

[Appendix B: Resources for Agriculture](#)

General Information

- ◆ **Androscoggin Valley Soil and Water Conservation District (AVSWCD)**
Contact AVSWCD [(207) 753-9400] for a list of resources or if you don't have access to a computer visit the district [254 Goddard Road, Lewiston] to view all the information in paper form.
- ◆ **Maine State Conservation Center: Resources for the Citizens of Maine**
On this site you will find information on state and federal land conservation programs, local farms, farmer's markets, and native species nurseries, Maine wildlife, planning for the future of your property, conservation associations and alternative energy resources.
<http://stateconservation.org/maine/>
- ◆ **University of Maine Cooperative Extension Home Page**
This link will take you to the extension's home page. Here you can learn about their agriculture program, natural resources, and more. <http://www.umext.maine.edu/>
- ◆ **Manual of Best Management Practices for Maine Agriculture**
Below is a link to this manual put out by the Maine Department of Agriculture, Food & Rural Resources Division of Animal Health & Industry. January 2007. This resource has links to all the different BMPs that apply to a farm.
<http://mainegov-images.informe.org/agriculture/narr/documents/BMPManual2007.pdf>
- ◆ **Maine Farm Safety Program**
This series is put out by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. There are 66 farm safety fact sheets that make up the series, but individual fact sheets can be ordered at much reduced cost.
http://extensionpubs.umext.maine.edu/ePOS/form=robots/item.html&item_number=2365&store=413&design=413
- ◆ **Web Soil Survey**
This link will take you to USDA/NRCS web soil survey. Here you will find soil data and information produced by the National Cooperative Soil Survey. You will also find that NRCS has soil maps and data available online for more than 95% of the nation's counties and anticipates having 100% in the near future.
<http://websoilsurvey.nrcs.usda.gov/app/>
- ◆ **Maine Geological Survey**
This link will take you to the Maine State Department of Conservation's Maine Geological Survey's web page. Here you will find information on and learn about geology, types of geology (such as bedrock, groundwater and wells, and geologic hazards), using geologic maps, statutes, and more. This site really does a good job with explaining geology and has some great images that go along with the writings.
<http://www.state.me.us/doc/nrimc/mgs/mgs.htm>

Farm Assistance/ Conservation Easements

- ◆ **A Grant Program for Maine Farmers**

This program is through the Maine Department of Agriculture, Food and Rural Resources Farms for the Future Program. This program provides grants of technical assistance to farmers developing business plans, and funds to help implement those plans. Eligibility is limited to farmers who own at least 5 acres of land in active agricultural production. Applications are considered once per year in late fall. Coastal Enterprises, Inc. administers the program for the Department. To find further information about this program go to:

<http://www.maine.gov/agriculture/mpd/business/grantsandloans/index.html> or contact Kerri Sands at 772-5356 x 114, or e-mail kcs@ceimaine.org.

◆ **Maine FarmLink**

Maine FarmLink is a farm transfer program that connects farmers seeking farmland with retiring Maine farmers and farm owners who wish to see their agricultural lands remain active. For information about this program visit: <http://www.mainefarmlink.org/> **OR** for more information about saving farmland, contacts, more links, and how you can help go to: http://www.maineFarmlandTrust.org/saving_farmland.html

◆ **FAME: Finance Authority of Maine**

This link will take you to the FAME webpage where you can access information about credit enhancements, direct loans, equity capital, bonds and much more.

<http://www.famemaine.com/business/business.asp>

This link will take you to the FAME Rules index page and below are some links to specific chapters from this site.

<http://www.famemaine.com/FAMERules.asp>

- ◆ Chapter 305: Oil Storage Facility and Tank Program
<http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/90/94/457/457c305.doc>
- ◆ Chapter 309: Waste Reduction and Recycling Loan Fund Program
<http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/90/94/457/457c309.doc>
- ◆ Chapter 317: Nutrient Management Loan Program
<http://www.maine.gov/sos/cec/rules/90/94/457/457c317.doc>

◆ **The Carrot Project**

Their slogan is creating small farm financing solutions. The Carrot Project (for farmers section) will connect you to either financing or business planning assistance.

http://www.thecarrotproject.org/for_farmers

◆ **Private Land Conservation**

Private lands conservation is an innovative tactic that leverages the increasing interest of the private sector to take part in conservation. The Conservancy works with landowners, communities, cooperatives and businesses to establish local groups that can protect land. Some of the main tools used to achieve these goals include land trusts, conservation easements, private reserves and incentives. In addition, a Private Lands Program was developed by The Nature Conservancy to use our experience in the United States in developing land conservation tools internationally.

