



IROQUOIS ENVIRONMENTAL NEWSLETTER

www.srmtenv.org

Spring/Summer
2006

Issue #26

Inventory and Evaluation of Habitat for Blanding's and Snapping Turtles

This spring, staff from the wetlands program of the SRMT Environment Division began working on a project to evaluate suitable wetlands habitat for Blanding's and Snapping turtles. Funded by the United States Fish and Wildlife service, this project will inventory and evaluate populations of Blanding's and Snapping turtles in their preferred habitats located within reservation boundaries. The Blanding's turtle is listed with the New York DEC as "threatened" and both turtles play important roles in the Mohawk culture and tradition. In Mohawk culture, the turtle represents one of three clans in the Clan system, our basic unit of social organization. Turtles also play a significant role in traditional Mohawk ceremonies. Field personnel will set live-traps to inventory turtle populations. Inventories will continue throughout all three years of the project. A second phase will identify management and control methods for managing these two turtle species.



Hollis White collects a turtle as part of the Turtle Inventory Project.

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Happy Trails

Joyce



Joyce Barkley has decided to move on from the Environment Division to pursue her PhD in Fisheries, with an emphasis on native freshwater mussels. As program manager, Joyce worked tirelessly to protect and promote the wetlands of Akwesasne. Joyce was instrumental in combating invasive species like purple loosestrife in her tenure. It's been a pleasure working with Joyce. Her low-key, independent spirit and her straight shooter approach to life will be missed around here. Good luck Joyce. Onward!!



Joyce

IROQUOIS ENVIRONMENTAL NEWSLETTER

Published Spring and Fall of each year by the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, Environment Division. The mission statement of the IEN is to inform and educate Iroquois Nation people and to network with other members of the Iroquois Nation regarding environmental issues in our territories.

The IEN is funded by the U.S.E.P.A, under the General Assistance Agreement Program.

The viewpoints contained in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the USEPA or the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe. The IEN encourages free and open discussion of all environmentally related issues. We encourage submission of letters, comments, and articles from our readers so as to promote a greater awareness among our people about environmental issues and to foster the free exchange of information, technology, and culturally relevant values of all Iroquois people.

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News From The Tribe's Solid Waste Program

Written by:
Laura J. Weber
Director- Solid Waste Management

It is spring time and this means that spring cleanup is well underway in the community. This is the first cleanup that we've held since fall 2005. Tribal Council decided to hold the cleanup in the spring since we didn't have one this past fall. We began collecting bulky items, scrap metal, and freon appliances on Onerahtohko:wa/May 1. In the first two weeks of the cleanup, we've collected 40 tons of bulky items, 7 tons scrap metal, and 20 freon appliances, which are kept separate so that the freon can be removed before recycling them.

We are also continuing to develop a tire recycling project for the community. An RFP has been developed to solicit a contractor for the proper removal and recycling tires. Tires will be collected sometime in either Ohiarihko:wa/July or Seskeha/August.

At the end of Onerahtohko:wa/May, a solid waste summer intern will begin work. The intern will be working on the waste lamp recycling project. Writing a training manual will be the primary responsibility for the intern. Once written, the training manual will be available for other Indian Nations to use in setting up a waste lamp recycling project in their communities.

The transfer station continues to be busy and more and more community members are using it. We receive a lot of positive feedback about the services that we offer. For a full listing of services, please see our website:

<http://www.srmtenv.org/index.php?spec=srmtswms>.

In closing, let us share that we truly appreciate your support as we continue to develop the best possible solid waste program that offers quality services that you can afford.



Unloading spring cleanup debris at Tribe's transfer station.

TRANSFER STATION HOURS OF OPERATION

Tuesday – Saturday, 7:30 am – 3:00 pm
Closed Sunday & Monday

Transfer Station Phone # 518-358- 4632

PURCHASE YOUR BLUE BAGS AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS

Wild Bills
Kanienkehaka Fuels
SRMT Community Building
SRMT Medical Clinic
SRMT Environment Division
IGA First Americans Grocery Store
Wolf Clan Truck Stop

Fish Derby

Report: Contaminant Results from Noah Thompson Memorial Fishing Derby

By Tony David

SRMT launched a pilot project this fall evaluating the average concentration of a host of pollutants in smallmouth bass. The results shed light on the presence and absence of mercury, PCBs, and pesticides like DDT, Chlordane, Mirex and others.

