

Commissioner's Column

The value of our lakes & rivers

During a recent early morning on Martin Meadow Pond in Lancaster, I witnessed a scene that could have been straight out of a Ralph Waldo Emerson poem: the loon's call echoed across the still waters of the pond, a beaver swam near shore and then dove down in front of the dock, and some fisherman floated by casting their lines as a white mist rose off the water. Scenes such as this from one of New Hampshire's many lakes, rivers, streams and ponds remind us of the integral role that our waterbodies play in New Hampshire's landscape, and that they are major natural, cultural, recreational and economic assets. We have come to expect that they will remain clean and clear and provide us all with benefits that both can and cannot be measured – our freshwaters contribute significantly to New Hampshire's prized quality of life.

What would the impact be if our rivers and lakes become polluted? Here in New Hampshire many of us understand and appreciate that a healthy environment is directly linked to a vibrant economy. Laws and regulations

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Project Nighthawk takes flight

By John F. Liptak, DES Brownfields Program

"Can you help me move 700 pounds of pea-stone to the top of your roof at work?" said the email. As I stared back at the message in amazement, I soon realized what long time friend and NH Audubon ornithologist Becky Suomala was asking of me. She needed help hauling this stone to the top of the DES and HHS building to construct a nighthawk nesting platform or "patch." As Becky and several volunteers met at the loading dock to transport the pea-stone, I soon learned the details of what I volunteered for.

Nighthawks, *continued on page 8*



Summer and fireworks go hand-in-hand, but – spoiler alert! – those spectacles come with an environmental price. See page 6 for more information.

Gov. Lynch signs law joining RGGI

Gov. John Lynch recently signed a law allowing New Hampshire to join the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, which will help protect New Hampshire's economy and natural resources by reducing pollution, increasing energy efficiency and helping stabilize energy costs.

"With this legislation we are taking a major step forward in protecting our economy and our natural resources by reducing pollution and increasing energy efficiency," Gov. Lynch said. "Pollution and climate change threaten our state's environment, our health and our economy. Here in New Hampshire we are dedicating ourselves to reducing the pollution that causes global warming and climate change, and joining the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative is an important part of that effort."

With the new law, New Hampshire will officially join RGGI, a 10-state effort to cut the emissions that cause global warming. In 2005, Gov. Lynch signed onto the bipartisan agreement with other governors creating the initiative, which DES played an integral role in developing.

RGGI uses a flexible market-based program to reduce

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RGGI

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carbon dioxide emissions from fossil fuel-burning plants. The 10 states in the Northeast that have committed to RGGI have agreed to set a region-wide cap on emissions from power plants.

"If global warming is left unchecked, our grandchildren could be living in a much warmer climate. A climate that simply is not New Hampshire. A climate that could do great harm to some of our critical industries, including tourism and agriculture," Gov. Lynch said. "I believe strongly there should be national action and a national energy policy that addresses these issues. But I also do not believe that New Hampshire can afford to wait for national action. We must lead, and that is what we are doing."

In addition, it makes financial sense

for the state to join RGGI. Research conducted by UNH found that New Hampshire ratepayers will save money in the long run by joining RGGI and investing its proceeds in energy efficiency. If the state had failed to join the initiative, the research found, it would have seen higher costs in both the short and long-term, without offsetting savings.

"Acting to prevent global warming is the right thing to do for the long-term public health, the health of our environment and our economy," Gov. Lynch said.



Sponsors of the bipartisan bill witness Gov. Lynch as he signed RGGI into law on the lawn of the State House Plaza.

"In light of the increasing threat from climate change and today's ever-rising energy costs, our participation in RGGI and investing the resulting funds in energy efficiency are more important than ever," DES Commissioner Tom Burack said.

The law's bipartisan sponsors are Reps. Naida Kaen, Suzanne Harvey, and Richard Barry; Sens. Maggie Hassan, Martha Fuller Clark, Peter Bragdon, Bob Odell and Sylvia Larsen. ■

Reuse that bag!

By Donald E. Maurer, DES Solid Waste Technical Assistance

They hang from trees and bushes like Spanish moss. We have piles of them in the corner of a closet. They even get mistaken by sea turtles for jellyfish. The plastic shopping bag has become a real problem.

This spring, a group of high school students from Hanover representing *Kids for a Cooler Planet* testified before the House Environment and Agriculture Committee in support of HCR-17, a resolution encouraging the use of reusable shopping bags. They had the data and were able to answer some very pointed questions by the committee. They made a powerful case for the use of reusable shopping bags.

