



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY FOR WHITTEN BROOK  
DEMONSTRATION AREA**

Residents, business owners and the public are invited to a ribbon-cutting ceremony and demonstration at the Town of Skowhegan Conservation Area on Russell Rd. in Skowhegan from 10am - 12pm on Saturday, May 31, 2014.

Volunteer Master Gardener's from the Somerset County Cooperative Extension will be providing tips on integrating native shrubs and perennials into your landscape to attract wildlife, and to protect the water quality of our streams and rivers. Members of the Skowhegan Conservation Commission and partners from the Whitten Brook Watershed Restoration project will be giving a tour of the new porous parking area and other features of the new demonstration area. The Somerset County Soil & Water Conservation District will be presenting information on trout stocking programs, and project partners will be hosting a free native plant raffle.

**Join Us On Saturday, May 31st**

- *Master Gardener Demonstration-  
Selecting and Installing Native Plants*
- *Learn about Rain Gardens*
- *Tour the new Porous Parking Area*
- *Free Native Plant Raffle*
- *Learn about Trout Stocking*
- *Ribbon-cutting Ceremony*

The ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrates two-years of effort to begin restoring Whitten Brook, an urban impaired stream that crosses Russell Road at the Town Conservation Area, and flows through town before emptying into the Kennebec River. The demonstration area provides examples of different practices that homeowners and commercial business owners can use to prevent and/or reduce the effect of polluted stormwater that collects in local stormdrains and ditches, and eventually the streams. Project partners hope that local businesses, especially in the urbanized area along Madison Avenue will adopt similar practices to help restore Whitten Brook over the next 10 years.

Volunteers from New Balance, bus drivers from the local school district, and project partners including the Town of Skowhegan, Skowhegan Conservation Commission, Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Somerset Woods Trustees, Somerset County Soil and Water Conservation District, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, and local residents have generously offered to help install the plants, porous parking area, and a new informational kiosk for the site.

Funding for the project, in part was provided by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. The funding is administered by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection in partnership with EPA. Technical and project management support was provided by FB Environmental Associates with engineering support from Acorn Engineering and installation of conservation practices by Manter Construction.

**For more information, to volunteer, contact:**

Jennifer Jespersen, FB Environmental Associates, [jenj@fbenvironmental.com](mailto:jenj@fbenvironmental.com) or (207) 221-6699  
or Jeff Hewett, Economic & Community Development Director, Skowhegan (207) 474-6905



# RIBBON-CUTTING CEREMONY

**& Native Plant Raffle**

at the

## Whitten Brook Demonstration Area

### THINGS TO DO!

- ❖ Join the Master Gardener's for a Native Plant Demonstration
- ❖ Free Native Plant Raffle
- ❖ Learn about the Soil & Water Conservation District's Trout Stocking Program
- ❖ Take a Tour of the New Porous Parking Lot

**Project Partners:** Town of Skowhegan, Skowhegan Conservation Commission, Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Somerset County Soil and Water Conservation District, Maine Department of Transportation, University of Maine Cooperative Extension, Acorn Engineering, Manter Construction, and FB Environmental Associates



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### Event Location & Time:

Town of Skowhegan  
Conservation Area  
Russell Road, Skowhegan  
(near the Corner of Spring St. & Russell Rd.)

**Saturday, May 31, 2014**

**10am - 12pm**

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**or** Jeff Hewett, Town of Skowhegan, Economic & Community Development at (207) 474-6905