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DATE: [date to send out?]  
TO: Participants in the Maine Notification Registry for Aircraft and Air-carrier Pesticide Applications  
FROM: Henry Jennings, Director  
SUBJECT: Repeal of Pesticide Notification Law

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As a participant in the Maine Notification Registry for Aircraft and Air-carrier Pesticide Applications, we are writing to you to inform you of an important change that has taken place that will affect your registry listing. On June 14, 2011, Maine Governor Paul LePage signed into law LD 228, An Act To Revise Notification Requirements for Pesticide Application. Effective September 28, 2011, this new law repeals the aircraft and air-carrier pesticide application notification registry.

However, it is important to note that a preexisting law will continue to provide Maine citizens with the right to be notified about pesticide applications in their vicinity. Chapter 28, Notification Provisions for Outdoor Pesticide Applications (see <http://www.maine.gov/agriculture/pesticides/laws/regs.htm>), a Maine Board of Pesticides Control (BPC) rule, provides two ways to be notified. One option allows neighbors to request notification for any outdoor pesticide application within 500 feet of a residence. While this rule can apply to any outdoor pesticide treatment, it is most often used in rural areas by people who want to be informed about agricultural applications.

Another option is to sign up to be included in the Maine Pesticide Notification Registry for Non-Agricultural Pesticide Applications. This registry, in existence since 1998, provides for notification of most non-agricultural outdoor pesticide applications within 250 feet of the property boundary of a listed residence. The non-agricultural pesticide application registry is most commonly used by people living in residential areas who want to be informed about pesticide spraying on lawns and around structures in urban and suburban areas. The non-agricultural registry does not apply to notification for aerial spraying.

Details about both of these means of notification can be found on the BPC website at:  
<http://www.maine.gov/agriculture/pesticides/public/registry.htm>.

In addition, LD 228 directs the BPC to amend Chapter 28 to extend the distance for aerial applications to 1,000 feet when notification is requested. Rulemaking on Chapter 28, including a public hearing, will take place this fall, after which the new distance requirement for aerial spraying will take effect no later than January 2012.

In summary:

- The Maine Pesticide Notification Registry for Aircraft and Air-carrier Pesticide Applications will end on September 28, 2011.
- Two options for notification about pesticide spraying will continue to be provided by Chapter 28 of the BPC's rules.
- Effective no later than January 2012, Chapter 28 will be amended and the notification distance for aerial applications will be extended from 500 to 1,000 feet when notification is requested.

For questions about these changes, or for more specific details, please contact our office at [pesticides@maine.gov](mailto:pesticides@maine.gov) or 207-287-2731.