmental, and social well-being.

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## *Jobs & Classifieds*

The **Town of Kennebunk** is seeking consultants to review their Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance. Please contact Mathew Eddy, Economic Development Director at 207-604-1366 or [meddy@kennebunkmaine.us](mailto:meddy@kennebunkmaine.us) for more information.

The **Town of Brunswick** is requesting applications for the position of Assistant Town Manager. This position is a highly responsible senior level management position with the Town Manager's Office, assisting with the analysis, development, implementation, and management of a wide variety of disparate policies, procedures, budgets, functions, services and operations. Please submit application, resume, and a cover letter by Monday, October 5, 2015 by 4:30 p.m.

The **Town of Brunswick** also invites responses from qualified and experienced professional environmental planning consultants to assist the Town in completing an assessment of the urban-impaired Mare Brook Watershed and related community engagement activities. The complete RFQ is available online at [www.brunswickme.org](http://www.brunswickme.org).

The **Town of Pittsfield** is seeking proposals from a qualified individual or firm to assist with several economic development projects. Requests for proposals are available at the Pittsfield Town Office at 487-3136.

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### *2015 Northern New England Chapter of American Planning Association*

The Northern New England Chapter of American Planning Association (NNECAPA) will hold its annual conference at the Westin Hotel in Portland, Maine on October 1 and 2, 2015. This year's theme is "**Resource, Engage, Succeed**". To register for this conference, please contact the Committee Chair Anne Krieg at [krieg@bridgtonmaine.org](mailto:krieg@bridgtonmaine.org).

Conference sessions will include such topics as –

- Age Friendly Communities – Planning Livable Communities for all Ages as Northern New England begins a Major Demographic Shift
- Returning to our Roots – Reinvigorating Public Health in Planning
- Climate Challenges

# NEWS FROM AROUND THE STATE .....

## **2015 Grant Funding & Writing**

MMA will be presenting a grant funding and writing course on Thursday, October 22, 2015 at the Bangor Spectacular Event Center. The workshop will cover the basics of State and Federal Grant programs as to eligibility, funding, allowable projects, criteria, and success stories of previously funded projects.

Municipal officials, grant writers, economic development professionals and non-profits are encouraged to attend.

Fee: MMA Member	\$75.00
Non-Member	\$150.00

You can register online on MMA's website:  
[www.memun.org](http://www.memun.org).

Questions: Call the Educational Services Office at 1-800-452-8786 or 207-623-8428.

## **U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs**

Federal grants totaling \$4 million were awarded to three organizations to help combat homelessness among veterans.

Washington Hancock Community Agency-\$290,000

Preble Street \$1,683,966

Veterans, Inc. \$2,000,000

Under the grant award, funding is made available to help veterans and their families avoid homelessness. Funds are used for temporary financial assistance, such as rent, security deposits or moving expenses. This program also works on helping veterans with budgeting, finding employment, and getting other needed services, such as medical assistance. To get more information, the contact information for each of the three organization follows.

Preble Street, 38 Preble Street, Portland, ME 04101  
Telephone: (207) 775-0026 [info@preblestreet.org](mailto:info@preblestreet.org)

Veterans, Inc., 69 Grove Street, Worcester, MA 16051  
Telephone: 1-800-482-2565 [info@veteransinc.org](mailto:info@veteransinc.org)

Washington Hancock Community Agency  
248 Buckport Road 7 VIP Drive  
Ellsworth, ME 04605 Machias, ME 04654  
(207) 664-2424 (207) 259-5015  
[administration@whcacap.org](mailto:administration@whcacap.org)

## **Citizen Involvement Day in Bath – Don't Miss It!**

The City of Bath will hold its 17<sup>th</sup> annual Bath Citizen Involvement Day on Saturday, October 20, 2015 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Waterfront Park. Citizen Involvement Day is a community building event that brings awareness about service organizations to the public and honors individuals and groups that work to benefit the City and its residents.

This year Citizen Involvement Day, the Recreation Department's Great Scarecrow Event and Main Street Bath have once again joined together for Autumnfest. For more information or to get involved, e-mail [director@visitbath.com](mailto:director@visitbath.com).

