



STATE OF MAINE DEPARTMENT OF INLAND FISHERIES & WILDLIFE 284 STATE STREET 41 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA ME 04333-0041



Our mission within the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Landowner Relations Program, is to prioritize the landowners' concerns, and address their issues quickly, through assistance, enforcement, education and awareness.

The Landowner Relations Program's primary focus is to assist private landowners with illegal dumping and littering, misuse, property damage, nuisance wildlife, and educating all user groups of their expectations.

We have developed a Keep Maine Clean Program, by partnering with the Maine Forest Service, corporate sponsors like Kittery Trading Post, Waste Management, BDS Tire Disposal Company, and hundreds of volunteers through organized clubs. We have collectively cleaned up over a <u>million pounds</u> of illegally dumped trash from private and public property within the last five years.

We developed and deployed a standardized landowner relations relief kit to all Warden Service and Forest Service staff. This kit consists of equipment like, assortment of signs, caution ribbon, locks, cable for temporary gate, surveillance cameras, and other tools to deal with misuse and illegal activity immediately. In 2018 we deployed 7 more kits to new warden staff. We continue to keep all kits stocked and ready for service to the public.

We continue to work with all departmental staff, and have developed partnerships with other state and federal agencies, to make the process of dealing with nuisance wildlife more landowner friendly.

We developed a standardized education component delivered through our departmental safety and education classes. We have deployed six landowner relations educational training kits, which are located at each divisional headquarters, that all staff have access to use in schools, at public talks, or lectures.

However, as the seasons change, so do the user groups. From the traditional angler and hunter, to kayakers and hikers, to ATV's, snowmobiles, and the outdoor enthusiast. Participation levels in these activities also change, which you will see in the attached general stats and landowner relations calls for service. But one thing is constant, they all rely on private property, one way or another.

Maine Warden Service Landowner Relations Calls for Service 2018

General Informational LOR Circumstances	298
Trespass	133
Littering / Illegal Dumping	128
Landowner Property Damage	27
Public Lectures or Talks	449
ATV Violations	686
Snowmobile Violations	649
Hunting Violations	933
Trapping	86

13 28 45	8 11 38
45	
	38
26	00
26	9
55	1
26	1
53	10
220	59
311	152
601	392
	220 311

Some highlights of the program for 2018 are;

- Printed 5000 third edition of Landowner Relation Appreciation prints
- Printed and distributed 10,000 information LOR magnets
- Updated and printed 100,000 copies the LOR Liability Law
- Awarded several landowners with special recognition antlers
- Attended dozens of user group meetings
- Spoke at the District Attorneys convention
- Attended staff, SFLA, LSRAB, and landowner meetings
- Ran multiple landowner specialized enforcement details
- Posted periodic program updates thru departmental e-mail, Facebook, twitter
- We deployed 7 more relief kits to new warden staff. We continue to keep all kits stocked and ready for service to the public
- Had approximately 400 volunteers assist with the statewide Landowner Appreciation Day. Each volunteer received a landowner relations departmental hat for their efforts in partnering with the program.



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LOR Budget items:

- Total estimated expenses for 2018 calendar year \$193.888
- Total estimated revenue for 2018 calendar year- \$150.271

We, as an agency, are continuing to grow the Landowner Relations Program. For the first time in the history of the department, we now have two Landowner Relations Specialists with single pointed focus, the landowners of Maine!

Specialist Dave Chabot focus is for small landowners, and Specialist Rick LaFlamme focus is with the large landowners. They work collectively all aspects of the program, regarding recreation vehicles, and nuisance wildlife to name a few. They communicate with all departmental staff with the needs of the program.

Some of our future goals and objectives for the LOR program are:

- Continue to catch the violators that ruin it for all responsible users
- Educate our users and youth about the importance of good landowner relations
- Broaden the support the landowners need
- Continue to build the Outdoor Partners program
- Publish quarterly reports thru social media

Thank You, Rick LaFlamme & Dave Chabot Landowner Relations Specialist