



Fact Sheet

November 2023



Career Fair

What is the Town doing?

**Monday, December 4th
10am-12pm**

**Thomaston Municipal Building
Lura Libby Room
13 Valley Street, Thomaston**

The Maine Department of Labor, Rockland CareerCenter, and the Town of Thomaston is hosting a Career Fair on Monday, December 4th from 10am to 12pm in the Lura Libby Room at the Thomaston Municipal Building. The Career Fair is open to the public and all are welcome to attend.

Please contact Employment and Training Specialist David Grima if you are an employer who is interested in participating in the Career Fair:

David Grima
Employment and Training Specialist
David.M.Grima@Maine.gov
Office (207) 596-2617
TTY Users call Maine Relay 711
Follow us on:
[LinkedIn](#) [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)

Maine Department of Labor
Rockland CareerCenter
91 Camden St. Suite 201
Rockland, Maine 04841
www.mainecareercenter.gov
<https://www.maine.gov/labor/>

9/28/23

Town Manager meets with Bucksport Town Manager Sue Lessard to discuss the paper mill closure event in

Bucksport and steps their community took in preparation of the closure.

10/19/23

FY24 Tax Commitment is approved by the Board of Assessors with a mill rate of 18.9 and an overlay of \$216,536.02. This is 2.22% of the 5% maximum allowed in overlay. What is overlay? An account established annually to fund unexpected costs like property tax abatements, exemptions and uncollected taxes in that year. The overlay is an amount of excess revenue collected by a municipality to cover unexpected costs. The overlay is added to the amount to be raised before setting the mill rate. This is one of the ways that the Town of Bucksport prepared for the paper mill closure in their community.

10/26/23

Town Officials meet with Sevee and Mahar Engineers to learn about the Brownfields Assessment Grant Program through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA.) Grant applications are due mid-November. What is a Brownfield site? It is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, controlled substances, petroleum or petroleum products, or is mine-scarred land. The assessment grant can be used for a variety of activities including:

1. Inventory: Compile a list of brownfield sites.
2. Characterization: Identify past uses.
3. Assessment: Determine existing contamination, site-specific cleanup, planning area-wide, and revitalization.
4. Planning: Scope and plan process for site assessment, cleanup and reuse.
5. Community Involvement: Inform and engage stakeholders.
6. Is appropriate for communities that are beginning to address their brownfield challenges, as well as for communities that have ongoing efforts to bring sites into productive reuse.

Conversations with Maine DEP and Dragon Products Company

Thank you to all for your support!



Department of Economic
& Community Development

Conversations with Erich Kluck from Maine DEP Bureau of Land Resources:

1. Dragon is not required to close the quarry.
2. Under Maine DEP rules, if they pay the state \$100 each year, they have a legal quarry and can keep it even if the quarry is not being used.
3. Dragon has submitted on March 25, 2015 to Maine DEP a "Notice of Intent to Comply" with the Maine "Performance Standards for Quarries".
4. Dragon can allow the quarry to fill naturally with water, groundwater or rainwater, to its seasonal high water table provided they remove any equipment, fuels, etc. that would be below water level.
5. If Dragon allows the quarry to fill with water they must provide an exit point at the water's edge, with a slope of 4 to 1 or less, to allow people or wildlife a way to get out.
6. Any land above the seasonal high water table must be restored to a condition that is similar to or compatible with the conditions that existed before excavation including planting of trees, shrubs and vegetative cover. The planting of all material must result in permanent 90% ground cover. NOTE: Reclamation does not apply as long as Dragon pays the \$100 per year to maintain a legal quarry.
7. Quarry faces must be treated in such a manner as to leave them in a condition that minimizes the possibility of rock falls, slope failures and collapse. NOTE: this provision does not apply as long as Dragon pays \$100 per year to maintain a legal quarry.

Conversations with Michael Martunas at Dragon:

Dragon is investigating possibilities for the quarry:

- a. Sell the quarry (the land between Route 1 and Old County Road) to a company who would use it to produce crushed rock. They are currently investigating possible companies who would be interested in this.
- b. Shut off the pumps and allow the quarry to fill naturally with water, groundwater or rainwater, to its seasonal high water table. To do this they have to remove any equipment, buildings, steel work, fuels, etc. that would be below water level. They are getting quotes on what this would cost.
- c. They are investigating and costing out keeping the silos and bringing in cement from one of their other plants to service the local customers.

No decisions have been made at this time on these possible future courses; however, Mike has agreed to keep the Town informed of changes.