

# ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS



Newsletter of the N.H. Department of Environmental Services

March/April 2008

## Commissioner's Column

### Take a hike, Game Boys

Nature-Deficit Disorder, does your child have it? I am trying my best to prevent my children from getting it. Author Richard Louv's book, *Last Child in the Woods: Saving Our Children from Nature-Deficit Disorder*, has been a catalyst for kick-starting a movement across our country to address what he says is a troubling disconnect between today's children and the great outdoors.

Numerous studies, including one recently released by The Nature Conservancy, confirm that people, especially children, are spending less time in the outdoors. I seriously doubt that this is much of a surprise to parents of school-age children. The competition for their time, never mind family time,

is enormous. Between school, organized activities and sports, homework, television, computer games and the internet, time spent independently exploring nature has taken a back seat.

However, the evidence suggests that the absence of nature in our children's lives comes at a high cost, including the increased risk of obesity, attention deficit-disorders, depression and stress-related symptoms. Louv conjectures that exposure to nature can help reduce these problems and even improve our children's academic and emotional growth.

A New Hampshire initiative to reconnect children with nature was set

New shoreland rules take effect April 1, 2008. Are you ready? See pages 4-5 for more information

Effective Date Under Review!

in motion early last year. The initiative has grown into the New Hampshire Children In Nature Coalition, which is dedicated to fostering experiences in nature with the goals to improve physical and emotional health and well-being, increase understanding of and care for the natural world and promote stronger connections to

Commissioner, *continued on page 2*

### Have a wild time at Discover WILD N.H. Day, April 26 *DES new co-sponsor of event*

Celebrate Earth Day by bringing the family to Discover WILD New Hampshire Day, set for Saturday, April 26, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the grounds of New Hampshire Fish and Game Department headquarters on Hazen Drive in Concord. Admission is free!

This event is fun for all ages. Try your hand at archery, learn to cast, build a duck box, or tie a fly. See retriever dogs in action, big fish and trained falcons, plus hybrid vehicles and more energy-saving ideas. Hands-

on wildlife arts and crafts for the kids. Exhibits on display by more than 35 environmental, conservation and outdoor organizations from around New Hampshire. New this year: "The Ways of the Woods Traveling Museum." Back by popular demand: "The Battling Bull Moose of Fowletown" exhibit.

Discover WILD New Hampshire Day is co-sponsored by N.H. Fish and Game Department and DES. Call (603) 271-3211, or visit [www.WildNH.com](http://www.WildNH.com). ■



## Commissioner

*continued from page 1*

community and landscape. For more information about this initiative, please visit [www.wildlife.nh.state.us/childreninnature](http://www.wildlife.nh.state.us/childreninnature).

To be successful, this effort must begin by knocking down barriers so that the public once again considers it to be the norm for children to be outside and playing in natural areas. Luckily for most of us, there is no shortage of access to natural areas here in New Hampshire. So what's the problem? Let's just let our kids go outside and be kids. I certainly remember fondly my childhood explorations without constant parental supervision, but we parents today are hesitant. To get kids outside, we as parents have to put into perspective many of our own fears—from stranger danger to poison ivy, and from mosquito bites to bears.

As another Earth Day quickly approaches, I would like to issue a challenge to my fellow New Hampshire parents to see through much of the sensationalized media and the time crunch of our daily lives to set aside some time to share in nature with your children. You don't have to hike a 4,000-footer or paddle some white-water, just feel the grass under your feet, talk about the types of trees in your yard, or find out what kinds of critters are crawling under the rocks. Your children, and society, will thank you.

Tom Burack, *Commissioner*



## Utilities “pay-it-forward” with mutual aid agreements

### *Workshop April 25 outlines mutual aid program*

Disasters and emergencies aren't limited to town boundaries and often affect surrounding communities. Therefore, mutual aid and assistance among utilities is very important as they try to recover from large disasters, such as widespread flooding or ice storms. The water sector is taking steps to encourage water utilities and local/state governments to establish intrastate mutual aid and assistance networks to make recovering from disasters such as these a quicker and more efficient process. National efforts have been underway to establish statewide Water and Wastewater Agency Response Network (WARN) systems that create a formalized system of utilities helping utilities during emergencies or disasters. There are many benefits to mutual aid. It provides a prompt and effective response, access to specialized, certified, and knowledgeable utility personnel, access to heavy equipment, tools and supplies used by utilities.



establish statewide Water and Wastewater Agency Response Network (WARN) systems that create a formalized system of utilities helping utilities during emergencies or disasters. There are many benefits to mutual aid. It provides a prompt and effective response, access to specialized, certified, and knowledgeable utility personnel, access to heavy equipment, tools and supplies used by utilities.

