

West Gardiner Comprehensive Planning Committee  
Water Resources/Natural Resources/Agricultural and Forest Resources  
April 3, 2023 5:30 to 6:30

Present: Erin Small, Mike Wing, Paul Okerholm, Fred Merrill, Joan Anastasio

Discussion was based on the Water Resources Analysis questions and a map downloaded from the Maine Forest Service showing shoreland buffers, acreage, setbacks and where timber cannot be harvested was presented.

#### Area Pollution:

Mostly unknown without further research within the community, town officials, and state agencies. The following sources may include:

1. PFA's - are there sites within West Gardiner where sludge was spread?
2. Old Septic Systems
3. Plane crash fuel – has it drained into Cold Stream
4. Farm runoff/pesticides
5. Town Property – salt shed and fire station – has Grover Brook been impacted?
6. Lead paint as from the Auxiliary Hall siding. Was it collected during the renovation?
7. Businesses such as commercial garages and slaughterhouses. No drains permitted in garages, only evaporation tanks. What are the state regulations regarding drainage from slaughterhouses?
8. Contaminated wells. Has the state identified any? HT school's original well was contaminated by salt and the new well has arsenic but has an extensive treatment system.
9. Junk Yards – are vehicles leaking fuel and other liquids?
10. Fuel Storage tanks. What are the state regulations?
11. Discontinued gas tanks on prior service stations.
12. What is the lead abatement system at the Rod & Gun Club and the National Guard Shooting range?

Other Questions Raised: Does the state test streams and brooks as it does lakes and are there any local or regional advocacy groups that promote water resource protection in addition to Friends of the Cobbossee Watershed?

It was noted that a both 295 and 95 course through the town and that the state controls runoff with catch basins. Does the town take protective measures to protect water resources on its properties?

Committee members will reach out to town officials and community members to answer pollution questions and research state agency websites for information to begin to complete the first part of the checklist.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:40.

Next Meeting 4/26 at 5:30

Joan Anastasio

Secretary