The PCB data for bass are considerably lower than fish taken prior to remediation in 2004 from Contaminant Cove (bay next to General Motors chemical landfill). However, fish should still not be consumed from Contaminant Cove until new data are generated showing the fish are safe. This applies to adjacent areas as well.



PCBs (wet basis)	
Fish Derby Average:	0.40 ppm
(smallmouth bass)	
GM Shoreline	0.6-5.5ppm
(smallmouth bass)	
Contaminant Cove	6.91 ppm (brown
bullhead)	
Contaminant Cove	13.3 ppm (northern
pike)	
National* (1986-1989)	1.98 ppm
(smallmouth bass)	

*Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. 1992. National Study of Chemical Residues in Fish, Volume I. Office of Science and Technology, Washington, DC. EPA 823-R-92-008a.

Note:

Food and Drug Administration tolerance for PCBs in commercial seafood: 2.0 ppm (21 CFR 109.30)

EPA guidance for PCBs is based on body weight, number of meals per month, and an “acceptable” risk level. This level is considerably more strict.

Mercury	
Fish Derby Average:	0.554ppm (0.386
ppm; 12-15” bass)	
All-Northeast**:	0.58 ppm (bass all sizes)
**Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. 2000.	
Mercury Update. Washington, DC. EPA-823-F-01-011	
Note:	

Pesticides:

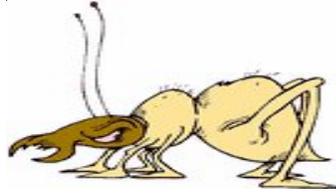
Mirex	ND
DDT	ND
DDE*	0.0076ppm
DDD*	ND
Aldrin	ND
Dieldrin	ND
Chlordane	ND
Toxaphene	ND
Endosulfan	ND
Endrin	ND
Heptachlor	ND
*decomposition byproducts of DDT	
ND = non-detect	

“Fish Derby,”.....continued on Page 12

A Rumour of War (Bug War, That Is!)

By Les Benedict

As useful as the internet is it can also be a source of misinformation. Because this web links so many people to one another it doesn't take very long for information to spread. Everyone with an e-mail address knows what it is like to receive "junk e-mail", chain letters, FYI's. There seems to be a constant bombardment of all sorts of information and not just from marketers, our own family and friends seem to feel that sending us something by e-mail, particularly URGENT, ALERT, TAKE ACTION NOW, WARNING and other "Subject" headings that demand our attention. Because of the number of scams, sheer volume of e-mails, one becomes jaded and shrugs off most such e-mails, quickly tossing them into the TRASH BOX.



Very recently I received one such e-mail that read, MULCH WARNING. Wondering how much of a warning would be needed for mulch I read on. The warning seemed to be very genuine. It read:

If you use mulch around your house be very careful about buying mulch this year. After the Hurricane in New Orleans many trees were blown over. These trees were then turned into mulch and the state is trying to get rid of tons and tons of this mulch to any state or company who will come and haul it away. So it will be showing up in Home Depot and Lowes at dirt cheap prices with one huge problem; Formosan Termites will be the bonus in many of those bags. New Orleans is one of the few areas in the country where the Formosan Termites has gotten a strong hold and most of the trees blown down were already badly infested with those termites. Now we may have the worst case of transporting a problem to all parts of the country that we have ever had. These termites can eat a house in no time at all and we have no good control against them, so tell your friends that own homes to avoid cheap mulch and know where it came from. Signed, Laura Y. Lindley, R.E.H.S., Clark County Health Department, Jeffersonville, Indiana.