Not only did they present information to the E&A Committee, which resulted in the bill going to the full House and Senate and eventually being signed by Gov. Lynch, they convinced many stores in the Hanover area to start offering reusable bags at the check-out counter. Sounds great and it shows how a few dedicated individuals can make a difference. But wait, there's more.

With a group of high school students from Vermont, the Hanover students have teamed up with a professional film director to produce a public service announcement for TV to help raise awareness of the environmental problems caused by hundreds of millions of disposable plastic and paper shopping bags thrown away each year. The students filmed the PSA in May at the Dartmouth Rugby Field in Hanover. Student representatives from Maine and Massachusetts joined hundreds of kids from Vermont and New Hampshire for the filming. The TV spot will feature kids all ages holding reusable bags and telling adults to "Bring your own Bag!" ■

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aimed at environmental protection can also have a direct relationship to protecting an economic interest of our state. If we are going to leave future generations the same or better quality lakes and rivers that we enjoy today, an important element that we must understand is the economic value of these resources to the State and what the economic loss could be if we did not remain vigilant in our efforts to protect and manage them wisely.

Studies such as "The Economic Impact of Potential Decline in New Hampshire Water Quality: The Link between Visitor Perceptions, Usage and Spending," by the Lakes and Rivers Partnership have found that freshwater fishing, boating, and swimming generates about \$379 million annually in total sales or about 26 percent of all summer spending in New Hampshire in 2006. The

study, however, also determined that if water quality changes, our use of these resources would also change. Specifically, residents and visitors who fish, boat and swim in or on the

state's lakes and rivers would decrease their use—and their spending—if they perceive a deterioration in any of four key areas: water clarity and purity; natural views and scenery; crowding; and water levels and flows. This change could mean a significant impact to the state's economy, and a potential loss of revenue for each of the state's seven tourism regions. The most alarming result of the study is a potential loss of \$51 million in sales, \$18 million in income, and 810 jobs due to a perception of decreased water clarity and purity.

We all have an interest in the long-term integrity of our public waters. Through the stewardship efforts of shoreland and watershed property owners, and through implementation of local and state laws such as the Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act and the federal Clean Water Act, we can ensure excellent water quality and quantity for not only ourselves but for all the life that depends upon our surface waters.

As a department, DES is committed to working with the members of the Lakes and Rivers Partnership, including the New Hampshire Lakes Association, New Hampshire Rivers Coun-

cil, N.H. Fish and Game, N.H. Department of Resources and Economic Development, Squam Lakes Association, Lake Sunapee Protective Association, and Newfound Lake Region Association to ensure that we pass on to our children those lake and river experiences that we have been fortunate enough to enjoy. But maintaining our freshwaters is everyone's responsibility – individuals, municipalities, businesses, and academia; we all need to be good lake and river stewards. If we do not take these steps now, poems and old photos will be all that the future generations will know of the beautiful treasures that were New Hampshire's waters. ■

Rivers program celebrates 20 years

By Steve Couture, Rivers Coordinator

2008 marks the 20th anniversary of the landmark legislation known as the New Hampshire Rivers Management and Protection Program.

Over the past 20 years, 15 rivers have been designated throughout the state. These rivers are found racing through mountain valleys to meandering

through our towns and cities; all contain outstanding characteristics and values. From our first five rivers designated in June 1990 (Lamprey, Upper Merrimack, Lower Merrimack, Saco and Swift Rivers) to the Ammonoosuc River designated in August 2007, the RMPP has continued to promote protection and stewardship of our river resources through education and outreach, and financial and technical assistance.

One of the early advocates in New Hampshire was former state Sen. Fredrick Porter, who in 1971 amended HJR 46 to include the following state-

ment: "Whereas, certain rivers in New Hampshire ... possess outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural or other similar values ... be it resolved that ... [the] State of New Hampshire declares that it is the policy ... of the State that these rivers shall be preserved ... for the benefit and enjoyment of the present and future generations." This language can be heard today in RSA 483, the legislation that established the RMPP.

One of the most important aspects of the RMPP today is the dedication of the volunteers on each designated river's local advisory committee. These individuals represent a broad range of interests, are nominated by each riverfront municipality, and serve as the DES commissioner's only appointed advisors. Since the RMPP's inception, the LACs have served as the driving force behind local protection efforts of each of the designated rivers. Thank you LAC members. Without your help our rivers would not be as well cared for! ■

To read Steve Couture's full story, please see www.des.nh.gov/news/meanderings/2008spring.pdf.



