

News from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services



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DES Recognizes Ponderosa Salvage for Environmental Achievement

Concord, NH – Today, the N.H. Department of Environmental Services recognized Ponderosa Salvage in Epsom, for becoming a Certified N.H. Green Yard, a distinction reserved for auto salvage yards that use exemplary environmental work practices. The requirements for becoming a “Certified N.H. Green Yard” were developed by DES, working with the N.H. Auto & Truck Recyclers Association (NHATRA). The program is one of several initiatives the DES is implementing to improve environmental performance at auto salvage yards and provide incentive for going beyond compliance.

Sara Johnson and Brian Winslow of the DES Pollution Prevention Program presented Rick Belanger, the owner of Ponderosa Salvage in Epsom, with a certificate and Certified N.H. Green Yard flag for display at his auto salvage yard. Only 20 other auto salvage yards in New Hampshire have attained the same distinction.

“Modern automobiles contain many hazardous materials and components such as gasoline, oil, antifreeze, mercury switches and lead acid batteries,” noted Brian Winslow. “We depend on auto recyclers to properly recover these materials and keep them from contaminating the water we drink, the air we breathe, and the land we live on.” Sara Johnson added “Modern auto recycling can be clean and profitable. Becoming a Certified Green Yard should be the goal of every auto salvage yard in the state.”

Certified N.H. Green Yards

Bob's Heavy Equipment, Brentwood
Bow Auto Parts, Bow
Brandy Brow Auto Parts, Inc., Plaistow
Car World, Inc. , Candia
Central N.H. Sales, Inc., Concord
Colony Used Auto Parts, Rochester
Dave's Automotive Enterprises, Marlborough
General Auto Salvage Co., Inc., Claremont
Hebert Towing, Inc. Goffstown
Hopi Corporation, Belmont
Jack Mansur's Auto, Pelham
Jean-Guy's Used Parts, Pelham
John's Truck & Auto Salvage, Kingston
Ken's Auto Sales & Salvage, Kingston
Maurice Auto & Truck Parts, Claremont
P&L Auto Parts, Inc. Berlin
Ponderosa Salvage, Epsom
Roy Richardson's Auto Salvage, Pittsfield
Tiny's Garage, Hudson
Webster Town Auto Recycling, Webster
Dick's Truck Sales, Whitefield

The DES has been working with over 150 auto salvage yards throughout the state to improve environmental practices and to bring them into compliance with exiting state and federal

environmental requirements. According to NHATRA President Jeff Kantor, New Hampshire's auto salvage yards recycle over 50,000 end-of-life vehicles yearly. "That's enough cars to fill both lanes of Interstate 93 from Concord to Littleton," Kantor explained. "Our association is working hard to change the negative view many people have of the auto salvage industry. For example, many people don't realize that auto recyclers typically recover and recycle, by weight, 85 percent of the material content of a motor vehicle, making automobiles the number one consumer product being recycled today. Now, when you see a Certified N.H. Green Yard flag at a salvage yard, you will know the owner is helping to take care of New Hampshire's environment."

For more information and to find out about becoming a Certified N.H. Green Yard, contact Pamela Hoyt-Denison, N.H. Green Yard Program coordinator, at (603) 271-2938 or Pamela.Hoyt-Denison@des.nh.gov, and visit the DES website www.des.nh.gov/sw/GreenYards/.

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Photos are available upon request.

The NH Green Yards Program points of interest:

- Approximately 500,000 vehicles in New Hampshire are over nine years old and will soon be recycled. (The average age of a vehicle in a salvage yard is seven to 10 years.)
- Cars are the #1 recycled product in the United States.
- Approximately 10 million vehicles are recycled annually in the North America.
- At least 95 percent of all cars scrapped in the U.S. are collected for reuse and recycling.
- The modern automobile contains many other toxic and hazardous components that we depend on the auto recycler to remove and properly recycle or dispose of. These materials include:
 - Lead acid batteries
 - Freon, gasoline/fuel
 - Motor oil and other oil, including brake fluid, transmission fluid, etc.
 - Anti-freeze
 - Lead parts, such as wheel weights and battery cable ends
 - Air bag cartridges containing the chemical sodium azide (explosive/acutely toxic)
 - Mercury-containing parts, such as hood and trunk light switches, ABS brake systems, HID headlamps, and backlighting for navigational/entertainment systems.

Note: High Resolution Photos of Ponderosa Salvage with the Green Yard Banner are available for publication.