This caused me concern. First, I do buy mulch and don't want to introduce something into my home that will cause harm. Secondly, I thought about everyone else that would be buying mulch. So, I thought that I would get to the bottom of this and obtain some real facts and get the word out to you so that you can have one less thing to worry about this summer and enjoy it.

I contacted our friends at the US Forest Service in Durham, NH and here is what they had to say, by e-mail of course.

Hi Les,

I found the message from the LA Agricultural Commissioner. It's at the bottom of the page.

March 3, 2006

Don't believe everything you read on the Internet.

"War,".....continued on Page 13

GIS Symposium in Akwesasne

Geo-Caching Around the Globe

By Faith Graffis



Where in the World are We? Anerah-tonni Phillips, Lynn Jacobs and Holly McComber, Kahnawake Land Management staff, and Binke Wang, Penobscot GIS specialist use the Trimble GPS units to pinpoint exactly where they are in Akwesasne.

On April 25 – 27, members of several tribal nations met at the Wolf Clan Restaurant for the 2006 Haudenosaunee GIS Symposium. Hosted by the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe’s Environment Division, the 3 day symposium consisted of various training workshops that were held to introduce many tribal nations to the world of GIS. Geographic Information Systems promote the use of computer technology to manipulate data using a geographic perspective. Information about the earth surface is measured and used to create digital mapping images.

The symposium began with training sessions conducted by tribal, university and government speakers. GPS Field Data Collection training was conducted by SRMT Environment GIS Program Manager Aimee Benedict Debo. Her presentation introduced many conference attendees to the Trimble GPS tool. SRMT Information Systems Tech Tom Lake hosted a session to assist users of the GPS Trimble unit in creating script to be able to customize the unit for a specific type of collection data. Attendees were then able to go outside and locate exactly where they were in Akwesasne.

On Wednesday, the opening address was spoken by Wahsohkwios and Tsiionatiio, students of the Akwesasne Freedom School, followed by welcoming remarks from Ohahonkóhton, Mohawk Nation Council , Ron Lafrance SRMT Sub-Chief and Ronald Sunday, MCA Chief. Stephen Smith from Cornell University prepared a presentation detailing the use of 3D elevation Modeling and also the opportunities available to receive IRIS Training. John Adams, MCA GIS Technician presented information about how to acquire Canadian GIS Data, along with several other presenters from Ottawa.

In the afternoon all the nature buffs took a ride to the Robert Moses State Park Nature Center to participate in a Geo-Caching Treasure Hunt. Geo-caching involved hiding an object in the trails of the nature center and teams using a GPS Trimble unit to navigate to specific points on the trails to receive clues to find the hidden object. Organized by Joyce Barkley and Paul Doxtator, this unique exercise allowed attendees to utilize the skills they had just learned the previous day. To the delight of everyone involved the game proved to be quite challenging. Wind blown and a little bit cold most took a look inside the Nature Center at the local plants and wildlife from this area, and some even got in a few games of foosball. And if the Geo-Caching

“GIS,” continued on Pg. 14

Environment Division Embarks on Another Sampling Season

The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe Environment Division will be embarking on a number of projects this spring and summer. Below is a partial listing of planned projects.

Water Quality Program

Surface water monitoring for bacteria

The Water Quality Program produces an annual report on the state of our rivers. This report is in the early stages of development. One component of this report is dedicated to assessment of water quality. The focus this summer will be on pathogen indicator bacteria, or bacteria that represent more serious organisms that can cause sickness in humans. These data will be collected from all the rivers that run through Akwesasne and the information will be relevant to swimmers across the territory. Possible sources of pathogens are inadequate treatment of human waste, agricultural runoff, and livestock waste.

Fish monitoring

Water Quality will continue its task of monitoring contaminants in sportfish from the waters of Akwesasne. This year will hopefully bring even more cooperation between Water Quality and community anglers. With the overwhelming success of getting participation from anglers in the 2005 Noah Thompson Memorial Fishing Derby—where 42 smallmouth bass were collected and analyzed—our program wants to expand the monitoring program to look at other species like perch and walleye. These efforts will help anglers better understand which fish are acceptable to eat, and which are not.

