



Second Annual Conference for GIS Educators in Maine

Friday, November 13, 2009 9:30am to 4:30pm

Kennebec Valley Community College in Fairfield, Maine

AGENDA- UPDATED 11/5/09

**** Bring laptops (PC or Mac) for hands-on workshops! ****

If you don't have a laptop, there will be some available for participants to use.

8:30 – 9:30 **Registration, Coffee & Snacks**

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9:30 – 10:15 **Welcome, Opening Remarks & Update on GIS Education Happenings in Maine**

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10:15 - 10:30 **Break & Snacks**

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10:30 – 11:45 **Hands-on Workshop* An Introductory Remote Sensing Activity for GIS Courses**

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NASA has recently made all Landsat imagery from 1982 to the present free and available for download. In this workshop, we'll learn some of the basics of remote sensing and image analysis, and we'll walk through a hands-on introductory exercise using Landsat imagery of Maine. The exercise can be used with ArcGIS or Multispec, a free, open source, multi-platform image analysis application, and it's suitable for high school or college students. Participants will receive a CD with data, activity handouts, resources, and Multispec.

- Michael Lachance & Tora Johnson, University of Maine at Machias

11:45 – 1:00 **Lunch & Poster/ Table Session:** Displays will highlight programs, projects and student work.

133 Lunder [GeoLibrary Educational Workgroup Mtg. in 118 King]

1:00 – 1:45 **Presentation: The Educational Needs of Maine Geospatial Workforce**

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In this talk, we'll hear the results of a study of the geospatial technology education needs of Maine's workforce. The study, involving focus group interviews and a statewide survey, is helping us to understand what Maine's labor force needs from education programs, now and in the future.

- Charles Colgan, Univ. of Southern Maine's Center for Business & Economic Research

1:45 – 3:30 **Hands-on Workshop* Integrating Google Earth with GIS**

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With the growing popularity of web mapping applications, the Maine Department of Environmental Protection's GIS Unit uses Google Earth to serve its scientific data to users outside the building walls. Using Google Earth, DEP serves millions of records worth of spatial and environmental sampling data, including groundwater surface water, biological and physical data, to environmental consultants, the regulated community, researchers, and the general public. This workshop will demonstrate some of the Google Earth functionality that Maine DEP is using to create these simple but highly effective presentations of spatial data. We will also work through an exercise where participants will make a Google Earth project of their own.

- Chris Halsted, Maine Department of Environmental Protection

3:30 – 3:45 **Break and Snacks**

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3:45 – 4:15 **CONCURRENT SESSIONS**

133 Lunder **Presentation: A How-to Guide to Community Service GIS Projects**
Project-based learning with real-world applications can be a powerful tool for teaching GIS. We'll discuss the potential benefits and challenges of doing projects for community "clients," share examples, and offer tips on successful service projects for K-12 and college students.
- Moderator: Tora Johnson, University of Maine at Machias; Margaret Chernosky, Bangor High School; Mark Matson, University of Maine at Presque Isle; Penny Kern, Aroostook Junior Emergency Preparedness Society

118 King **Discussion: Strategies for Data Stewardship for the new Maine GeoPortal**
This discussion will interest people in higher education interested in providing regional stewardship of GIS data for the Maine GeoPortal currently under development. The portal will provide free public access to GIS data, metadata and a viewer. Members of the public will be able to contribute data to the portal, and an important role for higher education in the new portal system will be as regional "hubs" of data stewardship who can gather data from various sources, ensure its quality, manage updates, create metadata, support local users, etc.. This discussion is an opportunity to provide input about data stewardship for the portal as it is implemented.
- Facilitator: Christopher Kroot, Maine Office of GIS

4:15 – 4:30 **Open Forum: Sharing tips, tools, challenges, and questions**

133 Lunder What's your favorite new GIS gizmo or script? Are you stuck on a problem, either technical or curricular? In this open forum, we'll swap tips and ideas.
- Moderator: Tora Johnson, University of Maine at Machias

4:30 **Prize drawing and farewell:** Add your name tag to the bag for a chance to win geo prizes.

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Please don't forget to complete your evaluation forms! Thanks.