**§173. Duties of commissioner**

**1. Study; plan; arrange cooperation.**  When sufficient money for such purposes is available in the fund, the commissioner, in cooperation with appropriate personnel from the Department of Health and Human Services, shall:

A. Consider and study mosquito management problems, including mosquito surveillance; [PL 2013, c. 548, §1 (NEW).]

B. Identify means of managing disease-carrying mosquitoes in a manner that minimizes pesticide use; [PL 2013, c. 548, §1 (NEW).]

C. Coordinate plans for mosquito management work that may be conducted by private landowners, groups, organizations, municipalities, counties and mosquito management districts formed pursuant to section 175; and [PL 2013, c. 548, §1 (NEW).]

D. Arrange, to the extent practicable, cooperation among state departments and with federal agencies in conducting mosquito management operations within the State. [PL 2013, c. 548, §1 (NEW).]

[PL 2013, c. 548, §1 (NEW).]

**2. Consultation.**  The commissioner shall consult with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension and private sector experts and municipalities in developing plans and procedures for implementing this chapter.

[PL 2013, c. 548, §1 (NEW).]

**3. Assist with disseminating information.**  When sufficient money for such purposes is available in the fund, the commissioner, in cooperation with appropriate personnel from the Department of Health and Human Services and experts from the University of Maine Cooperative Extension, shall assist private landowners, groups, organizations, municipalities, counties and mosquito management districts formed pursuant to section 175 to disseminate information to the residents of the State about ways to reduce mosquito populations, to eliminate mosquito breeding sites and to protect themselves from mosquito-borne diseases as well as other relevant information.

[PL 2013, c. 548, §1 (NEW).]

**4. Implement mosquito management response.**  When a mosquito-borne disease public health threat is declared by the Commissioner of Health and Human Services pursuant to Title 22, section 1447, the Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry shall implement an effective management response consistent with section 171. The management response must include combinations of integrated pest management techniques. The Commissioner of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry shall consider the availability of funds in the fund in planning the response.

[PL 2013, c. 548, §1 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 2013, c. 548, §1 (NEW).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

*All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the First Regular and First Special Session of the 131st Maine Legislature and is current through November 1, 2023
 . The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.*

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.