Another part of this project will evaluate the presence of contaminants in river sediments and minnows. These minnows are eaten by larger fish, which are in turn eaten by community members. This project will

“Environment Division,” continued on page 15

Staff Spotlight



Tira Benedict

Tira joined the staff of the Environment Division to serve as a water quality technician for the Clean Water program. Tira is a 2006 graduate of the environmental technician program at St. Lawrence College. Tira’s past experience includes working with the Mohawk Council of Akwesasne (MCA) Department of Technical Services as summer student for 4yrs. Summer 2004 in the water/wastewater treatment department. In addition, Tira possesses an operator-in-training certification (2004) and class 1 water treatment and distribution license (2005) from Ontario Environmental Training Consortium. Tira is also an avid concert-goer.



Use ICE (In Case of Emergency) Your Cell Phone as an Emergency Lifeline

Your cell phone can be a lifeline during times of crisis. At the touch of a button it can be used to call 911 or the police, as well as to reunite loved ones separated during a disaster.

At the scene of an accident, where there are casualties, first responders or rescue services are making life-and-death decisions. They arrive and want to treat you quickly and also notify your family or friends. It would be useful to know which of the numbers stored in your cell phone's electronic address book can be used to quickly reach your key contacts and next of kin.

You can make their job easier by adding an entry in the contacts list in your cell phone under the label ICE with the names and phone numbers of people that should be called in case of an accident or injury. Simply put the acronym **ICE** before the names you want to designate as key contacts or next of kin creating entries such as **ICE1, ICE2 and ICE3** etc.

By adopting the "ICE advice" your cell phone may help emergency and rescue services quickly contact a relative or friend which could be vital in a life or death situation. It only takes a few seconds to do. Responders at the scene will now know right away who to notify.

Notice



Beginning in the Fall, the Iroquois Environmental Newsletter will only be available on-line. So bookmark our website and check back often for the latest environmental news.

www.srmtenv.org

Environmental Incident Report

November 2005 - April 2006

By Craig Arquette

This is the bi-annual installment of the Environmental Incident Report to the Iroquois Environmental Newsletter (IEN). An updated incident report will continue to be in all future issues of IEN. The purpose of this report is to make the readers of IEN aware of the numbers and types of incidents that our Environmental Response Team responds too. If you are faced with a spill at night or weekends, you can contact the Tribal Police at 358-9200 and they will contact the Response Team to assist you.

The St. Regis Mohawk Tribe's certified Environmental Response Team members include Ken Jock, Les Benedict, Craig Arquette, Laura Weber, Lornie Swamp, Angela Dunn, Marie Benedict, Aimee Benedict-Debo, Denean Cook, Teres Seymour, Jim Snyder, Adrian Mcdonald, Joyce Barkley, Evan Thompson, Jari Thompson, Jessica Jock, Bobby Phillips, Tony David, John Bay, Pat Gray, and Mike Gibbins.

Nature of Incident	Number
Residential Spill	6
Automobile Accident	2
Business	1

BERT serves as the primary response vehicle for the ERT. It houses the equipment required to respond to environmental incidents.

One of our incidents involved one of our local fuel dealers overfilling a tank, which was located inside a garage. The Garage was attached to a house and the fuel and fumes caused the occupants to move out until the spill was cleaned up. The spill was caused by the fuel deliveryman leaving the tank unattended while it was being filled.

This was a preventable accident. If we can learn anything from this incident, it is that a fuel tank should never be left unattended while it is being filled. Your fuel delivery company is responsible for making sure your tank and supporting equipment is in good shape before fuel is pumped into the tank. If the tank and supporting equipment is not working properly, then it is the homeowners' responsibility to make arrangements to have someone make the necessary repairs.

All residential fuel oil spills must be reported the Tribe's Environmental Response Team at 358- 5937 so that it may be cleaned up as soon as possible.



