



JANET T. MILLS
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION AND FORESTRY
BOARD OF PESTICIDES CONTROL
28 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

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AMANDA E. BEAL
COMMISSIONER

BOARD OF PESTICIDES CONTROL

October 3, 2025

9:00 AM Board Meeting

Join the meeting in person in Room 101, Deering Building, 90 Blossom Lane, Augusta
Or

[Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 292 598 215 856

Passcode: uF9Dx6iT

Dial in by phone

[+1 207-209-4724,,113816955#](#) United States, Portland

Phone conference ID: 113 816 955#

MINUTES

1. Introductions of Board and Staff

- Adams, Bohlen, Carlton, Fanning, Gray, Neavyn
- Boyd, Brown, Couture, Gayoso, Gustanski, Leibowitz, Peacock, Poisson, Richard, Vacchiano, VanHoewyk

Welcome Jose Gayoso, Manager of Compliance!

Congratulations to Amanda Couture on being promoted to Manager of Pesticide Programs!

Congratulations to District 3 Pesticide Inspector, Heidi Nelson, on her retirement!

2. Minutes of July 18, 2025, Board Meeting

Presentation By: Alex Peacock, Director

Action Needed: Amend and/or Adopt

- **Carlton/Bohlen: Moved and seconded to adopt July 18, 2025, meeting minutes**
- **In favor: Unanimous**

ALEXANDER PEACOCK, DIRECTOR
90 BLOSSOM LANE, DEERING BUILDING



PHONE: (207) 287-2731
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3. Rodenticides: Toxicological Overview

An overview of the different active ingredients in rodenticides and their modes of action.

Presentations By: Doug VanHoewyk, Ph.D., Pesticide Toxicologist

Action Needed: None, Discussion

- VanHoewyk gave the Board a presentation from the Rodent Academy workshop. This presentation explained the science behind multiple rodenticides' functionality. The board discussed the differences between first-generation and second-generation rodenticides. More information on rodenticides in the Maine ecosystem was requested for more informed rule-making.

4. LD 356: Resolve, Directing the Board of Pesticides Control to Prohibit the Use of Rodenticides in Outdoor Residential Settings

An overview of current rodenticide regulations in Maine and with the EPA. A look at what other states have done concerning rodenticide regulations.

Presentations By: Alex Peacock, Director

Action Needed: None, Discussion

- Peacock broke down the rodenticide types registered in Maine by their active ingredients. The board was informed about types of restrictions already in place and restrictions that were suggested but not yet adopted. A survey was created to get stakeholder input on rodenticide use by commercial companies. At the time of the meeting, the survey had only been live for one week.
- Peacock then informed the board of restrictions California has made towards rodenticides. The board discussed different types of restrictions along with the logistics behind them.
- Neavyn stated from a human health perspective, restricting it could help with human overdoses of the rodenticides.
- Adams proposed continuing the discussion in the next board meeting when more data will be available.

5. LD 1323: An Act to Prohibit the Use of Neonicotinoid Pesticides and the Use and Sale of Neonicotinoid-treated Seeds

Resolve, Directing the Board of Pesticides Control to Evaluate the Impact of Neonicotinoids on Pollinators, Humans, and the Environment. Update on current activities conducted by staff to satisfy this legislative directive.

Presentation By: Alex Peacock, Director & Doug VanHoewyk, Ph.D., Pesticide Toxicologist

Action Needed: None; Discussion

- VanHoewyk presented statistics on the use of neonicotinoids in potato and blueberry fields. This focused on bee contact with neonicotinoids. The board discussed the environmental impact of spraying neonicotinoids compared to using neonicotinoid-treated seeds.
- Bohlen stated that use patterns are important
- Gayoso stated EPA pushed to treat treated seeds like other pesticides. Concerns about users not following seed packet directions the way they would follow pesticide directions.
- Gray remarked that treated seed is likely mostly used by regulated community

6. LD 1697: An Act to Increase Penalties to Deter Violations of the Laws Regarding Improper Pesticide Use

Overview of bill and proposed rule adoptions. Preview of draft penalty matrix.