Photo by Paul Lockwood, DES.

If this is July, then new CSPA rules must be in effect

With a couple of exceptions, July 1, 2008 is the new effective date for the changes to the CSPA that were enacted in 2007. The major changes involve:

- The removal of the prohibition on vertical expansion of non-conforming structures.
- A shoreland permitting requirement for many excavation, construction or filling activities within the protected shoreland.
 - Examples of **projects that do not need a shoreland permit** include, but are not limited to: using hand-held tools to work in a garden, removing dead, diseased or unsafe trees, trimming, pruning or thinning of branches, repairs to existing legal structures that do not increase the footprint, result in excavation or removal of native vegetation or increase septic loading. A complete list of activities that do not require a permit can be found in the Shoreland Administrative Rules, Env-Wq 1406.
 - Examples of projects that require a shoreland permit, include, but are not limited to: construction of houses, accessory structures, septic systems, patios or driveways; excavation for foundations, driveways, regrading of any kind; filling for driveways or backfilling retaining walls. Application forms are available at www.des.nh.gov/cspa.
- A 20 percent impervious surface allowance for the area within the protected shoreland and up to 30 percent with storm water protections.
- A state 50-foot primary building setback, which became effective April 1, 2008. Towns may maintain or enact greater setbacks, but not lesser setbacks.
- The creation of a waterfront buffer.
 - Within the waterfront buffer, a minimum level of tree and sapling cover must be maintained (50 points). This cover is managed with an easy to understand grid and points system.
 - Pesticide and herbicide use will require a licensed applicator.
- Changes within the natural woodland buffer.
 - A percentage of the vegetation within 50 feet to 150 feet will be left in an unaltered condition depending on how much of the lot is located within the natural woodland buffer.
- All designated rivers will come under the jurisdiction of the CSPA, regardless of their stream order.
- Many third order streams become fourth order streams and under the jurisdiction of the CSPA.

For more information, see www.des.nh.gov/cspa/. ■

Partnership fights invasive plants in coastal watershed

Eleven state and federal agencies and nonprofit conservation groups announced this spring the Coastal Watershed Invasive Plant Partnership. The partnership's goal is to cooperate on assessing the extent and controlling invasive species in New Hampshire's coastal watershed, an area spanning 42 towns in Strafford and Rockingham counties.

"By cooperating on invasive plant species management, this partnership is helping to protect and restore the ecological integrity of New Hampshire's coastal watershed," said DES Commissioner Tom Burack.

Native plants are being strangled, choked, shaded-out, or toppled by invasive shrubs, vines and trees. Invasive plants know no boundaries. They span landscapes and properties, making collaboration essential. In addition to the signing, members, organizations, landowners, and municipalities will participate in the partnership, bringing together resources and expertise to complete invasive species management projects and restore native habitats.

The partnership is based on the model of a cooperative weed management area, an organizational structure popular in the western U.S., incorporating the following: defined geographic area; involvement and representation from all stakeholders; governed by a steering committee; committed to cooperation; and guided by a comprehensive management plan.

Several similarly modeled invasive plant species partnerships have formed throughout New England, but this is the first time such a partnership will be formalized through a partnership agreement. Signatories to the agreement commit to work together on invasive plant species management for five years.

A copy of the partnership agreement is posted at www.des.nh.gov/press.asp and is available upon request. ■



DES plans “strategic directions”

In the fall of 2007, the department’s Senior Leadership Team initiated strategic planning discussions. Early on, it was decided that DES’s next strategic planning process would be much different than the traditional medium-by-medium or program-by-program approach. Instead, the agency posed two basic questions: “What should environmental management (and an environmental agency) look like in the 21st Century?” and “Looking back 20 years from now, what will people say that DES and the state of New Hampshire did (or did not do) to protect the state’s exceptional quality of life?” These questions were also part of an

online survey.

We are still evaluating the survey results from over 1,000 respondents, but we have already benefited from an initial review of the information. The feedback we received, which will be summarized and posted later on the DES website, indicated the top environmental challenges facing New Hampshire are: growth and development impacts; contaminated drinking water; drinking water supplies; habitat loss; energy use; and climate change.