Indoor Air Molds & Indian Country by Barbara Gray

In the Natural World, molds and fungi have a responsibility. Their duty is to break down and remove organic materials. For example, molds and fungi can be found throughout our forests breaking down leaves and deadwood. In reality, molds and fungi can be found virtually everywhere. All they need to grow is air, moisture, and a food source.

In Indian country, indoor molds and fungi have become a serious problem. Some reasons for the problem are poor maintenance and construction of homes.

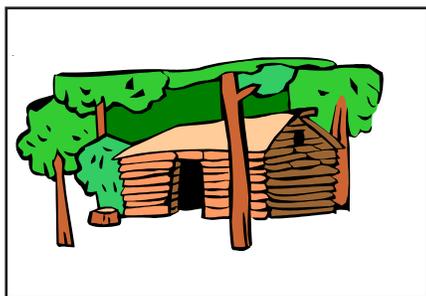
Leaking pipes and roofs, dirt floors, seasonal flooding, are all problems that allow for moisture and the propagation

of molds and indoor fungi. In addition, new home construction makes homes that often are virtually airtight, which creates moisture problems.

The health risks vary depending on the susceptibility of the person and concentration of mold and/or fungi indoors. Elderly people, children, and people with compromised immune systems are more at risk. Molds and fungi produce allergens, which are substances that may cause an allergic reaction, irritants, and in some cases, potentially toxic substances known as mycotoxins. (1) Touching or inhaling the mold or mold spores may cause an allergic reaction.

The reaction could be similar to flu-like symptoms such as a sneezing, running, or stuffed nose, red or itching eyes, and coughing. Some reactions might cause rashes and/or asthma attacks. Exposure can also cause “inflammation of the respiratory tract, bloody noses, fever, headaches, neurological problems and suppression of the immune system.”(2)

Ongoing research is being done to determine the potential human health risks from exposure to molds and fungi.



EPAs New Revolutionary Mold and Fungi Technology

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) developed a new technology to detect indoor molds and fungi. The test is revolutionary in that it can be used to identify and quantify more than 130 species of potentially toxic molds and fungi in less than two hours.

Previous technology to detect molds and fungi took two weeks. Expert scientists, mycologists and microbiologists, had to manually count each spore as they peered through a microscope. Such methodology was time consuming and costly.

The new EPA technology will reduce costs and produce better results in identification and quantity. Cost and human errors will be reduced as the technology becomes

automated. Trained laboratory technicians should be able to reach the same identification and quantifications as the experts. As a result, mycologists and microbiologists will be better able to use their time interpreting analysis and researching the human health risks to exposure.

In an official EPA press release, some confusion was created when the release implied that homes with molds should be tested. However, such a practice, testing all homes, is not recommended by EPA. Instead, common mold and fungi problems should be properly cleaned.

Taking Control of Mold

Mold will not grow without air; however, we won't live too long without air either. Mold can live on all kinds of organic matter in our homes such as paper, wood, and foods. I read an article about a woman from a reservation in the Dakotas who had 6 inch high fungi growing in her dirt cellar along with molds coating the inside of her basement.

Molds and fungi cannot grow without moisture. Moisture needs to be controlled in our homes. Of



course moisture cannot be entirely eliminated, nor would it be very healthful to do so. However, there are many things that we can do to reduce moisture in our homes.

Showers and cooking add moisture into our homes. When cooking, especially when making soups, boiling water for pasta, and steaming vegetables use your stove top fan. Dryers should be vented to the outside. When taking a shower, turn on the bathroom fan to eliminate the excess steam. If your home, like mine, was not built with a fan, a window can be cracked open.

However, the best option is to install an exhaust fan that removes the air from the inside of the home to the outside.

All leaking pipes should be fixed. Prevent water from seeping in around the edges of sinks and tubs. If your basement is getting wet from the outside, installing gutters to direct water away from the foundation may be helpful. Over dirt crawl spaces a barrier needs to be installed to prevent moisture from coming in from the ground. There are many types of barriers depending on your need, but in general some suggest a plastic covering. Basements and crawl spaces should be well ventilated.