New Hampshire already has its own mutual aid network, which was developed in 1998, and is the first statewide mutual aid program for

public works in the US. The NH Public Works Mutual Aid Program (NHPWMAP) is managed by the UNH Technology Transfer Center and currently has 98 member communities. The program is built on the same model that police and fire have been using for years. The program has been very successful and has recently welcomed the water and wastewater industry to join their program. Under the NHPWMAP, towns that send employees and equipment to other communities are covered by set rates and their own insurance covers injury or damaged equipment. It does not require any disaster declaration to activate, which means utilities can request aid at almost any time, even for small scale events. As a member, the community is not obligated to respond; community needs always come first.

On April 25, the NHPWMAP will host its first workshop. This workshop will bring together members and non-members, folks from public works, water, wastewater, governing boards and building inspectors to learn the basics of the program, how to use it, and hear about real life examples. For more information about the workshop and the program, visit [www.t2.unh.edu/ma](http://www.t2.unh.edu/ma) or contact Johnna McKenna at (603) 271-7017 or [johnna.mckenna@des.nh.gov](mailto:johnna.mckenna@des.nh.gov). ■

## ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS

*Environmental News* is published six times a year by the N.H. Department of Environmental Services.

Thomas S. Burack, **Commissioner**  
Michael J. Walls, **Assistant Commissioner**

### **Division Directors**

Michael Wimsatt, **Waste Management**  
Robert R. Scott, **Air Resources**  
Harry T. Stewart, **Water**

### *Environmental News*

James Martin, **Editor**  
Patricia Gruttemeyer, **Assoc. Editor/Layout**

### **Editorial Board**

Kathleen M. Brockett    Timothy W. Drew  
Gretchen R. Hamel    John F. Liptak  
Rene Pelletier    Eric Williams

29 Hazen Drive • Concord, NH 03301  
603-271-3503

[www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov)  
[editor@des.state.nh.us](mailto:editor@des.state.nh.us)  
*Printed on recycled paper.*

## USGS releases statewide MtBE study

The US Geological Survey recently released the results of a statewide study on the occurrence of MtBE (methyl tertiary butyl ether) in public and private water supply wells throughout the state. This was a follow-on study to the work USGS performed in Rockingham County in 2003.

MtBE is a chemical that is highly soluble in water, moves at the speed of the groundwater and is resistant to biodegradation. Its use in gasoline started in 1979 as an octane booster, replacing tetra ethyl lead.

The statewide study was conducted over 2005 and 2006 and sampled 284 public and 264 private wells. MtBE concentrations greater than 0.2 parts per billion (ppb) were

## High tech tool gives Spill Response Section an edge

To improve incident response efficiency and effectiveness, the DES Spill Response and Complaint Investigation Section staff recently acquired a new piece of equipment. It's the Verizon XV6700 Pocket PC – a multi-functional, state-of-the-art device. The XV6700 is a cell phone, digital camera, and pocket computer. With it, response personnel can take photos at the scene of an incident and then email the photos back to DES or to any other agency involved in the management of an incident. Having real-time information regarding an incident provides an accurate assessment of the situation and assures that everyone involved has a common operating picture.

The XV6700 has a number of other useful functions, including the ability to access the Internet, as well as to information contained in the Bureau's contaminated sites database. Responders can now look up site history, as well as information on other contaminated sites in the investigation area. Additionally, new sites can be created on the PDA and automatically added to the main database. While in the field, staff can also access a myriad of websites containing information on every aspect of emergency response, including reference materials on chemicals, hazard analysis information, and various response procedures. And last, if a natural or man-made disaster renders 29 Hazen Drive unusable, DES emergency response staff will be able to remain functional and in-service. ■



Photo from <http://www.mobiletech-review.com/Verizon-XV6700.htm>

found in samples of untreated water in 18 percent of public water supply wells and 9.1 percent of private domestic wells sampled. In the four counties that were using reformulated gasoline (RFG) at the time of the study, Hillsborough, Merrimack, Rockingham and Strafford counties, MtBE occurred at or above 0.2 ppb in 30 percent of the public and 17 percent of the private supply wells.