The survey has confirmed our thinking that DES and its many part-

ners will have to approach things very differently if we are to effectively deal with the serious issues of climate change, energy use, and the protection of the state’s natural resources as we continue to grow. Consequently, the 2008-2012 DES Strategic Plan is structured around seven “strategic directions” or “aspirational goals,” with the focus on where we’d like to be in 20 years. They are:

- 1) DES and its partners are proactively addressing the issue of climate change in New Hampshire through integrated prevention, mitigation and adaptation strategies.
- 2) DES and its partners are effectively protecting New Hampshire’s natural resources, which contribute to our high quality of life, as the state continues to grow.
- 3) DES employs integrated pre-application, permitting, compliance and enforcement approaches across all of its programs, and DES cooperates fully with its sister local, regional, state and federal agencies.
- 4) To ensure that New Hampshire’s environment is improving, DES focuses on environmental results and reports them in a transparent manner.
- 5) Environmental compliance is high in New Hampshire, supported by partnerships, widespread accountability, and a broad environmental stewardship ethic.
- 6) DES provides high-quality customer service.
- 7) DES is one of the most desirable employers in state government.

We thank readers who took the time to share their valuable insights and to weigh in on DES’s future. If you have questions about this survey, please contact Vincent Perelli, DES chief of planning and policy, at Vincent.Perelli@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-8989. ■



State’s MtBE lawsuit heats up

by Maureen D. Smith, Senior Assistant Attorney General

New Hampshire’s landmark lawsuit against manufacturers of gasoline with MtBE has returned to State court and is heating up. Lawyers on both sides have submitted briefs on their views of key legal issues that will define the direction and timing of the only case in which statewide contamination of groundwater is at stake. In a June 4, 2008 hearing before the Merrimack County Superior Court, the Attorney General’s Office and industry lawyers took turns arguing their legal points.

In particular, state lawyers defended against dismissal of the public nuisance, strict liability and other claims filed against the companies that added MtBE to gasoline supplies. State lawyers also asked the Court to dismiss counterclaims filed by the companies against the State’s petroleum reimbursement funds because they would essentially require the State to pay for its own damages. Industry lawyers argued that the State had not provided enough detail in its lawsuit on how they can be held liable for the contamination. They also contested the State’s request for protection against unreasonable discovery requests, claiming that they needed extensive information on each oil spill and contaminated well in the state. The Court took the arguments under advisement.

The Court’s rulings on the motions will determine whether and when trial can be scheduled on the merits. State attorneys advised the Court that they planned to ask for a case management order that would avoid having discovery continue “approximately forever” so that trial can be scheduled in the foreseeable future. The State seeks full restoration of groundwater by those companies who produced, promoted and sent MtBE-containing gasoline to New Hampshire.

In the meantime, it is not clear how long MtBE contamination will persist in the environment, as it does not degrade easily. It has been found in groundwaters throughout the state and the most recent statewide study shows that both public and private wells continue to show persistent levels of MtBE. ■

Big bangs, big problems

by Jody Connor, DES Limnologist

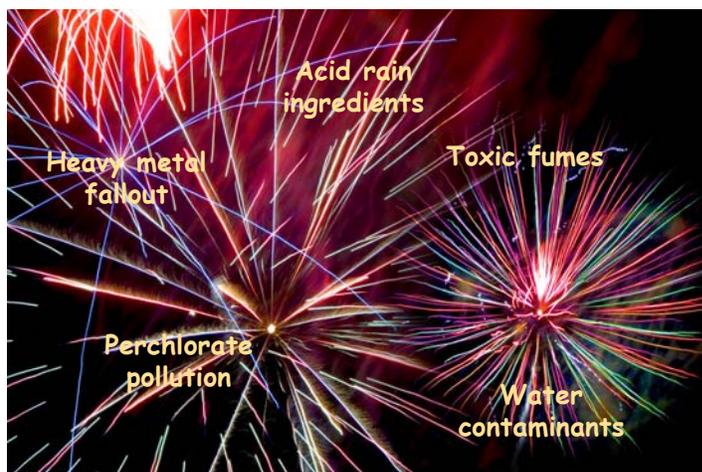
There are growing concerns about the use of fireworks around New Hampshire's lakes. As fun and enjoyable as fireworks can be, they may be causing more damage than you know. Aside from the obvious danger of operating controlled explosives, what you may not realize is the effects fireworks have environmentally, economically and health wise.

Fireworks are composed of many different elements, each contributing to the noise, color or propellant. While these ingredients combine to form a beautiful spectacle, many of them are very dangerous.

The fallout of these different chemicals can affect you both directly and indirectly. Once a firework explodes in the sky, it does many things. The gases from the rocket and the explosion are released into the atmosphere, where they are inhaled by humans and animals, and hurt the ozone layer. In addition to the gases, the debris and burning metals fall back to earth where they litter the area, contaminate aquatic ecosystems, and poison the wildlife, eventually working their way up the food chain.