<http://www.nature.org/aboutus/howwework/conservationmethods/privatelands/>

◆ **Agricultural Conservation Easements Fact Sheet**

This fact sheet was created by the Farmland Information Center. The fact sheet covers: restrictions, terms of restrictions, retained rights, valuation, tax benefits, benefits, drawbacks and history.

http://www.farmlandinfo.org/documents/27762/ACE_06-10.pdf

Hazardous Waste

◆ EPA Solid Waste and Emergency Response

Below are a list of links to a series of brochures and fact sheets put out by the EPA.

- **Household Hazardous Waste: Steps to Safe management**
<http://www.p2pays.org/ref%5C03/02032.pdf>
- **Used Oil Recycling**
<http://www.p2pays.org/ref%5C05/04824.pdf>
- **Safe Hazardous Waste Recycling**
<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/general/manag-hw/e00-001d.pdf>
- **What Makes a Waste Hazardous**
<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/general/manag-hw/e00-001e.pdf>

◆ Household Hazardous Waste: Managing and Disposing of Household Hazardous Waste

This is a link to a small booklet put out by the New York State Department of Environmental conservation.

http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/materials_minerals_pdf/hhwma.pdf

◆ Maine DEP/Bureau of Remediation and Waste Management

This link will take you the home page of the Bureau of Remediation & Waste Management. Here you will find information on

<http://www.maine.gov/dep/rwm/hazardouswaste/>

◆ Maine State Planning Office Waste Management & Recycling

This link is will take you to the State Planning Office's home page www.maine.gov/spo/recycle/hhw/ and this link will take you to hazardous materials collection dates.

<http://www.maine.gov/spo/recycle/hhw/collections.php>

Septic Systems

◆ Septic Systems and Source Water Protection

This link will take you to a US EPA site that provides a wealth of information on septic systems such as local ordinance examples, fact sheets, a case study, related links, frequently asked questions and much more.

<http://cfpub.epa.gov/safewater/sourcewater/sourcewater.cfm?action=Septic>

◆ A Homeowners Guide to Septic Systems

This is a fact sheet put out by the US EPA covering responsibilities, how septic systems work, and how to maintain them.

http://www.epa.gov/owm/septic/pubs/homeowner_guide_short.pdf

◆ Wastewater and Plumbing Control Program

This is a policy regarding replacement system variances in close proximity to waterbodies/courses and/or well (includes removal of overboard discharges)

http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/eng/plumb/policies/setback_policy.rtf

◆ Small wastewater treatment technologies from the National Small Flows Clearinghouse

Here you will find information on septic systems, management and planning for small

community wastewater, securing small wastewater systems, wastewater regulatory contacts by state, and much more.

http://www.nesc.wvu.edu/nsfc/nsfc_index.htm

- ◆ **Small-Scale Waste Management Project from the University of Wisconsin-Madison**

Here you will find informative resources on wastewater, soil and land use publications and education.

<http://www.soils.wisc.edu/sswmp/>

- ◆ **Maine DEP's Bureau of Land & Water Quality's Wastewater Treatment page:**

<http://www.maine.gov/dep/blwq/engin.htm>

- ◆ **University of Maine's Cooperative Extinction Septic System Publications**

<http://www.umext.maine.edu/waterquality/publications/septic%20system%20publications.htm>

Water Quality

- ◆ **University of Maine Cooperative Extension Water Quality**

This link will take you to information about lakes and streams, landscapes, private wells, agriculture, publications, and more related links.