The use of air conditioners and dehumidifiers can be helpful. Storm windows installed on the inside can be helpful. Carpets can hold moisture especially on concrete floors. It is best to use scatter rugs on concrete floors that can be washed frequently. If carpet has to be laid over concrete, place plastic over the concrete, then lay down a sub-floor of plywood prior to the carpet. One rule of thumb is to properly dry up moisture within 24 hours to prevent molds and fungi from having a chance to grow. (3)

Clean-up and Removal

Proper clean-up and removal of mold and fungi is important. One might assume that the burning of removed materials or homes, unable to be clean, would be a good idea; however, it is not. The burning of moldy buildings is harmful to human health because fire releases the spores into the air. These released spores can be breathed in by humans and pets and cause



respiratory problems. Thus, proper steps to clean-up and removal need to be followed.

The first step in the clean-up process is to reduce moisture. Once leaks and floods are taken care of, the molds and fungi and ruined organic material need to be physically removed. Cleaning can get rid of visible molds, but one has to be aware of hidden molds.

Hidden molds may be found in such places as behind wallpaper, under ceiling and floor tiles, and in carpets. These materials need to be removed and replaced.

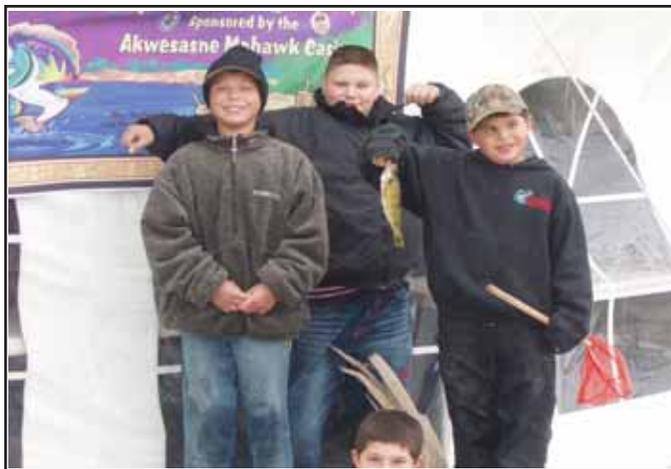
When doing clean-up, precautions should be taken.

Some precautions include gloves, goggles, and respirators. Mold should not be touched with bare hands. Gloves should be worn at all times during the clean-up and removal process.

If using chemicals or biocides, one should wear long gloves made from natural rubber, neoprene, or polyurethane. EPA recommends using a mild detergent and water to clean away visible molds. However, it may become necessary to use harsher chemicals or a biocide such as chlorine bleach.

Goggles should be worn to protect the eyes. Goggles should not have any air-holes this will prevent the spores from entering into the eyes. In addition, masks or a respirator should be worn at all times. EPA recommends that an N-95 respirator should be worn to protect mold spores from entering the lungs.

Some Indian nations have trained technicians and contractors in mold remediation. Calling in a team of trained native professionals to remove mold and fungi problems from our homes would be a good idea that would offer the best protection for our people and the environment.



These results show us that PCBs are still present in much of the local environment downstream of General Motors and Alcoa. Location, not size is the single most important factor to consider when catching bass for consumption.

These results also show us that mercury (most likely from atmospheric deposition) is a contaminant of concern in the St. Lawrence River Basin. However, PCBs still pose the greatest risk to anglers.

Developing children and women who plan on having children should not consume locally caught smallmouth bass. Women who don't plan on having

more children and adult men should limit the number of bass meals they consume. Anglers that decide to consume bass should spread out their meals over time. Proper trimming of belly and back fat, and removal of skin, can reduce some of the PCBs in fish. It is important that anglers follow proper trimming procedures. The fillet should be grilled to allow fat to drip away from the meat.