It has taken years to determine the dangers associated with the many ingredients in fireworks. Up until very recently, phosphorous (also found in fertilizers) was highly popular in fireworks until the realization of its associated problems to the environment. Although most manufacturers no longer incorporate more than trace amounts of phosphorus in fireworks, every little bit added to a lake can influence water quality. Phosphorus accelerates a process called eutrophication, which is the process that results in increased biomass, decreased lake clarity and bottom oxygen, and increases the likelihood of cyanobacteria scums. Algal and cyanobacteria blooms caused by phosphorus introductions impact fisheries, drinking water supplies and the health of people who recreate in the waters as well as pets and any animal that drinks these waters.

Altogether the damaging effect fireworks have is overwhelming. They impact water quality by affecting the odor and taste of drinking water. On the economic side, excessive algal and cyanobacteria growth due to phosphorus or contamination due to firework fallout increases water treatment costs, degrades fishing and boating activities, and impacts tourism and property values. The cost of damage done to property, the litter and the effect upon both wildlife and human life is incalculable.



For more information, please go to these links: www.des.nh.gov/factsheets/bb/bb-60.htm; www.geocities.com/Yosemite/Falls/9200/toxic_fireworks.html; and www.serconline.org/phosphorus/background.html. ■



Toxic Element	Fireworks Usage	Toxic Effect of Fallout Dust & Fumes
Aluminum	Brilliant whites	Contact dermatitis
Ammonium Perchlorate	Propellant	Can contaminate ground and surface waters; can disrupt thyroid functions
Barium	Glittering greens	Extremely poisonous, radioactive
Cadmium	Firework colors	Extremely toxic, carcinogenic; can bioaccumulate
Copper compounds	Blues	Dioxin pollution
Lead Nitrate/Dioxide/Chloride	Oxidizer	Bioaccumulation; developmental danger for children and the unborn; may remain airborne for days; poisonous to plants and animals
Lithium	Blazing reds	Slightly toxic
Potassium Nitrate	In black powder	Toxic dusts, carcinogenic sulfur-coal compounds
Rubidium	Purple colors	Slightly radioactive; can replace calcium in body
Strontium	Blazing reds	Can replace calcium in body; can be radioactive
Sulfur Dioxide	Gaseous by-product of sulfur combustion	Acid rain from sulphuric acid affects water sources, vegetation and causes property damage

The cost of trash

By Donald E. Maurer

Ever wonder where the town of Away is located? That's where many people think our trash goes, Away. Not really. Most of our trash stays in New Hampshire but that short trip to our local "Away" costs a lot of money. The towns and cities in New Hampshire have a total budget line item for waste disposal of \$116 million. That works out to \$86.22 for every man, woman and child in the state. If you add the cost of disposing of commercial trash and construction and demolition debris to that, the total cost of trash in New Hampshire is close to \$280 million. More than 4,000 people are employed in the industry, making waste one of the largest employers in the state. The DES training program has 1,200 certified solid waste operators registered. Nationally, solid waste is a \$52 billion a year business. Solid waste is big business and the cost of disposal will just be getting higher as fuel prices climb.

The price of most recyclables has

gone through the roof. Scrap iron and steel is selling for over \$500 a ton, some types of paper are over \$225 a ton. Aluminum cans just broke \$1 per pound and even the plastic bottles we use for soda and water are \$0.20 per pound. Copper is over \$3.50 a pound. Some people are even stealing recyclables. Epping had four bales of aluminum cans stolen in May for a loss of \$1,300. Did you know we buy more than 900 million cans and bottles in New Hampshire each year?

By being an aggressive recycler, you can help your community. Every ton of material you don't send to the landfill or incinerator is a savings of the disposal fee, and every ton of recyclables can be sold for a profit. Paper represents 35 percent of the waste stream but we only collect 19 percent of the available paper in New Hampshire. Many people don't know that anything you can rip can be recycled. This includes corrugated cardboard, magazines, junk mail, pizza boxes, and even those envelopes with the little clear windows. Wrapping paper can also be recycled and has value. If

you are worried about identify theft, shred your important papers. Guess what, those shreds can also be recycled.