<http://www.umext.maine.edu/waterquality/default.htm> OR if you want to go directly to the agriculture section and see what they have on the topics soil and water, pesticides/fertilizers, crop advisor, field days, or genetic engineering, just click on the following link: <http://www.umext.maine.edu/waterquality/Agriculture/agriculture.htm>

- ◆ **U Maine Cooperative Extension Books & Publications**

This link will take you to an extensive list of publications surrounding the broad topic of water quality.

http://extensionpubs.umext.maine.edu/ePOS?this_category=12&store=413&listtype=begin&form=shared3/gm/browse.html&design=413&_session_info_=3EtcqF5DupNJUwzZqD8y3OsZmrkJBbEHJS5oY9NzaopBNOBSRMBQZWfzOSQUeE9GGdC2SbexoT/zyUjcDxitK1LXllbaq5dCYJHhyCe4naG3Wvqyteyz5g

- ◆ **Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory**

At this link you will find a guide to water testing and contact information.

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/etl/guide.htm>

- ◆ **Water On The Move: Interactive Learning Center**

Learning topics that can be found at this link are, the water cycle, what is groundwater, drinking water wells, private well water quality, importance of private water testing, private well protection begins at home, and water conservation. This site has some great interactive models for each of the above topics.

<http://www.healthyhome.uconn.edu/>

- ◆ **Helpful Websites**

Here are some helpful Maine water related links put together by New England Region Water Quality Program.

<http://www.umext.maine.edu/waterquality/web%20links.htm>

Groundwater & Wells

◆ **Groundwater Basics**

This is a brochure put out by The Groundwater Foundation and it is a great for learning about groundwater. It has facts, basic terms, why it's important, and what it is. There is a good image that helps describe what groundwater is.

<http://www.groundwater.org/gi/GWBASICS2.pdf>

◆ **Ground Water & Drinking Water Act**

The US EPA put together a site with information from local drinking water information, drinking water standards, data & databases to drinking water quality and news events.

<http://www.epa.gov/OGWDW/>

◆ **Farming Practices for Groundwater Protection**

This publication was put out by Washington State University's Cooperative Extension. This goes into quite a bit more than the fact sheets and brochures but isn't an overwhelming read (7 large printed pages with images). Topics covered are: surface and groundwater, laws require protection, structural practices for groundwater protection, cultural practices for groundwater protection and management practices for groundwater protection.

<http://cru.cahe.wsu.edu/CEPublications/eb1716/eb1716.html>

◆ **Best management Practices for Groundwater Protection**

This manual is intended for the use of local officials, public water suppliers and landowners in Maine. It is intended to encourage educated decisions, informed practice, and directed planning in regard to groundwater protection, particularly in the vicinity of public drinking water supply wells.

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/eng/water/forms/Sections/BMPv2%200A.htm>

◆ **Convincing Your Town to Adopt a Wellhead Protection Ordinance**

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/eng/water/Templates/Sections/Source%20Water%20Protection/model%20ord1.htm>

◆ What types of land uses have the potential to contaminate groundwater?

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/eng/water/Templates/Sections/Source%20Water%20Protection/model%20ord5.htm>

◆ Prohibited Land Uses

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/eng/water/Templates/Sections/Source%20Water%20Protection/model%20ord8.htm>

◆ Economic Impacts of Groundwater Contamination

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/eng/water/Templates/Sections/Source%20Water%20Protection/model%20ord4.htm>

◆ The Model Ordinance

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/eng/water/Templates/Sections/Source%20Water%20Protection/model%20ord7.htm>

◆ **Source Water Protection Practices**

The US Environmental Protection Agency has listed publications and resources

surrounding the topic of drinking water protection practices which can be found at the following link:

http://cfpub.epa.gov/safewater/sourcewater/sourcewater.cfm?action=Publications&view=filter&document_type_id=103

A number of these bulletins have been pulled out of the main list that are believed to be the most useful for agriculture are listed below including their direct links.