Presentation By: Alex Peacock, Director

Action Needed: None; Discussion

- Peacock brought the board up to date on the status of the penalty matrix draft. Templates from other states are being referenced to build it. Peacock highlighted the complexities of utilizing the penalty matrix with the unregulated community and the accountability surrounding label language.
- The board discussed measures that are in place to dissuade people from using the new fines as a means to harass those who use pesticides.

7. Board Enforcement Case Pre-Review Background Summary

The BPC Enforcement Protocol requires that the Board be alerted to repeat offenders. This case involves Trugreen Lawncare of Westbrook and includes an unauthorized application at the wrong property, failure to have a positive property identification system in place, pesticide applications during high winds, false reporting in the pesticide activity log, and employee exposure to pesticides.

Presentation By: Alex Peacock, Director

Action Needed: Discussion/Directive

- Peacock informed the board of a complaint made in August 2025 against the company Trugreen Lawncare of Westbrook. The complaint led to further investigation, which found multiple offenses. Current complaints against them mirror the problems associated with their 2020 and 2023 Consent Agreements.
- Adams directed staff to issue an administrative consent agreement.

8. Other Old and New Business

- a. Variance Permit for CMR 01-026, Chapter 29, Damariscotta Mills Consulting Inc., Dock Road, Alna, ME.
- b. Variance Permit for CMR 01-026, Chapter 29, Damariscotta Mills Consulting Inc., Head Tide Road, Alna, ME.
- c. Variance Permit for CMR 01-026, Chapter 29, Damariscotta Mills Consulting Inc., Midcoast Conservancy, Musquash Pond Preserve, Jefferson, ME.
- d. Variance Permit for CMR 01-026, Chapter 29, Damariscotta Mills Consulting Inc., Chamberlain, ME.
- e. Variance Permit for CMR 01-026, Chapter 29, Parterre Ecological, Staples Street Park, Biddeford, ME.
- f. Variance Permit for CMR 01-026, Chapter 29, New England Spray Technologies, Rotary Park, Kennebunk, ME.
- g. Variance Permit for CMR 01-026, Chapter 29, Legacy Woodlot Services, Unity, ME.
- h. Variance Permit for CMR 01-026, Chapter 29, Lynch Landscaping, Vassalboro, ME
- i. EPA Releases Documents on Genetically Engineered Mosquitoes for Public Comment and Peer Review
- j. EPA Updates Aquatic Life Benchmarks for Registered Conventional and Antimicrobial Pesticides

9. Schedule of Future Meetings

The next scheduled Board meeting date is November 14, 2025, at the Deering Building, Room 101, Augusta

Future Meetings: December 12, 2025, January 14, 2025 (ATS)

Adjustments and/or Additional Dates?

10. Adjourn

- **Carlton/Neavyn: Moved and seconded to adjourn at 11:55 AM**
- **In favour: Unanimous**

NOTES

- The Board Meeting Agenda and most supporting documents are posted one week before the meeting on the Board website at www.thinkfirstspraylast.org.
- Any person wishing to receive notices and agendas for meetings of the Board, Medical Advisory Committee, or Environmental Risk Advisory Committee must submit a request in writing to the Board's office. Any person with technical expertise who would like to volunteer for service on either committee is invited to submit their resume for future consideration.
- On November 16, 2007, the Board adopted the following policy for submission and distribution of comments and information when conducting routine business (product registration, variances, enforcement actions, etc.):
 - *For regular, non-rulemaking business*, the Board will accept pesticide-related letters, reports, and articles. Reports and articles must be from peer-reviewed journals. E-mail,

hard copy, or fax should be sent to the Board's office or pesticides@maine.gov. In order for the Board to receive this information in time for distribution and consideration at its next meeting, all communications must be received by 8:00 AM, three days prior to the Board meeting date (e.g., if the meeting is on a Friday, the deadline would be Tuesday at 8:00 AM). Any information received after the deadline will be held over for the next meeting.

- During rulemaking, when proposing new or amending old regulations, the Board is subject to the requirements of the APA (Administrative Procedures Act), and comments must be taken according to the rules established by the Legislature.