

Maine Water Institute Director:

John Peckenham

As Maine's congressionally-authorized Water Institute, the Mitchell Center receives base funding through the U.S. Geological Survey to operate programs tailored to meet Maine's water resource needs. We form the primary link between water experts at the UMaine and those who manage and use water across the state.

The primary goals of the Maine Water Institute are to:

1. Sponsor research that addresses water problems or expands understanding of water and water-related phenomena in Maine;
2. aid in the entry of new research scientists into the field;
3. train future water scientists;
4. distribute the results of sponsored research to Maine's water managers and the public.

WATER INSTITUTE FUNDING

In 2007, the Maine Water Institute used \$92,335 in federal funding to leverage non-federal matching funds of over \$294,700. The Vice President for Research at UMaine provided \$50,000 in matching funds to the Maine Water Institute to be used for graduate student training.

ADVISORY BOARD

Research is tailored to on-the-ground needs identified by the Maine Water Institute advisory board representing federal and state agencies, NGOs, the private sector, academic institutions and other water users in the state.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Research funded by the Maine Water Institute for 2007/08 includes:

- Influence of chloride and natural organic matter gradients on disinfection by-product formation.
- Investigation of phosphorus speciation in sediments of shallow lakes.
- Effects of pharmaceutically derived estrogens from wastewater effluents.
- Assessing multiple stressor effects in Maine fishes.
- Natural flow variability and the impact of flow standards on Maine's surface waters.

INFORMATION TRANSFER

Funded information transfer projects include the Penobscot River education program and the Maine Water Atlas, a map-based bulletin board. The Maine Water Institute also publishes over 25 technical publications and makes over 30 professional presentations annually. Sponsored events include the Maine Water Conference, an on-campus seminar series, and various water resource workshops. Our electronic newsletter is published monthly to a subscriber list of over 2,000. The center's Web site includes news, research publications, conference and seminar information, and research project updates.

EDUCATION

Research support is provided for more than 15 undergraduate and graduate students annually. Students from chemistry, biology, ecology, economics and forestry benefit from research stipends and fellowships.



We have an obligation to leave for future generations the very basics of human life on Earth; clean air, pure water, unpoisoned land.

Senator George J. Mitchell, Oct. 6, 2000



A Member of the University of Maine System