

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Spruce Creek Project is Seeking Volunteers

The Steering Committee for the Spruce Creek Watershed Improvement Project, Phase 1 (SCWIP-1) is inviting Kittery and Eliot residents to join their project teams. Sponsored by the Town of Kittery (in close partnership with the Town of Eliot, the Spruce Creek Association, and the York County Soil and Water Conservation District), this project is funded under the 319 Stormwater program of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (using EPA funds). With project funding totaling more than \$176,000, participants will work to reduce bacteria loading and the export of sediment and nutrients into Spruce Creek by addressing a full suite of polluted runoff problems from now until March 2010. Another critical part of the project is community education and outreach. To learn more about SCWIP, please visit www.savekitterywaters.org.

A key component of the funding support for SCWIP is community involvement—providing the essential “people power” to organize and implement these actions. It represents a unique and important opportunity for ordinary citizens and residents of the watershed to make a lasting contribution to protecting our local waters for ourselves and future generations. Volunteer leaders and participants are vital to the Towns’ efforts to reduce the stormwater impacts and protect and restore the quality of Spruce Creek. The contributions of time and expertise to team membership are a most important and valued resource.

The “watershed improvement” phase (Phase I) of the project will consist of four task projects—actual work on the ground including stormwater retrofits and Low-Impact Development (LID) efforts—to be completed by the towns of the Spruce Creek Watershed. There will also be three overall coordination teams. Residents are invited to participate on these working teams in whatever way they can. All skill levels are welcome and every effort will be made to schedule activities as flexibly as possible while they extend throughout the winter and beyond to accommodate a wide range of volunteers.

- Community Outreach and Education Team
- Community Resources Team
- Stormwater Retrofit and Low-Impact Development *Project Team*
- Septic System Maintenance and Repair *Project Team*.
- Residential Conservation Practices *Project Team*
- Stream Crossing Erosion Control and Culvert Replacement *Project Team*

How to Join: The first meeting of SCWIP volunteers will be on Thursday, July 23, 2008 in the evening, at the Kittery Town Offices, time to be determined. Volunteers should contact Paula Ledgett at 207-439-2492 or e-mail Paula@sprucecreekassociation.org. To respond by mail: Paula Ledgett, SCWIP Resources Team Leader, Spruce Creek Association, PO Box 53, Kittery, ME 03904

Press Contact: Carolyn Hanson, SCWIP Community Outreach Team Leader, 207-439-2124, Carolyn@sprucecreekassociation.org