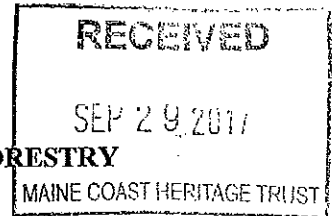




PAUL R. LePAGE
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
22 STATE HOUSE STATION
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333



WALTER E. WHITCOMB
COMMISSIONER

September 25, 2017

Dear Landowner:

You are receiving this letter because we believe you may be the owner of a parcel of land, held for conservation purposes, and subject to new legislation passed by the 128th Legislature this year. The language reads as follows:

“A holder of a conservation easement or a fee owner of land for conservation purposes that is organized or doing business in the State shall annually report to the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry the book and page number at the registry of deeds for each conservation easement that it holds or each parcel owned in fee for conservation purposes, the municipality, the approximate number of acres protected under each easement or parcel owned, the approximate number of acres that are exempt from taxation pursuant to Title 36, section 652 for which the municipality or county does not receive payments in lieu of taxes and such other information as the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry determines necessary to fulfill the purposes of this subchapter. The filing must be made by a date and on forms established by the Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry to avoid duplicative filings when possible and otherwise reduce administrative burdens. The annual filing must be accompanied by a \$80 fee.” ~ Title 33, MRSA Section 479C

In 2007, the Legislature established a mandatory statewide registry for all conservation easements held in Maine. This recent legislation has now expanded this effort to register with the Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry, lands held for conservation purposes (recreation, agriculture, forestry, habitat, etc.). If you have previously registered an account for conservation easements, you will continue to use the same account. If you have not already done so, you must create an account which can be completed with a valid email address.

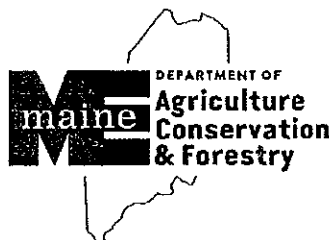
The online registry for both, can be found at <https://www.maine.gov/cgi-bin/online/spo/ccr/index.pl>. Upon visiting the site, you will find additional information regarding what materials you will need in order to complete the registry. Some of the information includes registry of deeds information, acreage, physical location, as well as primary purpose in conserving the land among other related data fields necessary to fulfill the profile for each parcel. There is a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) section on the registry’s main page which will help guide you through the process.

The registry will be open from October 1, 2017 to November 30, 2017 to solicit data to meet the obligations set forth by the legislation. If you have any questions, please contact us at 207-287-2211 or EasementAdministrator@maine.gov. Thank you for helping us comply with this recent legislative action.

Sincerely,

Walter E. Whitcomb
Commissioner

HARLOW BUILDING
18 ELKINS LANE,



PHONE: (207) 287-3200
FAX (207) 287-2400
WEB WWW.MAINE.GOV/DACF