



The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the
NH Department of Environmental Services

January 2012

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. Read *Municipal EcoLink* at: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/newsletters/ecolink/index.htm>.

DES Marks 25 Years of Environmental Protection!

This year, 2012, marks the 25th Anniversary of the creation of DES and its service to the people of our state. DES has played a vital role in protecting and restoring our precious natural resources and public health, which are so critical to ensuring the wonderful quality of life that we all enjoy here in the Granite State. Throughout 2012 we will be taking time to recognize and celebrate the wide-ranging successes of the past 25 years of environmental and public health protection and the dedicated, professional staff and our many partners in our communities, businesses and non-profits who have helped bring these successes about. We welcome and invite your participation as we celebrate our past successes and look ahead to the challenge of ensuring that New Hampshire will be an even better place to live, work and play 25 years from now. To read more, follow our series of 25th anniversary articles in *Environmental News* at <http://des.nh.gov>.

Public Health Lab Open Again Following Week's Closure

The state's Public Health Lab at 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, is back open and operational to receive all samples. The PHL was closed the week of January 16 after frozen pipes burst, causing significant flooding to the area of the building where the Lab is located. Staff continue to test and assess equipment to ensure that it is all functioning as designed.

NEW Permit Applications for DES Land Resources Management Programs

In an effort to provide a higher quality, more streamlined permitting process, most DES Land Resources Management Programs — [Alteration of Terrain Bureau](#), [Subsurface Systems Bureau](#), [Wetlands Bureau](#) and the [Shoreland Program](#) — have updated their permit application forms. If your municipal office provides permit applications to the public, please ensure you have the newest LRMP application forms and purge all outdated ones. All current application forms have a revision date of "01/01/2012" within the footnote and are available from the DES web page. As of March 1, 2012, the Land Resources Management Programs will no longer be accepting outdated permit application forms; all LRMP application forms will be simultaneously updated every six months. For more information about the LRMP, see <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/lrmp/index.htm>.

Feb. 9 Public Hearing on Draft NPDES Permit for City of Dover WWTF

A public hearing sponsored by DES and the USEPA pertaining to a draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit to discharge into the Piscataqua River will be held Thursday, February 9, 7pm, at the McConnell Center, 61 Locust St., Dover, NH. The application is for the city of Dover wastewater treatment facility. For information, contact Dan Arsenault, USEPA; Arseault.Dan@epa.gov or download: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/calendar/2012/documents/20120209-dover.pdf>. Remember to click on the calendar at <http://des.nh.gov> for DES current events.

DES Announces Training 2012 Dates for Solid Waste Operator Certification

Three one-day courses for new solid waste operators will be held in 2012. All new operators hired through April 1, 2012 must attend the training on April 13 (DES, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord) and take the test, except operators from the North Country; their cutoff is September 14 for the September 21 training (Town Hall, 148 Main St., Lincoln). New operators that have not yet submitted an application and fee should do so immediately. The November 1 course (DES, Concord) is for operators that start work from April to October. Courses will be held from 8 am-4 pm. Contact Nelson Ordway at 271-2925 or nelson.ordway@des.nh.gov to register.