Starting in 1995, RFG was required by the 1990 Clean Air Act to contain 2 percent oxygen by weight to help gasoline burn cleaner. The petroleum companies chose to add MtBE to RFG to provide that oxygen. Following the phase-in of RFG containing MtBE, more and more public water supplies began to detect some level MtBE. As a result of the impact on groundwater, the New Hampshire legislature banned the use of MtBE in gasoline starting in January 2007.

Additional findings from the USGS study were that 52 percent of public supply wells collocated with fuel storage tanks and 71 percent of mobile home park wells had MtBE. These findings make it clear that wells on the same property as fuel storage tanks, typically transient water supplies and community water supplies serving mobile home parks, are particularly susceptible to MtBE contamination.

MtBE occurrence in public supply wells was predicted by factors such as proximity to sources of gasoline, land use, and population density, as well as low pH and distance from mapped bedrock lineaments. RFG use, land use variables, and pH were important predictors of private well MtBE occurrence. Variables representing sources of MtBE, such as the distance to known fuel sources, were not significant predictors of MtBE occurrence in private supply wells. It is hypothesized that private wells may become contaminated from the collective effects of sources in high population areas and from undocumented incidental releases from onsite or proximal gasoline use.

When the results of the statewide study were compared with the previous findings of the Rockingham County study, MtBE occurrence decreased, from 2003 to 2005, in 63 public supply wells and increased in 60 private supply wells, but neither trend was statistically significant.

The results of this study showed the effects of unintended consequences of the widespread use of a chemical in the environment. RFG with a 2 percent oxygen content was touted as a cleaner gasoline which would produce cleaner air and protect public health. However, as releases of gasoline containing MtBE occurred, the long-term impact that this chemical would have on groundwater and public and private water supplies became evident and forced it to be banned. ■



## PLEASE NOTE!

### Effective Date for Revised Shoreland Rules Under Review!

The revised Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act and associated rules will become effective April 1, 2008. However, due to possible actions by the N.H. Legislature, the effective date may change after the April 1 implementation date.

Any revised effective date will be posted on the DES website as soon as the department has been notified of any changes in the law.

Please go to [www.des.nh.gov/cspa](http://www.des.nh.gov/cspa) for the latest information.

**March 25, 2008**

New Hampshire  
Department of Environmental Services  
29 Hazen Drive  
Concord, New Hampshire 03301  
(603) 271-3503

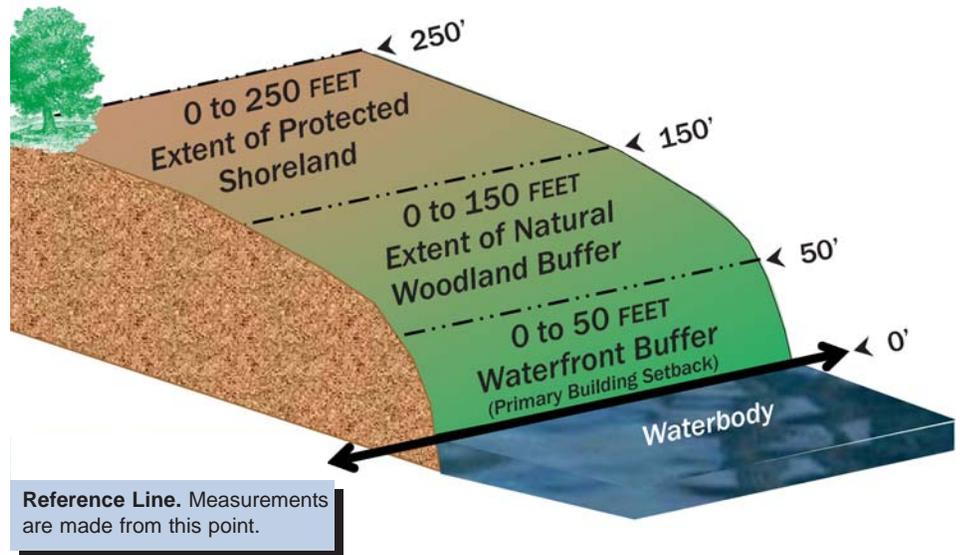
Do you live by  
a lake, river  
or tidal water?