**Also Don't Miss the City of Bath Newsletter – Summer 2015 edition entitled "City of Ships"**

# Measures of Growth 2015

On April 15, 2015, the Maine Economic Growth Council presented its annual “Measures of Growth 2015” report. The report looks at a variety of indicators to determine how Maine’s economy is doing. There are 27 performance indicators that influence the State’s economy, environment, and community. Since last year, Maine has made progress in four indicators – Cost of Doing Business, Cost of Energy, Air Quality and Water Quality; lost progress on 7; and no change on 12. The report highlights five indicators needing attention. They are Wellness and Prevention, Research and Development, High Speed Internet, Transportation Infrastructure, and 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading Scores. Examples of areas needing attention would include ;

- Bringing more people into Maine’s workforce is critical to the State’s economy
- Health care costs remain a concern for Maine people and business
- Maine is falling short on road improvements
- Maine Women’s earnings lose ground relative to Men’s earnings
- Nearly 2/3 of Maine adults are at unhealthy weights

The good news is that Maine’s electricity prices are lowest in a decade although prices are still above the national average. Maine is heavily reliant on petroleum products, but continued diversification of other energy sources such as natural gas, pellet, wind, tidal, and biomass gives Maine people more options to adjust to changing market conditions. It is anticipated that Maine’s retail and industrial electricity prices will decline to the U.S. average by 2020.

Another positive indicator is that of housing affordability. Housing affordability is an important factor in Maine’s economy and quality of life of Maine people. When housing is affordable, people have more disposable income to spend on other goods and services.

To read more, go to the Maine Development Foundation’s website at [www.mdf.org/publications](http://www.mdf.org/publications).

## *The GrowSmart Maine Annual Meeting 2015*

**Tuesday, October 20th**

**9am – 6pm**

**Pepperell Center, 40 Main St, Biddeford, Maine**

This year’s theme is “Community Solutions to a Changing Climate”. GrowSmart Maine organizations, businesses and municipalities traveled to Denmark to learn the impacts of climate change and opportunities to start taking on climate change. Participants will be treated to a tour of Biddeford and participate in discussions on renewable energy, transportation alternatives and energy building efficiencies.

To register, go to <https://growsmartmaine.org/events/annualmeeting2015>

# ABOUT MCDA

## **DID YOU KNOW!!!**

### *MCDA's Purpose*

TO PROVIDE FORUMS TO INCREASE AWARENESS AND FOSTER COMMUNICATION RELATING TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND CONCERNS, AND TO PROVIDE EDUCATION AND TRAINING THROUGH WORKSHOPS.

### *MCDA Meetings*

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ASSOCIATION TAKES PLACE AT THE ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE MAINE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION. FOUR (4) REGULAR MEETINGS FOR THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ARE HELD ANNUALLY THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF MAINE. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS ARE CALLED BY THE PRESIDENT OR MAJORITY OF OFFICERS ON AN AS-NEEDED BASIS.

### *MCDA Newsletters*

QUARTERLY NEWSLETTERS HIGHLIGHTING COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ARTICLES OF SPECIAL INTEREST THROUGHOUT THE STATE OF MAINE ARE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP.

### *Benefits to Becoming a Member. . . .*

#### *MCDA Funding Directory*

#### *Training and Workshops*

#### *Legislative Advocacy*

#### *Affiliation with Other Agencies and Organizations*

#### *Links to Funding and Business Agencies*

#### *MCDA's ability to network with multiple partners*

### *Who's Invited to Join????*

**ANY PERSON, MUNICIPALITY, OR FIRM EMPLOYED BY OR INTERESTED IN ECONOMIC AND/OR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.**

THE COMPOSITION OF MCDA'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND CURRENT MEMBERSHIP OFFERS NEW MEMBERS AN EXTENSIVE KNOWLEDGE BASE OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND AVAILABLE FINANCIAL RESOURCES. THE TENURE AND EXPERIENCE OF THIS ASSOCIATION CAN PROVIDE NEW MEMBERS WITH A MULTIPLE RESOURCE BASE ON A VARIETY OF PROPOSED PROJECTS IN YOUR COMMUNITY. I AM/AM NOT INTERESTED IN SERVING ON ONE OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES:

