

News from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services



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State Launches Aspiring Leaders Program

*Governor, DES Commissioner and EPA Official Announce Program
To Promote Environmental Leadership*

Concord, NH – Governor John Lynch joined by New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services Commissioner Tom Burack and officials from EPA New England Region 1 today announced a new DES program, called Aspiring Leaders, designed to recognize and help companies that want to do better environmentally and economically. Aspiring Leaders is the first tier of a comprehensive Environmental Leadership Initiative DES is building to promote better environmental management. Several companies joining the program were also at the podium.

“We know how important protecting the environment is to the health of our citizens, the health of our economy, and the health of our state. We also recognize that preventing pollution and climate change also provides us with new economic opportunities,” Governor Lynch said. “The Aspiring Leaders program will give the state of New Hampshire the opportunity to work together with businesses to implement environmentally friendly policies that will help us address important issues such as climate change, greater energy efficiency and use of renewable energy. The program will allow businesses to implement environmental management policies proven to prevent pollution and create efficiency, which will also help reduce costs.”

While open to all, the Aspiring Leaders program is especially designed for small businesses which want to do better, but may have lacked the knowledge or resources to let them take the next step up. Through Aspiring Leaders, DES will help these companies take that next step. Prospective members must have a good compliance record and be willing to work toward comprehensive environmental management. Members will have to report the results of their work to DES.

The example of the environmental leaders already working in New Hampshire shows that companies which bring environmental affairs directly into their management gain market share, do better financially as well as environmentally and are attractive to prospective employees and the communities they work in.

Tom Burack, DES Commissioner noted that, “We all want a New Hampshire that is environmentally healthy and a great place to live and work. By working in partnership with New Hampshire business leaders, we can move beyond a system that sets the bar at basic regulatory compliance toward one with a common goal of long-term environmental betterment.”

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