Then you need to  
know about the  
Comprehensive  
Shoreland  
Protection Act

*Effective April 1,  
2008,  
a state shoreland  
permit is required  
prior to any  
construction,  
excavation or  
filling activity  
within the  
protected  
shoreland.*

The **Comprehensive Shoreland Protection Act (CSPA)** was enacted in 1991 to protect the water quality of larger water bodies by setting minimum requirements for the development and use of all land within 250 feet of the **Reference Line**. Within this area, called the **Protected Shoreland**, there are setbacks and restricted use areas that you need to know about. **Effective April 1, 2008, a state shoreland permit is required** prior to any construction, excavation or filling activities within the protected shoreland.

**Note:** *On-going* projects meeting certain conditions **may** be exempted from the permit requirement.



Reference Line. Measurements are made from this point.

## Why should I be concerned with the CSPA?

**CLEAN WATER IS AN IMPORTANT PART** of New Hampshire's economy, property values, recreation and wildlife habitat. Vegetated shoreland buffers play a critical role in protecting water quality by managing stormwater to prevent erosion. Erosion can result in sediment reaching the water. This can cause:

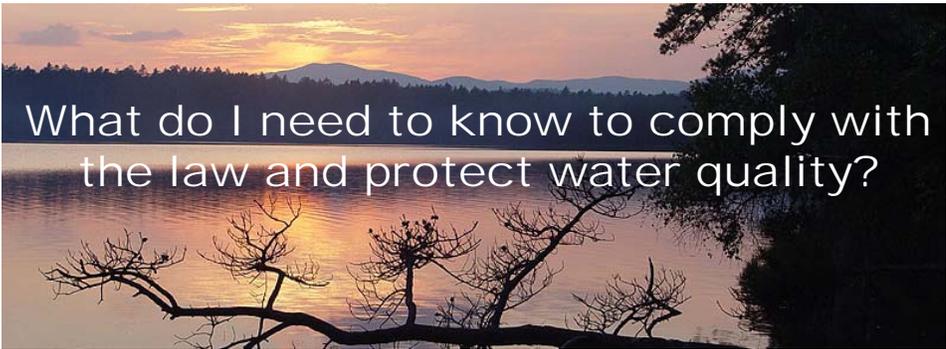
- Harm to fish and other species and their habitat.
- Algae blooms that can result in decreased water clarity, decreased dissolved oxygen, odor, and public health problems.
- Accelerated lake aging.

Studies show that a **decrease in water quality can lead to a decrease in property values**. The CSPA allows development to occur within the protected shoreland while assuring that vegetated areas remain to help keep our waters clean.

**The CSPA – protects our water, and it's the law.**



**NEW HAMPSHIRE  
RIVERS COUNCIL**



# What do I need to know to comply with the law and protect water quality?

## Waterfront Buffer – 0'-50'

- All new primary structures must be set back 50' from the reference line. Towns may have a greater set back – but not a lesser one.
- A 50' waterfront buffer must be maintained. Within the waterfront buffer, tree coverage is managed with a 50'x 50' grid and points system. Cutting is allowed as long as the sum of points for remaining trees and saplings equals 50 points or more per 50'x 50' grid.
- Natural ground cover, including leaf litter, must not be removed. No cutting or removal of vegetation below 3' in height (excluding lawns) is allowed except for a footpath to the water (up to 6' wide) that does not concentrate stormwater or cause erosion.
- Stumps, roots and rocks must remain intact in and on the ground.
- Pesticides and herbicides are prohibited.
- No fertilizer except limestone can be applied within 25' of the reference line.

## Natural Woodland Buffer – 0'-150'

- A percentage of the area of the lot not covered by impervious surfaces shall remain in an undisturbed state.
- Strict restrictions apply to the types of fertilizer that can be used.

## The Protected Shoreland – 0'-250'

- Impervious surfaces are limited to 20 percent or up to 30 percent with runoff protections.
- New lots must have subdivision approval by DES.
- Strict restrictions apply to the types of fertilizer that can be used.
- All new septic systems are subject to setback requirements of 75', 100' or 125', depending on soils.
- Minimum frontage requirements apply for new lots.