- ◆ Managing Underground Storage Tanks to Prevent Contamination of Drinking Water
http://www.epa.gov/safewater/sourcewater/pubs/fs_swpp_ust.pdf
- ◆ Managing Above Ground Storage Tanks to Prevent Contamination of Drinking Water
http://www.epa.gov/safewater/sourcewater/pubs/fs_swpp_ast.pdf
- ◆ Managing Turfgrass and Garden Fertilizer Application to Prevent Contamination of Drinking Water
http://www.epa.gov/safewater/sourcewater/pubs/fs_swpp_turfgrass.pdf
- ◆ Managing Small-Scale Application of Pesticides to Prevent Contamination of Drinking Water
http://www.epa.gov/safewater/sourcewater/pubs/fs_swpp_sspesticides.pdf
- ◆ Managing Large-Scale Application of Pesticides to Prevent Contamination of Drinking Water
http://www.epa.gov/safewater/sourcewater/pubs/fs_swpp_lspesticides.pdf
- ◆ Managing Agriculture Fertilizer Application to Prevent Contamination of Drinking Water
http://www.epa.gov/safewater/sourcewater/pubs/fs_swpp_fertilizer.pdf
- ◆ Managing Septic Systems to Prevent Contamination of Drinking Water
http://www.epa.gov/safewater/sourcewater/pubs/fs_swpp_septic.pdf
- ◆ Managing Livestock, Poultry, and Horse Waste to Prevent Contamination of Drinking Water
http://www.epa.gov/safewater/sourcewater/pubs/fs_swpp_livestock.pdf
- ◆ **Chapter 231 State of Maine Rule Relating to Drinking Water**
This is a 93 page document covering the rules, regulations, reporting requirements, facilities approval, definitions, etc. pertaining to drinking water.
<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/eng/water/Templates/newRegulations/Rule/DWRules-FinalSeptember172006.htm>
- ◆ **Groundwater Links**
This is a page on the ME DEP Bureau of Land & Water Quality with many different links under the topics: related pages, state/federal, organizations, university related or education and other.
<http://www.maine.gov/dep/blwq/docgw/gwlinks.htm>
- ◆ **Protecting Groundwater on the Farm**
This fact sheet covers the basics of storage and disposal, management, recycling,

testing, and what to avoid.

<http://www.purdue.edu/dp/envirosoft/groundwater/src/you1.htm>

◆ **Regional Assessments of Principal Aquifers**

This link will take you to the National Water-Quality Assessment (NAWQA) Program. Here you will find information on aquifers, what they are and you can figure out what type of aquifer your farm is on.

<http://water.usgs.gov/nawqa/studies/praq/>

◆ **Private Well Information for Homeowners**

The ME Department of Environmental Protection's Drinking Water Program has created a page devoted to private well information for homeowners e.g., water and well facts, well types, hydrogeology and links.

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/eng/water/Templates/PrivateWells/privatewells.htm>

Below is a direct link to the private well information for homeowners links page. On here you will find drinking water links, state of Maine environmental web sites, other related web sites and pandemic flu links.

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/eng/water/Templates/PrivateWells/links.htm>

◆ **Well Water Safety**

Different agencies within the state of Maine provide information on well water safety. You can use this link to help get you to the best agency to answer your questions.

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/eohp/wells/mewellwater.htm>

◆ **#5 Best Management Practices; Implications for Groundwater Protection**

This is part of Ohio State University's Groundwater and public policy leaflet series. This paper covers what BMP's are, general approaches, how effective they are when it comes to ground water and a number of other topics.

<http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/dwg/gw/pubs/bmpforgw.pdf>

◆ **Source Water Protection: Management Measures**

This link by the US EPA will take you to some management measures communities can use to find and array of different source water protection methods to prevent contamination of their drinking water supplies.

<http://cfpub.epa.gov/safewater/sourcewater/sourcewater.cfm?action=Protection#pagecontents>

◆ **Ground Water and the Rural Homeowner**

This is a publication by the US Geological Survey. They cover topics from the hydrologic cycle, groundwater, types of wells, wells and pumpage, water-level declines and rises to unknown hazards beneath the land and some practical considerations.

http://pubs.usgs.gov/gip/gw_ruralhomeowner/pdf/gw_ruralhomeowner.pdf

◆ **Drinking Water Program**

This link will take you to the Maine Department of Environmental Protection's drinking water program where you can find information on Rules, download documents, water operators board, well driller's commission, drinking water commission drinking water safety alerts.

