

THE

INFORMANT

NEWSLETTER OF THE MAINE SECTION ASCE

November 2023



From the Editor:

“And there are very few people like Mainers. I know Mainers. I love Mainers. They’re strong people. They’ve got Moxie — literally, it’s the name of the official state soft drink. It tastes like carbonated cough syrup, but they drink it anyway, ’cause Mainers are tough. These are people whose idea of a beach is a collection of jagged rocks near freezing water. Their state flower, the Maine state flower — and this is true — is a frickin’ pine cone!” — STEPHEN COLBERT

Stay tough & be kind. <3
We hope to see you soon!

Heather

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Reminders for the Maine
Section of ASCE

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Conference & Bridge Breaking!

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Maine Section ASCE - Save the Date(s)

November 2023

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Monthly Section Meeting	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Thanksgiving! 	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	Dec 1	Dec 2



President's Message

To start with I would like to acknowledge the events that occurred two weeks ago in Lewiston. As Civil Engineers our primary concern is public safety and the well-being of the community. When something like this happens, it is heart breaking. We hope that the healing can begin for the City of Lewiston and surrounding communities. If people are looking for ways to help, we will share the link from Governor Mills, www.maine.gov/governor/mills/lewiston, with additional information.

We were unable to host the Dragon Cement Plant tour last week and have rescheduled the visit for the near future, look for an email to those who had registered and hope you can make the new date.

Our next presentation will be on the ongoing development of the Downs, put on by Drew Gagnon of Gorrill Palmer. He will be discussing the work completed since the project started in 2017 and occupancy updates on the project (Costco!!). He will also discuss the stormwater management system that includes "snow melt bypass" technology and overall goal of chloride reduction in the watershed.

I look forward to seeing you on November 16th or at the Maine Transportation Conference on December 7th. Look for our booth and support the ASCE Student Chapter by purchasing a 50/50 raffle ticket!

Thanks,

Nate Powelson, P.E.

Maine Section ASCE President



**Thursday November 16, 2023****Earn 1 PDH!****Maine Section ASCE
Presentation and Social Hour!*****Scarborough Downs Update***

Presented by: Drew Gagnon, P.E.

Drew Gagnon will be providing an update on the 550-acre Downs Mixed Use Redevelopment project that started in 2017. Discussion will include design, permitting and construction of the Stormwater management system that includes “snow melt bypass” technology and overall goal of chloride reduction in the watershed. Drew will provide an overall construction and occupancy update on the project.

Schedule:

6:00 - 6:45 PM **Social/Snacks**

6:45 - 7:45 PM **Presentation**

Cost: \$30 ASCE members, \$40 non-members

Location: *Throttle Car Club* 10 Dynamic Drive, Scarborough, ME 04074

Please RSVP by Tuesday November 14!

Register here on [EventBrite](#) or contact **Justin Yaitanes** Email: jyaitanes@hntb.com



THE WICKED DATA MIN"AH"

#04 OUR FOREVER FORESTS

6.9

a million cords of wood are harvested each year in Maine to build homes, make furniture, paper, and other products. More than 89% of Maine is made up of forested land.

Source: https://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/projects/fall_foliage/kids/meforestfacts.html

100

a foot-long single tree that each American uses per year.

Source: https://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/projects/fall_foliage/kids/meforestfacts.html

52

native leaf trees in Maine. The most common leaf tree is the Beech Tree.

Source: https://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/projects/fall_foliage/kids/meforestfacts.html

14

native conifers are trees that bear their seeds in cones. The most common conifer softwood is the Balsam Fir.

Source: https://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/projects/fall_foliage/kids/meforestfacts.html

1945

year the white pine tree was designated the official tree of the State of Maine.

Source: https://www.maine.gov/dacf/mfs/projects/fall_foliage/kids/meforestfacts.html

72ND MAINE TRANSPORTATION CONFERENCE

SMART INVESTMENTS STRONG INFRASTRUCTURE

Advancing Maine's Transportation Landscape

Presented by



Please join us as we gather with regional and national leaders in the transportation field for the
72nd Maine Transportation Conference
Thursday, December 7, 2023

The Maine Transportation Conference will feature a full day of technical and policy track discussions for transportation professionals in Maine and beyond. Join us to hear from the U.S. Space Force, along with discussions on: how smart infrastructure investments can bring strong returns; adapting to the changing climate; intersections and roundabouts for safety; legislative funding; and more. There also will be plenty of opportunities to network, and the traditional UMaine Student Paper and Bridge Breaking competitions, and the new "Accelerated Bridge Contest," where teams vie to build the strongest bridge in just 30 minutes.

We look forward to seeing you there!

[Register Here!](#)

Questions?

Please contact the MBTA office: 207-622-0526 or Cindy@mbtaonline.org.72ND MAINE TRANSPORTATION CONFERENCE | THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2023

Accelerated Bridge Construction

Find 3 friends and register with Kristi Van Ooyen today!

KVanOoyen@maineturnpike.com

Teams of 4 or less will have 30 minutes to construct their bridges with materials provided. Construction will take place at the END of lunch break in the Androscoggin/Aroostook/Cumberland Rooms - Testing will take place during 4:30 PM Reception. There are PRIZES!



















Join the Committee for Maine's Infrastructure!

2024 Report Card for Maine's Infrastructure

We are seeking interest in participating in the Report Card Committee for 2024. Members will volunteer or be assigned to one or more infrastructure areas for research, writing and grade assignment. We have had great participation in the past and expect another great turnout. We are always looking for new insights and expertise. Expect the kick-off with ASCE to occur in January with final drafts due no later than August 2nd and an unveiling in late fall 2024.

Check out the latest report card at <https://www.infrastructurereportcard.org/state-item/maine/>
 If interested, please contact Peter Merfeld before December 8, 2023. Email works best at pmerfeld@maineturnpike.com or call 207-485-2036.



CATEGORY	2008	2012	2016	2020	2024!
	B-	B	C+	B	?
	D+	C-	C-	C-	?
	D+	D+	D+	D+	?
	-	-	-	C-	?
	D+	C-	C-	D+	?
	C+	C+	B-	C+	?
	C	C+	C+	C	?
	B-	C+	C+	C	?
	C	C	C	C+	?
	C-	C-	D+	D+	?
	C-	C+	B-	B-	?
	C	C-	C-	C-	?
	D	D	D	D	?
	C-	C-	C	C	?
	-	-	-	C-	?
	D+	D+	D+	D+	?
OVERALL	C-	C-	C-	C-	??



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The deadline for submissions is the 20th of each month prior to publication.