**This is a summary of the CSPA's major provisions. Before planning or undertaking any construction, excavation or filling within the protected shoreland, contact the DES Wetlands Bureau at:**

**(603) 271-2147**  
**[www.des.nh.gov/cspa](http://www.des.nh.gov/cspa)**



## More ...

### Impervious Surface

Modified surfaces that cannot absorb water, such as roofs, decks, patios, paved and gravel driveways (excluding bedrock).

### Non-Conforming Structures

Those structures that do not conform to the provisions of the CSPA. (May be repaired, renovated, or replaced in kind, as long as the repairs or replacements result in no expansion of the footprint.)

### Undisturbed State

Native vegetation left to grow without interference.

### Grid and Points System

The waterfront buffer is divided into 50'x50' segments. The trees in each segment are given points according to their diameter at 4½' off the ground.

Tree Diameter (at 4½' off the ground)	Number of Points
1" to 6"	1
>6" to 12"	5
12" and larger	10

**Fifty points must be maintained in each segment.** You may cut trees or saplings as long as the sum of the points of the remaining trees and saplings for that segment is at least 50 points.

If your property has one or more grid segments that did not have 50 points of April 1, 2008, you are not required to plant trees to achieve 50 points. However, you may not cut any existing trees or saplings in those segments.

## Biodiesel use in state continues to grow

### Event at Cranmore highlights its winter uses

In February 2004, DES and the Granite State Clean Cities Coalition (GSCCC) gathered at Cranmore Mountain Resort to celebrate Cranmore's decision to use biodiesel in its snow grooming equipment. The GSCCC had awarded Cranmore a grant to support its efforts and address concerns about how biodiesel would perform through New Hampshire's winters. Now, four years later Cranmore continues to use biodiesel, and has definitively shown its viability as a cold weather fuel.

In recognition of these efforts, DES Commissioner Tom Burack and others once again gathered at Cranmore this winter to highlight the resort's leadership role in using biodiesel as a way to reduce greenhouse gases and address global climate change. The resort has also received national recognition for its efforts and was recently featured in a case study on cold weather use of biodiesel by the National Biodiesel Board.

Biodiesel is a domestic, renewable diesel fuel replacement derived from natural oils or recycled grease. It can be substituted for diesel fuel in any diesel vehicle. Cranmore uses a typical biodiesel blend of 20 percent biodiesel and 80 percent petroleum diesel, referred to as B20. Cranmore has been joined by other New Hampshire ski areas, including Bretton Woods, Dartmouth Skiway, King Pine/Purity Spring Resort, Mount Sunapee and Ragged Mountain resorts, which are using biodiesel blends this season. In addition, New Hampshire has nine retail fueling stations currently offering biodiesel and biodiesel blends.

The City of Keene has used biodiesel for over five years. Steve Russell, Keene's fleet manager, recently stated, "The city uses biodiesel in a wide range of equipment from

plow trucks, ambulances, wheel loaders right down to small garden tractors. We insist our biodiesel meet ASTM 6751 specifications, and we use a winter blend during our cold season. Everyone benefits from cleaner air – biodiesel is the right thing to do."

In 2007, New Hampshire drivers, businesses, and municipal and government entities used an estimated one million gallons of biodiesel, resulting in a reduction of 11,000 tons of greenhouse gas emissions – the equivalent of taking 2,500 cars off the road for one year! As New Hampshire grows its biodiesel market, it will be

## Auto salvage yard environmental compliance training

DES and the New Hampshire Local Government Center are providing free training to help auto salvage yard operators and local licensing officials learn how to inspect salvage yards for compliance with best management practices for environmental protection. The three-hour training workshops have been held in February and March with the last two on March 25 and 26 in Bethlehem and Concord respectively.

State law now requires auto salvage yard operators to certify they are complying with the best management practices when they apply for a required local license. Licenses must be renewed each year by April 1. These training workshops are a good way for people to understand the compliance self-certification process before this year's license renewal deadline.

The training includes tips for conducting a good inspection, how to use the DES compliance checklist and workbook, characteristics of a well-run auto salvage yard, a review of

important to have biodiesel derived from sustainable agricultural practices. The Biodiesel Study Commission, originated from HB 689 in 2007, has developed a report on steps needed to support biodiesel use in New Hampshire. The report is available at [www.granitestateclean-cities.org](http://www.granitestateclean-cities.org).