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/eng/water/>

The link below is the site map for the Drinking Water Program. This may make it easier to find information.

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/eng/water/sitemap.htm>

"Is Your Well Water Safe to Drink?" A brochure identifying for what and how often you should test

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/eohp/wells/mewellwater.htm>

◆ **Drinking Water Contaminants**

This link will take you to a page put together by the US EPA that explains about some of the water contaminants found in drinking water.

<http://www.epa.gov/OGWDW/hfacts.html>

Fertilizers, Pesticides and Other Chemicals

◆ **Check Before You Choose a Fertilizer**

This is a brochure of 4 tips (1. soil nutrients 2. plant type 3. area to be fertilized 4. fertilizer label) for safely applying fertilizers put out by the Michigan Groundwater Stewardship Program.

http://www.mgsp.msu.edu/Marketing_and_Outreach/Check%20Before%20You%20Choose%20a%20Fertilizer.pdf

◆ **Check Before You Choose a Pesticide**

This is a brochure with 6 steps (1. what pests do you have? 2. where are they coming from 3. what are they eating or where do you find the pests or diseases? 4. what are your control choices? 5. which method will control your pests while causing the least harm? 6. read the pesticide label) to making safe decisions for controlling pests put out by the Michigan Groundwater Stewardship Program.

http://www.mgsp.msu.edu/Marketing_and_Outreach/CBYC%20Pesticide.pdf

◆ **Recommended Storage Practices for Pesticide Applicators**

This brochure was put together by the Maine Board of Pesticides Control and it covers Location of the storage site, physical construction of the storage unit, storage security, and safe storage practices.

http://www.maine.gov/agriculture/pesticides/pdf/storage-applicator_rev_10-12-06.pdf

◆ **Old, Unusable Pesticide Collection Program**

This brochure was put together by the Maine Board of Pesticides Control and it gives tips on prevention, who to call and how to transport old pesticides safely.

http://www.maine.gov/agriculture/pesticides/pdf/obsolete-pesticides_05-05.pdf

◆ **Alphabetical List of Pesticide Fact Sheets**

This link will take you to a comprehensive list of pesticide fact sheets put together by the US Environmental Protection Agency.

http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/factsheets/alpha_fs.htm

◆ **Pesticide Container Recycling**

This link will take you to the Maine Board of Pesticide Control's pesticide container recycling page where you will find help, where to recycle containers, and who to call for assistance.

http://www.maine.gov/agriculture/pesticides/cert/container_recycling.htm

◆ **Pesticide Contamination of Ground Water in the United States- A Review**

This is a dense article written by W.F. Ritter 1990 about pesticide contamination of

ground water in the US. It is not available on the web. To read this article go to your public library and ask for the "journal of Environmental Science and health: Part B, Pesticides, food contaminants, and agricultural wastes," and give them the author's name and title of the article (above) (it may have to be shipped) or visit us here at Andy Valley SWCD.

- ◆ **Maine Board of Pesticides Control, 2005, Pesticides and Ground Water Monitoring Program**

This is a 13 page report put out by the Maine Board of Pesticides Control. The objective of the report is to assess the occurrence of pesticides in private drinking water wells located within ¼ mile down gradient of an active agricultural pesticide use site. Section VII, Ground Water Monitoring, of the January 1998 State of Maine Generic State Management Plan for Pesticides and Ground Water requires that statewide ground water monitoring be conducted every five to seven years to assess ground water quality trends. The 2005 Pesticides and Ground Water Monitoring Program were conducted in accordance with that plan.

<http://www.maine.gov/agriculture/pesticides/pdf/rpt05GroundWater3.pdf>

- ◆ **Pest Management**

This site put together by the EPA has some great information on pest management operations and timing; application practices; potential environmental problems and best management practices.

<http://www.epa.gov/oecaagct/ag101/croppestmgt.html#bmps>

- ◆ **Pesticide and Groundwater Contamination**

This link will take you to the Ohio Cooperative Extension Service of the Ohio State University. Here you will find information on pesticide absorption, transfer, degradation, factors affecting groundwater contamination and preventive measures.