Every 1 percent increase in recycling rate is a savings of more than \$1 million to the state's municipalities. Recycling is one way you can help to reduce your property tax burden! ■

Use of biodiesel products increases

HB 1631, passed this session and effective January 1, 2009, requires NH Administrative Services to purchase heating oil for state buildings that contains at least 5 percent biodiesel. It also requires the Department of Transportation to purchase diesel fuel for vehicles that contains at least 5 percent biodiesel up to 20 percent. In both cases, the purchase is at the discretion of the department heads if 1) the fuel is unavailable, or 2) the fuel is more costly than a 100 percent petroleum product, considering at a minimum any savings related to equipment maintenance and longevity that may result from biodiesel use. For more information about HB 1631, see www.gencourt/legislation/2008/-HB1631.html.

Earlier this summer, it was announced that the Oyster River Cooperative School District had successfully completed a biodiesel demonstration project, using a blend of 20 percent biodiesel in its fleet of 31 school buses for this school year. The Granite State Clean Cities Coalition provided the district with a \$10,000 grant to demonstrate the use of biodiesel in school buses. Through the project, the district was able to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by more than 14 percent for the school year, while maintaining equivalent fuel economy to regular diesel fuel. For more information, visit www.granite-statecleancities.org/. ■

DES awarded \$200,000 EPA petroleum brownfields grant

DES was recently awarded a \$200,000 Petroleum Brownfields Assessment grant from EPA to be used to inventory and assess potential Petroleum Brownfields sites within the state. The DES Oil Remediation Program is currently seeking public comments on the grant work plan as required as part of its pre-award community notification plan for EPA. Copies of the grant work plan are available on the DES Brownfields website at www.des.nh.gov/BrownfieldsNH/. ■

A Brownfields Success Story in Newport –



BEFORE: Meadow Road Realty site buildings and rubble. AFTER: Nearly complete senior housing project.

Nighthawks

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Project Nighthawk is a state-wide research initiative conceived in 2007 and coordinated by NH Audubon. It is aimed at conserving a state-threatened bird species, the common nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*).



Photo of a common nighthawk taken in Cornelius, Ore., 2004.

Most active at dusk and dawn, the “peent” call of common nighthawks was once a familiar sound in cities and towns throughout New Hampshire, where they nested on flat, pea-stone gravel roofs and fed on insects attracted to city lights. In recent years, rubber and PVC have largely replaced pea-stone roofing and nesting nighthawks have disappeared from many New Hampshire towns. In the few towns where they do remain, primarily Concord and Keene, their numbers have dramatically declined. Biologists are trying to determine if the loss of the nighthawks is linked to the disappearance of pea-stone roofs.

NH Audubon initiated Project Nighthawk in 2007 to investigate the potential for restoring nesting nighthawks by placing simple stone “nest patches” on flat rooftops in Keene and Concord. Once all 700 pounds of the pea-stone was on the roof, Becky instructed us to make a nine-foot square patch in the southwest corner of the roof. This simple but effective design would be enough to soon attract nighthawks to nest.

Apparently it is working! Four weeks after the construction of the nest patch, Becky and her cadre of volunteers were monitoring the site by watching for nighthawks flying or “booming” over the nesting site. They observed one nighthawk “peenting” or calling and

traveling between the DES-DHHS building and a building on Loudon Road. Success!

Commissioner Tom Burack became aware of the project and, as a former trustee of NH Audubon, was enthusiastic to have DES partner with NHA in helping to restore the once “common,” common nighthawk to Concord. For more information, contact Becky Suomala at bsuomala@nhaudubon.org or (603) 224-9909 x309. ■

Dr. McMillin new WRBP administrator

DES is pleased to announce Sharon McMillin as the new administrator of the Winnepesaukee River Basin Program, who started on June 30. McMillin has outstanding qualifications for the position based on her combination of wastewater operator experience, supervisory experience, and technical knowledge. She has bachelor of science degrees in microbiology and mathematics from Texas A&M, and a Ph.D. in biomedical sciences from Eastern Virginia Medical School/Old Dominion University. McMillin has worked successfully as an environmental scientist in environmental laboratories on the design and operation of wastewater treatment facilities and on other environmental projects, as well as teaching science courses as an adjunct faculty member at New Hampshire Community Technical College. She is a Class V wastewater operator in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts where she most recently supervised the operation of a wastewater treatment plant, and has a history of working to solve complex environmental problems. Please join us in welcoming Sharon to DES. ■

Get real-time information on these HOT summer issues

Air Quality

www.airquality.nh.gov

Beach Closures

www.des.nh.gov/Beaches/index.asp?theLink=current

Lake Levels

www.des.nh.gov/RTi_Home/

Shellfish Bed Closures

wildlife.state.nh.us/Fishing/clam_flat_status.htm



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