



## The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the NH Department of Environmental Services

July 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](#)

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### Used textiles and how to manage them at your solid waste transfer station

NHDES is sponsoring a workshop on *Discarded Textiles Management* presented by the Northeast Recycling Council. Come learn about the used textile market, including how to make the right environmental impact on your community and perhaps generate some revenue at the same time. When: August 7, 2013. Where: NHDES headquarters in Concord, Time: 8:30am registration and refreshments, 9am-12noon workshop. More information is available at:

<http://www.nerc.org/documents/conferences/Textiles%20Training/NH%20Textiles%20Training%20Agenda.pdf>

### Help NHDES to Target Water Quality Restoration and Protection Activities

The NHDES Watershed Assistance Section is currently updating New Hampshire's Nonpoint Source Management Plan. New EPA guidelines require that states identify priority watersheds to target water quality restoration and protection activities. DES has completed this prioritization and would like your input. More information is available at <http://xml2.des.state.nh.us/blogs/watershed/?p=1766>.

### DES to hold Free Solid Waste Workshops on Best Management Practices at Municipal Solid Waste Facilities

DES will hold a series of free day and evening workshops in your region of the state beginning in the early September. These workshops are intended for solid waste operators as well as town officials. Participants will receive a Best Management Practices reference manual with over twenty BMPs. Additional information can be located at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/swrtas/workshop.htm>

### New Tool for Towns to Track Energy and Water Consumption

According to ENERGY STAR, government agencies spend more than \$10 billion a year on energy to provide public services and meet constituent needs. Local governments grapple with tightening budgets, but nearly 30% of the energy used to run typical government buildings goes to waste.

In 2012, an [EPA analysis](#) of 35,000 buildings where usage was tracked, found that these buildings were able to improve consumption, on average, 2.4 percent energy savings annually. Buildings that followed this process for three years running saw an average energy savings of 7 percent during that period.

EPA's ENERGY STAR program just released a new version of [Portfolio Manager](#) that will make it easier than ever to track the energy and water consumption in your municipality!

### Update to Permit Application Forms

The NHDES Land Resources Management Programs (Alteration of Terrain Bureau, Subsurface Systems Bureau, Wetlands Bureau and the Shoreland Program) have updated their permit application forms. Please take a moment and read this [announcement](#)

### Used Oil Collection Grants Available

DES is accepting Used Oil Collection Grant applications for fiscal year 2014 (July 1, 2013 - June 30, 2014) on a rolling basis. This grant is to encourage the establishment, improvements, and operation of used oil collection centers that serve residents that change their own oil.

Cities, towns, counties, solid waste districts, other government agencies, and non-profit organizations that focus on waste management and recycling issues are all eligible to apply. The grant is also open to private businesses that are registered motor vehicle inspection stations.

Most grants are for a specific amount, up to \$2,500. A center that serves two towns or more may qualify for up to \$5,000. All grant applications will be considered until all grant funding has been expended for the fiscal year. Funds will be disbursed as reimbursement for expenses incurred. Applications can be downloaded from: [http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/forms/waste/documents/used\\_oil\\_app.pdf](http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/forms/waste/documents/used_oil_app.pdf)

For more information, contact Dean Robinson, program coordinator at [UsedOilGrants@des.nh.gov](mailto:UsedOilGrants@des.nh.gov) .

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