<http://ohioline.osu.edu/b820/index.html>

This next link will take you directly to the groundwater contamination section where these topics are covered: volatilization, runoff, leaching, absorption, and crop removal.

http://ohioline.osu.edu/b820/b820_3.html

- ◆ **For the best information of pesticides contaminating wells go to the USGS and their National Water-Quality Assessment (NAWQA) survey:**

<http://water.usgs.gov/nawqa/studies/praq/>

- ◆ **Article on pesticide use and the effect of buffers in protecting surface water quality.**

Read about the results from the USGS National Water-Quality Assessment Program along with information on Maine's surface water data.

<http://mainegov->

[images.informe.org/agriculture/pesticides/pdf/board/agenda_documents/jan07/07MemoBuffers.pdf](http://mainegov-images.informe.org/agriculture/pesticides/pdf/board/agenda_documents/jan07/07MemoBuffers.pdf)

Other Topics

- ◆ **Chemigation**

This link will take you to the North Dakota State University page on chemigation. Here you will find all kinds of helpful information on chemigation along with great images of all the different parts involved, such as ant-backflow valves, check valves etc.

<http://www.ag.ndsu.nodak.edu/abeng/chemindex.htm>

◆ **Is Your Tank In Shape?**

This link will take you to the Bureau of Remediation & Waste Management where you will find a quick and easy 11 question yes or no survey to see if your aboveground oil tank is in shape.

<http://www.maine.gov/dep/rwm/publications/isyourta.htm>

◆ **Aboveground Home Heating Oil Storage Tank Replacement program**

This link will take you to the Bureau of Remediation & Waste Management's tank replacement program where you can read about possibly getting financial help in replacing an old or defective tank.

<http://www.maine.gov/dep/rwm/abovegroundtanks/replacement.htm>

◆ **Agricultural Nutrient and Animal Waste Management**

New England Regional Water Program has put together some information and links surrounding agricultural nutrients, animal waste management and water quality.

http://www.usawaterquality.org/newengland/state_search/maine.html#mainewaste

◆ **University of Maine Cooperative Extension: "Nitrate, Groundwater and Livestock Health"**

This is a publication gives you some information on the sources of nitrate in soil and water, nitrate and animal health problems, what to do if you suspect a nitrate problem, and what to do if well water is high in nitrate. This is a very readable document and isn't overly scientific.

<http://www.umext.maine.edu/waterquality/Publications/7086.htm>

◆ **University of Maine Cooperative Extension: "Nitrate: Health effects in drinking water"**

This \$1 publication has information on nitrate as a common groundwater contaminant. Here you can learn how to determine if your water is contaminated with nitrate and what your options are.

http://extensionpubs.umext.maine.edu/ePOS/form=robots/item.html&item_number=7107&store=413&design=413

◆ **University of Maine Cooperative Extension: "The Maine Nitrogen Soil Test for Corn: Key to Economical, Environmentally Sound Nitrogen Fertilizer Use"**

This .50 Cent publication is a two page fact sheet on farm nutrient sources and water quality.

http://extensionpubs.umext.maine.edu/ePOS/form=robots/item.html&item_number=7097&store=413&design=413

◆ **Natural Resources Conservation Service: Animal Manure management**

This site has information about animal manure, the amount of manure to expect from different type of animals, natural resource problems that are associated with manure management, trends in manure production, what can be done, and how does manure management help.

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/ECS/nutrient/animalmanure.html>

◆ **New England Regional Water Program: Agricultural Nutrient and Pest Management**

This site will help you with performance-based nutrient management planning and evaluation, and nutrient and soil quality management planning tools.

http://www.usawaterquality.org/newengland/Focus_Areas/ne_npm/research/tools.html

💧 **Vegetables**

Vegetables is in the Extension books and publications put out by the University of Maine Cooperative Extension. Here you will find a series of fact sheets on several topics such as: managing insect pests of sweet corn, step 1; getting a manure sample, step 2; understanding a manure sample; harvesting Hay; crops by hand and corn picker safety; handling pesticides safely and nitrogen fertilizer choices.

http://extensionpubs.umext.maine.edu/ePOS/form=robots/catalog.html&this_category=4&store=413&design=413