For additional information contact:

Tony David, Water Resources, Program Manager: 358-5937 ex112, tony_david@srmtenv.org

Jim Snyder, Water Resource Technician, 358-5937 ex125, jim_snyder@srmtenv.org

Cleaning and Cooking Fish to Reduce Contamination

General Recommendations:

1. Consume younger, smaller fish (within legal limits). They usually contain fewer pollutants than older, larger fish.
2. Avoid eating bottom fish such as catfish, carp, or sucker. They feed at the bottom of water bodies and are more likely to contain higher levels of chemical contamination.
3. When you clean fish, remove the skin, fat, and internal organs before you cook it to reduce the amount of some pollutants. Grill, bake, or broil fish so that the fat drips off while cooking.
4. Remember that fresh meat should always be handled properly. To prevent the growth of bacteria or viruses, keep freshly caught fish on ice and out of direct sunlight.

Can I cook my fish to reduce health risks from chemical pollutants?

Yes! The way you cook fish can make a difference in the kinds and amounts of chemical pollutants remaining in the fish. Fish should be properly prepared and grilled, baked, or broiled. By letting the fat drain away, you can remove some pollutants stored in the fatty parts of the fish; however, contaminants like mercury are stored in the meat and fat, and cannot be cooked off.

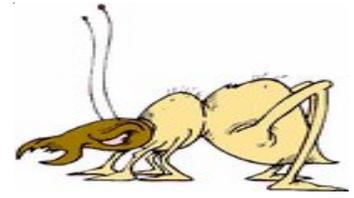
Added precautions:

- Avoid or reduce the amount of fish drippings or broth that you use to flavor the meal. These drippings may contain higher levels of pollutants.
- Eat less fried or deep fat-fried fish because frying seals any chemical pollutants that might be in the fish's fat into the portion that you will eat.
- If you like smoked fish, it is best to fillet the fish and remove the skin before the fish is smoked.

“cleaning,” continued on Page 15

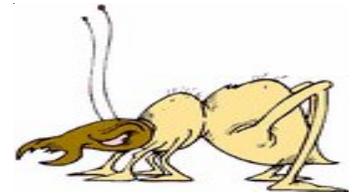
“War,”.....continued from Page 5

That is the message Commissioner of Agriculture and Forestry Bob Odom is stressing to the public as an email rumor about Formosan termite-infested mulch is circling the globe.



The email warns consumers not to purchase “cheap” wood mulch at major home improvement chains because it may be infested with Formosan termites.

“The email is not accurate and doesn’t even mention the quarantines this department put in place last fall to keep Formosan termites from spreading,” Odom said. The Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry issued quarantines following the hurricanes for woody debris in Cameron, Calcasieu, Jefferson, Jefferson Davis, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. John, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa and Washington parishes. Woody debris cannot be moved out of these areas without first submitting a plan for treatment to the department.

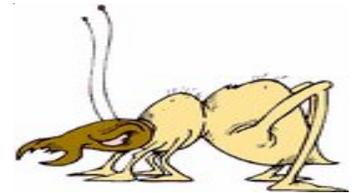


“I’ve had my people out looking into these claims to make sure there are no violations of the quarantine. I’ve also had our invasive pest expert contact the stores mentioned in the email and we’ve yet to find any validity to the claims in the email,” Odom said.

“In my opinion, someone is using the Internet to cause hysteria about a problem that doesn’t really exist. If there are people out there who know about someone violating the quarantines, then they need to report it to us. We’ll shut the culprits down real quick but it has to be reported,” Odom said. “I think the quarantines doing the job, though. We’ve worked with the debris contractors, the Corps of Engineers and FEMA to handle the debris and quarantines.”

To report a quarantine violation, call (225) 925-3763.

Take care,
Kevin J. Dodds
Forest Entomologist
USDA Forest Service
Durham Field Office, NA State & Private Forestry
271 Mast Road
Durham, NH 03824



Have a nice summer and mulch to your hearts content.



GIS Symposium Organizing Committee

L-R Sid Laffin, Tom Lake, Daniel Benedict, Faith Graffis, Joyce Barkley, John Adams, Marlene Thompson, Paul Doxtator, Aimee Benedict Debo

wasn't enough exercise for them, the Ronathahonni Singers and Dancers arrived at Wolf Clan, following a delicious dinner sponsored by the SRMT, Mohawk Bingo Palace and the Akwesasne Mohawk Casino, and got everyone up on their feet dancing during the evening Social.

