



The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the
NH Department of Environmental Services

October 2008

The Municipal EcoLink, is a monthly e-bulletin designed to inform you of the latest environmental ideas, trends, grants, rules and more from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES). We respectfully request that the following is read into the minutes of your municipal committees, councils and boards. Please feel free to post it on your municipal website as well.

Funding Available for Alternative Fuel Projects

The Granite State Clean Cities Coalition has funding available under the Request for Proposals: Alternative Fuel Vehicles and Fueling Infrastructure to expand the use of alternative fuels, alternative fuel vehicles and advanced technology vehicles in the state of New Hampshire. Only projects located in the ozone non-attainment or maintenance areas of the state are eligible, including all municipalities in Hillsborough, Merrimack, Strafford and Rockingham counties. Please see http://www.granitestatecleancities.org/pdf/CMAQ_RFP.pdf or contact Barbara Bernstein at barbara.bernstein@des.nh.gov for more information.

State Posts Solid Waste Disposal Tonnages & Recycling Rates

DES has posted the 2007 solid waste disposal tonnages and recycling rates for municipalities on www.des.nh.gov. This data was obtained from each town's annual solid waste facilities report. Recycling rates vary from 0% to over 70%. Overall, the state's municipal rate is 20.35%. For the first time, DES has also published the budget line items for each town and the per capita costs. Municipalities interested in increasing their recycling rates or receiving technical assistance on transfer station design, operator training and other proven solid waste programs should contact Don Maurer, DES, at (603) 271-3713.

Accepting Household Hazardous Waste Grant Applications

The DES Household Hazardous Waste Program is now accepting grant application requests for HHW events and projects for FY2010 (7/1/09-6/30/10). In addition to the traditional grants for HHW collection events, grants will now also be given for creative, long-term special HHW projects. Application packages will be available early November, and municipalities may apply for both grant types. Please note this will be the only opportunity to obtain these grants for FY2010. Download complete information from the Household Hazardous Waste Program web pages at www.des.nh.gov; or request by emailing hhw@des.nh.gov.

DES Encourages Communities to Join the Idling Reduction Solution

Instead of idling away, school bus companies, community groups, municipalities, businesses and individuals are encouraged to shut off their engines to save fuel, money and the environment. Anti-idling campaigns are gaining momentum statewide, and to assist groups further in their anti-idling efforts, DES offers free outreach materials, such as guidelines, tip cards, flyers, stickers and more. If interested in idling reduction materials, please contact DES at (603) 271-6284 or kathleen.brockett@des.nh.gov. To obtain no-idling signs for parking areas, please order directly from the New Hampshire Correctional Industries Sign Shop at (603) 271-1874. More information, including regulations relating to idling vehicles, is available on-line at www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/air/tsb/tps/msp/irc/index.htm.

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