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Telephone Listing

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- Christel Haley ext. 216
- Dan Jacobs ext. 220
- Dave Joseph ext. 216
- Angie Reed ext. 212
- Tony Tomah ext. 221
- Sharri Venno ext. 214
- Sue Young ext 202

HBMI Natural Resources Department



Welcome to Skitemiq Nutacomit

Welcome to the premier edition of *Skitemiq Nutacomit* the newsletter of the Natural Resources Department of the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians. Since the work of this department involves the use, care and preservation of the tribe's natural resources, we felt the name *Skitemiq Nutacomit*, which means "Earth Speaker" in Maliseet, was a good choice. Our special thanks go to

Nick Paul for his help in naming our newsletter.

We want to take this opportunity to introduce you to the department staff and the work we do on your behalf. If we can answer any questions about what the department is working on, please do not hesitate to contact us. A complete list of department telephone numbers is found at the lower left corner of this page.



Meet the Staff



Christel Haley
Water Resources Technician

I'm Christel Haley, a HBMI band member who had the opportunity to go to New Mexico this summer and take part in a Water Resource Technician training program which the Bureau of Indian Affairs made possible. I help monitor our streams, measure water depth and conduct various water sampling procedures. Having learned how important the Meduxnekeag is to us all, I'll do my best to help take care of it.
E-mail address:
woolustkw@maliseets.com



Dan Jacobs
Forester
Env. Specialist

I joined the HBMI Natural Resources Department in May 1999 to help meet the tribe's needs in the field of forestry and as a non-point source manager. During the summer and fall of 1999, I have been able to work on a variety of projects that will help to maximize the benefits that tribal members receive from their natural resources. I am also the person to see if you wish to join the Emergency Fire Fighting Crew or to get a timber cutting or tipping permit.
E-mail address: timber@maliseets.com

Meet the Staff *(continued)*



David Joseph
Water Resources Manager

Being a Tribal member and an avid outdoor person I have been very concerned about the status of the Tribes natural resources. For the last 5 years, I have been given the opportunity to work with and protect these resources for all tribal members. We have expanded our program from limited water testing abilities to a fully operational laboratory where many surface water tests are conducted. E-mail address: djoseph@maliseets.com



Angie Reed
Water Resources Specialist

I came to work with the Department as the Water Resources Specialist in order to help Dave Joseph get the field and laboratory work done and to provide technical assistance with specific projects. In the past two summers, we have been able to double the number sampling sites on the Meduxnekeag and its tributaries. I am also actively involved in representing the Band in the Meduxnekeag Watershed Coalition, talking with federal and state agencies about tribal water resource protection, and training tribal members to monitor the river.

E-mail address: angie@maliseets.com



Tony Tomah
Real Estate Director

As manager of the Real Estate program I handle all land acquisitions, leasing, right-of-ways, trespass issues and I process the payments in lieu of taxes for our lands. I also work exclusively with the natural resources division and other tribal programs when their projects involve the use of tribal lands. If you have any questions or concerns relating to our land or its resources you may call or e-mail me.

E-mail address: realestate@maliseets.com

Sharri Venno
Environmental Planner
Director, Natural Resources



Initially hired under an EPA grant, I have served as the Tribe's Environmental Planner since 1993. For the last two years I've directed the Natural Resources Department. As Director, I coordinate the activities of the Environmental Planning, Forestry and Water Resources Programs and supervise the staff. As Environmental Planner, I plan, develop and implement the environmental protection projects and programs with grant dollars and other funds obtained from Federal Agencies. E-mail address: envplanner@maliseets.com



Sue Young
Administrative Assistant

I joined the department in April 1999 as an administrative assistant. With a strong clerical and bookkeeping background and a love of the outdoors, this position is a perfect fit. I do a little bit of everything for the department including maintaining files, processing the financial paperwork needed for the various programs and putting together the newsletter to name just a few.

E-mail address: ogs1@maliseets.com



Keep your home and family healthy.

Winter is the best time to have your home tested for Radon.



Contact us today for more information and to sign up for testing.

Summer Interns

This summer we had five tribal members join the department to help the staff with various environmental projects. The work was not always easy and the hours were always changing, but through their efforts a great deal was accomplished.

Through many hours of raking, lugging mulch, spreading seed and fertilizer, the forestry technicians helped to plant grass on a number of erosion control structures (e.g. sediment basins, waterways and the large newly graded bank behind the HBMI Administration Building). In doing so, they have helped stabilize the soil to prevent erosion in the spring or after heavy rain storms. Next spring and summer we should all be treated to the blooms of the wildflowers that were planted behind the administration building to reduce the need for mowing on such a steep bank.

Under funding from the Clean Air Act, the forestry technicians took part in a fishing program designed to better assess the levels of mercury in the fish living in the various waters of the Meduxnekeag Watershed. Unfortunately, this program got off to a late start this summer when the fishing was not so good, but it will be started again as soon

as the fishing season resumes next spring. The forestry technicians also worked at preparing sites for tree planting in the spring of 2000.

Meanwhile, the water resource technicians were kept busy with a number of projects on the Meduxnekeag River. They could be found in the field at 5:00 a.m. getting early morning readings before the sun came up and the oxygen levels in the river began to rise. They also placed rock bags and rock baskets in the river and nearby streams to collect insects to help evaluate the health of these waterways. This proved to be quite a challenge due to the low water levels we experienced this summer. The large amounts of algae present this summer along with the lower water levels and higher water temperatures should yield some interesting data about the health of our watershed.



Suzanne Greenlaw picks bugs from a Meduxnekeag collection site.



Larry Robichaud & Chris Moran prepare sites for spring tree planting



Jerry Hanning & Joe Tomah work on the bank behind the HBMI Administration Building

Current and Upcoming Projects

Here's some of what we're working on:

- Water Quality Monitoring
- Fish Toxics Monitoring
- Non-Point Source (NPS) pollution mitigation
- Radon education, assessment and mitigation (with the Housing Improvement Department)
- Blood Lead screening for tribal children (with the Health Dept.)
- Drinking Water Assessment
- Recycling and Composting Programs
- Property Line Maintenance
- Evaluation of tribal timber stands for timber stand improvement projects
- Planning for spring tree planting
- Land use mapping with GIS (Geographical Information System) equipment
- Land acquisition
- Integrated Resource Management Project in conjunction with the Aroostook Band of Mic Macs.



Emergency Forest Fire Training

As the new year approaches, it is once again time to begin thinking about fire training. Tribal members will be paid for all training and any work assignment on a wildfire. Tribal members are generally well compensated for time spent training or suppressing wildfires. Becoming a member of the HBMI fire crew can be exciting and can also provide some supplemental income. If this sounds like something for you, please contact Dan Jacobs at ext. 220 for more information.

All tribal members are eligible to participate in this training. Upon successful completion of the program, tribal members will become members of HBMI's fire crew. The entire fire crew, or individual members may be asked to respond to fires on state, federal or



Become a vital member of HBMI's fire crew and help protect our natural resources

**HBMI Natural Resources
Department**

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