- ✓ ADVOCACY
- ✓ COMMUNICATIONS
- ✓ FINANCE
- ✓ PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- ✓ MEMBERSHIP
- ✓ OFFICER/EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MCDA currently has a membership of 51 members consisting of municipalities, individuals, firms and state representatives from throughout the State of Maine. Becoming an MCDA member offers numerous benefits, such as training and workshops, legislative advocacy, affiliation with other agencies and organizations, links to funding and business agencies, and ability to network with multiple partners. The Quarterly Newsletter provides informational materials on funding opportunities, job openings, community and economic development articles, and upcoming events. MCDA urges each municipality to become a member of the organization. MCDA is an affiliate group of the Maine Municipal Association (MMA) and as such enjoys the same status regarding lobbying. MCDA's Advocacy Role is to weigh in on proposed legislation and policies that impact community development in Maine.

MCDA also works closely with the Maine Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD). DECD's Office of Community Development works collaboratively with MCDA to review proposed changes and garner support for the CDBG Program. This is a time for the MCDA membership to provide feedback in the CDBG Program. As the federal budget continues to decrease, it is necessary for communities to seek funding from sources other than the CDBG program. Networking with MCDA's experienced members provides a source for connection to other funding sources and/or available financial resources.

This organization is the "voice" of community development policy making in Maine. Please join and make your 'voice' count!

Visit our website at [www.maineccda.org](http://www.maineccda.org) for a membership application or contact any member of the Board of Directors.

## Maine Community Development Association

Local Government Center  
60 Community Drive  
Augusta, ME 04330-9486

(207) 623-8428 or  
1-800-452-8786

[www.maineccda.org](http://www.maineccda.org)

### MCDCA Subcommittee

#### Members:

##### Advocacy

Vacant (Chair)  
Tony Levesque  
Amy Bernard

##### Communications

Joella Theriault (Chair)  
Tony Levesque  
Amy Bernard

##### Finance

Mathew Eddy (Chair)  
Executive Committee

##### Professional Development

Gail Chase (Chair)  
Jim Gulnac  
Tracey Hutton  
Anne Krieg  
Tony Levesque  
Linda Smith  
Tracey Steuber  
Austin Blees

##### Membership

Steve Dyer (Chair)  
Amy Bernard  
Jim Gulnac  
Tony Levesque

##### Nomination

Tony Levesque (Chair)

### 2014-2015 MCDA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

#### President:

**Darryl Sterling**  
Economic and Community Development Consulting  
1 Tulip Street  
Richmond, ME 04357  
(207) 807-9062  
**Term Expires: October, 2015**

#### Vice President:

**Gail Chase**  
Kennebec Valley Council of Governments  
17 Main Street  
Fairfield, ME 04937-1119  
(207) 453-4258  
**Term Expires: October, 2015**

#### Treasurer:

**Mathew Eddy**  
45 McKeen Street  
Brunswick, ME 04011  
(207) 729-9694  
**Term Expires: October, 2015**

#### Secretary:

**Joella R. Theriault**  
Northern Maine Development Commission  
11 West Main Street, Suite 104  
Fort Kent, ME 04743  
(207) 543-1802  
**Term Expires: October, 2015**

#### Past President:

**Rodney Lynch, AICP**  
Town of Thomaston  
123 Summer Street  
Rockland, ME 04841  
(207) 594-7663  
**Term Expires: October, 2015**

### BOARD MEMBERS

#### **Anne Krieg**

Town of Bridgton  
3 Chase Street, Suite 1  
Bridgton, ME 04009-1266  
(207) 647-8786  
**Term Expires: October, 2016**

#### **Tom Martin**

Hancock County Planning Commission  
395 State Street  
Ellsworth, ME 04605  
(207) 667-7131  
**Term Expires: October, 2015**

#### **Steve Dyer**

Ransom Environmental Consult.  
400 Commercial Street, Suite 404  
Portland, ME 04102  
(207) 772-2891  
**Term Expires: October, 2016**

#### **Suzie Paradis**

Town of Madawaska  
328 St. Thomas Street  
Madawaska, ME 04756  
(207) 728-3612  
**Term Expires: October, 2015**