Throughout the 3 days attendees and presenters were able to participate in Geo Games. Designed to test the knowledge levels of all attendees, geogames all related to the study of Geography. Geo-Movies, with answers Mystic River and Oceans Eleven, and Name that Tune with answers like Stay in Mexico by Toby Keith, were used to give the attendees a much needed break from the highly technical information being presented each day. Prizes were generously donated by Little Bear Design, Hilltop Rentals and Memories Ink. Break time snacks and refreshments were also sponsored by the Haudenosaunee Environmental Task Force, Mohawk Nation Council of Chiefs, the Akwesasne Notes, and the Akwesasne Petroleum Co-op.

On Thursday Coeur d'Alene representative Frank Roberts presented information regarding

the National Map Project. This project is designed to present native names and the spoken native word on a national map accessible via the internet. SRMT has been gathering the words for this project for years and the Mohawk language translations have been placed on this map and are available at <http://gis.cdatribe-nsn.gov/NativeNames>

Linda Logan of the Tonawanda Seneca spoke about the problems she has encountered creating her nations Tonawanda Creek Project. With the assistance of some of the presenters available to her at this symposium, she should be able to continue her project.

A special award was given to Robert Simpson, Chair of the National Information Exchange Network, which is responsible for providing the funding that has allowed the Environment Division to be a leader in Tribal GIS Technology. As the organizers closed out the symposium several door prizes were handed out and the winners of the Geo-Caching and Geo-Games were awarded prizes. All of these prizes were generously donated by Akwesasne businesses, without their support this symposium would not have run so effectively.



John Adams, MCA GIS Tech discusses techniques for accessing Canadian GIS Data.

help us understand if there is a link between contaminated fish with local river sediments and minnows.

Solid Waste Management Program

- The Solid Waste Management program will be holding a spring clean-up from May 1st – June 9th.
- A tire clean-up/collection is being planned for later in the summer. Stay tuned for more information.
- A project to begin collecting waste lamps from businesses for recycling is also in the planning stage.

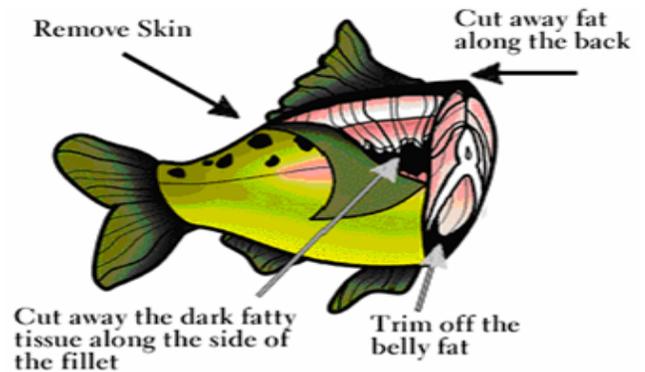
General Motors Oversight

The activities planned at GM this year include developing a Comprehensive Groundwater Sampling Program. This involves installing additional monitoring wells on GM property. The information gathered by this project will be used in the design plan to remediate the site sources at GM. The second activity planned is sampling the soils and sediments on Tribal property in Raquette Point. The information gathered by these sampling efforts will define what areas on Tribal lands need to be remediated. Both planned activities are currently under review, but are expected to begin this year.

If you have any questions you may contact the Environment Division at 518.358.5937 or visit our website at www.srmtenv.org.

Proper Cleaning Technique

1. First, cut fish along each gill behind fins.
2. Cut into belly, down along both sides of lower fin and remove lower fin.
3. Cut into back, down along both sides of upper fin and remove by pulling fin from back.
4. Remove head and innards.
5. Remove belly fat along with ribs and skin.
6. Cut away fatty tissue along mid-line.
7. Filet is now ready to cook.



Iroquois Environmental Newsletter
412 State Route 37
Akwesasne, NY 13655
518.358.5937
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