StreamSmartMaine.org

What is Stream Smart?

Stream Smart is a training program and resource for anyone responsible for constructing road-stream crossings. The goal of Stream Smart is to connect fish and wildlife habitat while protecting roads and public safety and to prepare for the large and frequent storm events that have been washing out roads around the state and the northeast.

Who Benefits?

FISH
Brook trout and other fish need to move up and down the stream.

WILDLIFE
Mink and other wildlife need to follow the fish.

PEOPLE
People need healthy streams and safe roads.

The Problem

Perched and undersized culverts fragment stream habitat and restrict movement of fish and other wildlife.

Roads vulnerable to washouts and flooding.

Visit the Stream Smart website to learn about implementing a Stream Smart road crossing and to access guidance documents, resources, videos and contact information.
Stream Smart
RULES OF THUMB

1. SPAN THE STREAM
   Crossing should at least span the entire width of the natural stream.

2. SET THE ELEVATION RIGHT
   Crossing should match natural stream elevation.

3. SLOPE MATCHES THE STREAM
   Crossing stream bed should match slope of the natural stream.

4. SUBSTRATE IN THE CROSSING
   Crossing stream bed should be made up of natural streambed materials.

THE GOLDEN RULE
Let the stream act like a stream.
Make the road invisible to the stream.