

Goosefare Brook Watershed Update

As previous reader's of the Pepperrell Post will know, the City of Saco has been working collaboratively with our neighboring community in Old Orchard Beach as well as members from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MDEP); York County Soil and Water Conservation District (YCSWCD); and F.B. Environmental Associates on the development of the Goosefare Brook Watershed-Based Management Plan (WBMP). In May of 2016, the WBMP was completed and accepted by the (MDEP).

The long-term goals of the WBMP provide a clear and proactive direction to protect and improve the quality of the Goosefare Brook and improve significant wildlife and fisheries habitat.

In December of 2016, the City received nearly \$125,000 from the MDEP as part of a 319 Grant that will partially fund the initial phase of stormwater and stream retrofit projects. The City is targeting to complete twelve (12) retrofit projects that are among the highest ranking priority in the WBMP. The work is schedule to be completed during 2017 and 2018.

Most recently, the Goosefare Brook Restoration Committee (GBRC) was formed that will serve as a implementation steering committee for the WBMP. The committee consists of representatives from the City of Saco, Town of Old Orchard, MDEP, YCSWCD, as well as several members from the general public representing a wide spectrum of interests and talents. The initial GBRC meeting was held in January of 2017. The GBRC is scheduled to meet two more times during 2017 to discuss and review progress for implementing the WBMP.

Complete copies of the Goosefare Brook WBMP and various other associated related documents are available through the City's website via the following link:
http://www.sacomaine.org/departments/public_works/goosefarebrookwatershed.php

For more information on **WHAT You CAN Do**, contact the City's Planning or Public Works Offices.

