



The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the NH Department of Environmental Services

August 2013

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 (NHDES). 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. You may read past issues at [The Municipal EcoLink](#)

Application For Clean Diesel Project Grants NOW AVAILABLE

NHDES announces the availability of federal Diesel Emission Reduction Grant (DERA) funds through the Air Resources Division. This is a continuation of the popular federal grant program that began in 2008. To date, NHDES has awarded over \$900,000 for projects ranging from idle reduction equipment retrofits to new vehicle purchases. For more information, click [here](#), or contact Felice.Janelle@des.nh.gov.

Continuing Education Workshops for Certified Solid Waste Operators and Municipal Officials

NHDES has scheduled free workshops for solid waste operators and municipal officials this fall. Attendees will receive a reference manual with Best Management Practices (BMP) and other pertinent information related to proper management of solid wastes, financial incentives for recycling, and developing business partnerships. To register for a BMP workshop, contact Nelson Ordway at 271-2925 or nelson.ordway@des.nh.gov.

BMP Workshop Schedule:

Date	Location	Morning (9-12 pm)	Afternoon (1-4 pm)	Evening (6-9 pm)
9/16/13	Grantham Town Hall		X	X
9/18/13	Lincoln Town Offices	X	X	
9/19/13	Stratford Town Hall		X	
9/21/13	DES-Concord	X		
9/24/13	Tuftonboro Old Town House	X	X	
9/26/13	Lempster Town Meeting House		X	X
10/1/13	Pease Int'l Tradeport		X	
11/8/13	DES-Concord	X		
12/5/13	DES-Concord	X		

Changes to public informational meetings requirements for drawdowns

As of August 19, 2013, it is now the dam owner's responsibility, in cooperation with the local governing body of each city or town, to hold a public informational meeting at least 15 days prior to breaching a dam, lowering any water body for the repair of a dam, or cause any significant lowering of the water level in a pond or lake. The final version of the new law can be viewed at [here](#)

Prescription Drug Take-Back Day

Prevent pollution, accidental poisonings and drug abuse. Discard your unneeded household medicine at a local law enforcement office on October 26th from 10:00AM-2:00PM. Click [here](#) for more information and for collection locations throughout New Hampshire. The website also provides law enforcement agencies with information on how they can establish a collection site for this event.

Grants for Community-Based Environmental Work

The New England Grassroots Environment Fund (NEGEF) has been providing grants and coaching to local volunteer initiatives in New England for more than 16 years. NEGEF has funded community groups working on Local Energy projects ranging from home weatherization, alternative transportation, solar raisings and community energy challenges, Local Food including community gardens, composting, gleaning efforts and food security. Local Living projects such as local economy, time banks and zero waste, Local Land & Water including smart growth, community forests, trails and greenspace and Local Health ranging from environmental justice, landfills, industrial sites and air and water pollution. The Grow program has an upcoming application deadline on 9/16/13.

Visit NEGEF's [website](#) to see projects that have received support, learn what is going on all around the region and start a grant application. Contact Ginny Callan by email at callan@grassrootsfund.org or call 802-223-4622 for input, feedback or enthusiastic encouragement on your local community projects

The NH Local Energy Work Group (LEWG) presents the Local Energy Solutions (LES) Training Series featuring a series of webinar trainings from Noon-1PM on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

Biomass Working in NH: Case Studies

September 11, 2013 - Noon to 1:00pm

Join the Local Energy Working Group for an informative webinar on biomass solutions for municipal and school heating.

Charlie Niebling, Innovative Natural Resource Solutions, will provide an straight-forward assessment of the potential that wood pellet and wood chip heating systems offers to New Hampshire communities, as well as the costs and efficiency of biomass systems and the ease of maintenance. Is it possible for our forests to provide for the heating needs of the state? Charlie will address the sustainability of wood as a replacement for traditional heating choices.

Rodney Bartlett, Peterborough's Public Works Director will share case studies from their multiple municipal biomass projects. Additional case study speaker TBD. **REGISTER TODAY. Space is Limited.**

2013 Calendar of Upcoming Webinar Topics:

October: Building Efficiency, the NH Energy Code & Issues Around Historic Preservation

November: Managing Transportation Related Energy Issues through Planning

December: Energy Efficiency in Operations & Maintenance: Case Studies

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