



The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the
NH Department of Environmental Services

November 2009

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.

2009 Water and Watershed Conference – November 20 & 21

The 2009 New Hampshire Joint Water and Watershed Conference, "Focusing on Water Resources: 2020 Vision," will be held on Friday and Saturday, November 20 and 21, from 8:15 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Grappone Conference Center, 70 Constitutional Ave., Concord. The unique two-day event is designed to meet the informational and networking needs of lake, river, and watershed groups; environmental organizations; volunteer monitors; state and municipal officials; local and regional planners; policy makers; scientists; educators; consultants; and students. Friday's events begin with "Headwaters - Developing a Collaborative Conservation Approach to Support Land Use Decision-Making," by Dr. Christine Feurt. Saturday's keynote address, "Treading Lightly on the Land: How Growth and Development Can Protect Water Quality," features former Maryland Governor Parris Glendening, who now serves as president of the Smart Growth Leadership Institute. Registration is \$35/day or \$50 for both days **before November 13**, after which it is \$45/day or \$65 for both days. For complete information and to register, please visit www.nhrrivers.org, or contact Laura Weit, DES, at (603) 271-8811 or laura.weit@des.nh.gov.

Stream Crossings Rulemaking Comment Period Closes Nov 20

Public hearings on proposed stream crossing rules will be held as follows: Keene, Oct 29; Rochester, Nov 4; Lancaster, Nov 9; and Plymouth, Nov 10. A hearing was held in Concord October 23. Please see the following web page for complete information: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/legal/rulemaking/index.htm#pwetlands> or contact Mary Ann Tilton, (603) 271-2929, or Karla McManus, (603) 271-7514, of the DES Wetlands Bureau. The public comment period closes at 4 p.m., November 20, 2009.

Small Businesses May Participate in Municipal HHW Collections

According to DES rules, businesses that generate less than 220 lbs. of hazardous waste per month may transport their own waste to municipal household hazardous waste events, **with prior permission from the town and prior arrangements with the transporter who is scheduled to be at the event**. Municipalities do not pay for this "additional" waste disposal, the business pays the transporter directly to dispose of the business' wastes. This is a cost effective option for businesses to safely dispose of small quantities of hazardous waste. For more information about this rule, please call (603) 271-6425 or see the DES fact sheet, WMD-HW-32 at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/factsheets/hw/documents/hw-32.pdf>.

More Workshops Offered on Auto Body/Collision Repair Regulations

Two more workshops for auto body/collision repair shops have been added. DES, the NH Small Business Development Center and NH Automobile Dealers Assoc. will offer the morning workshops in Bow on November 20 and December 11. Even though most facilities believe they are in compliance, recent DES surveys have shown many are actually in violation of environmental regulations. The workshops will cover new regulations affecting paint stripping and spray coating operations as well as the January 9, 2010 deadline requiring all auto body shops to notify EPA that they perform such work. The workshops cover both air and hazardous waste requirements. To register, contact Sara Johnson at sara.johnson@des.nh.gov or (603)271-1379, as soon as possible; the classes have been filling quickly.

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