



The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the
NH Department of Environmental Services

May 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 electronically distributed or otherwise made available to 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>

Meth Lab Cleanups Qualify for EPA's Local Gov't Reimbursement Fund

The costs of responding to hazardous substance incidents are extremely high and can place a huge financial burden on a local government's budget. Congress recently established the Local Governments Reimbursement program to reimburse local governments up to \$25,000 for the costs of carrying out temporary emergency measures in response to a release, or threat of release, of a hazardous substance. The program is implemented through EPA's Office of Emergency Management. It is important to remember that a hazardous substance does not have to be actually released to the environment for the incident to be eligible for reimbursement; incidents that include a threat of release of a potentially hazardous substance may also be eligible. For example, meth labs are one of the many types of hazardous materials that qualify for the program. Please see <http://www.epa.gov/oem/content/lgr/index.htm> for complete information.

May 7-11 is Drinking Water Week

For more than 35 years, the American Water Works Association and its members have celebrated Drinking Water Week – a unique opportunity for both water professionals and the communities they serve to join together to recognize the vital role water plays in our daily lives. Look for events in your area.

Governor's Water Sustainability Commission - Statewide Conversations on Water Sustainability

On May 8, "NH Listens" is partnering with the Governor's Water Sustainability Commission to learn more about citizens' views on the future of water resources in the state. Meetings will be held in Berlin, New London, Manchester, Keene and Greenland from 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm. This statewide conversation will report findings to the Governor's Commission on Water Sustainability. To learn more, please see <http://www.carseyinstitute.unh.edu/nhlistens/water.htm>

Financing & Funding Energy Improvements for Public Water Systems & Wastewater Treatment Facilities - May 22

DES is offering a free, half-day workshop on Tuesday, May 22, that will be hosted by Public Service of New Hampshire at its headquarters in Manchester. The workshop will highlight the financial incentives to improve energy efficiency in the water and wastewater sectors. Presentations will cover utility programs, rebates, grants, third party contracting, and case studies. For more information about the workshop or to register, please contact Derek Bennett at derek.bennett@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-6685.

"Green Your Fleet!" Fleet Manager Workshop June 1 in Nashua

The popular, all-day "Green Your Fleet!" workshop for fleet managers will be held this year on June 1 at Nashua Community College, 505 Amherst Street in Nashua. The agenda includes speakers, panelists, informative breakout sessions, vendor exhibits and vehicle displays relative to alternative fuels, advanced vehicle technology and fuel economy strategies. This is an excellent opportunity to learn how your municipality can save money managing its fleet of vehicles of every size. The event is co-hosted by Granite State Clean Cities Coalition and Nashua Community College. For more info, see www.granitestatecleancities.nh.gov/calendar/index.htm Register on-line at http://xml2.des.state.nh.us/DES_GreenFleet/DES_GreenFleet.aspx

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