For information on biodiesel and other alternative fuels, contact Barbara Bernstein, Granite State Clean Cities Coalition coordinator, at (603) 271-6751 or [barbara.bernstein@des.nh.gov](mailto:barbara.bernstein@des.nh.gov). ■



*These batteries are stored correctly on a pallet inside a storage shed with a concrete floor. When the pallet is full, it is shrink-wrapped for shipping to a recycler. Using the environmental compliance workbook in the workshops helps to explain BMPs for auto salvage yards.*

how one yard cleaned up and became more organized, and practice exercises for doing inspections.

Attendees must register in advance. To reserve a seat or get more information, contact DES at (603) 271-2659, [nhgreenyards@des.state.nh.us](mailto:nhgreenyards@des.state.nh.us), or visit [www.des.nh.gov/sw/greenyards](http://www.des.nh.gov/sw/greenyards). ■

## Just say "NO"

So here I am at the supermarket, with my three children circling my legs and the checkout person asks the usual question, "Ma'am, is plastic ok?" It is at this moment that I want to kick myself. I turn to look at the line forming behind me and I cannot believe what I am about to do. Children in hand and an apologetic look on my face, I turn to the five very patient people behind me and state that I will be right back. In 30 seconds flat, kids flying like kites off the end of my hands, I rush to my car and grab the cloth bags that my conscience made me purchase. Back to the register I run and the rest of the checkout process is completed.

It is a habit that I am trying hard to form. If I could only remember these handy bags before I enter the store! Still I am hopeful that those five patient people and the checkout clerks understand and maybe even admire the effort. As a member of REACH, the recycling committee and now Green Hopkinton, I have no choice but to use cloth. I know too much!

Just a few stats will help to put my guilt into perspective. Annually, the world consumes roughly 500,000,000,000 plastic bags. Americans alone, blast through about 100 billion single-use bags a year along with the 12 million barrels of oil it takes to produce them. Putting aside, for the moment, the statistic on oil, the first thing that comes to my mind is that these 'free bags' are not so free. For example, Target, the second largest retailer in the US, purchases roughly 1.8 billion bags a year. This cost, my fellow Americans, is passed on to us, the consumers, through the store's products.

The oil consumption to produce these bags is another disturbing fact to me. All this time I have been under the assumption that we were making a true effort to become less dependent on foreign oil and yet we continue to consume petroleum-based products, such as these bags, more than any other nation on the planet. Whether you are a believer in global warming or not, the truth is that each of these petroleum bags that we produce will lay in a landfill for 1,000 years. If we, as a nation, continue to consume disposable bags at our current rate of 100 billion a year, the landfills that we have today are going to rapidly fill and we will then need to create more landfills. According to the lat-



est statistics from DES, the landfills in the state of New Hampshire will be used up by 2025.

The average American family accumulates 60 plastic bags in only four trips to the grocery store. (This does not even include trips to places like Wal-Mart and Target.) What if we all, as average American families, used cloth? These bags are strong, they hold a great deal and they are inexpensive. They are also easy to purchase. Shaw's, for example, has cloth bags for \$1/bag. I have a set of 10 bags in both cars so I never have an excuse.

Also, some grocery stores, Hannaford's for example, offer discounts to those customers that use cloth.

Whether you decide to switch because it is better for the environment, or whether you now realize that those "free plastic bags" aren't actually free, it makes no difference. Using cloth bags is just the right thing to do and now *you* know "too much" not to use cloth. When the clerk asks you whether plastic is okay, I hope you say "NO" loud and strong. Besides, if I am one of the five people standing in line behind you at the grocery store, and you have to make a quick run to the parking lot, I can guarantee you that I will be smiling when you come back. I may even help you unload your cart!

For more information about plastic bags, visit [www.reusablebags.com](http://www.reusablebags.com) or [www.environment.about.com/od/recycling/a/reusable\\_bags.htm](http://www.environment.about.com/od/recycling/a/reusable_bags.htm), or visit [www.fight-globalwarming.com](http://www.fight-globalwarming.com) for more good ideas for our planet.

*Liane Kerbyson  
Hopkinton, N.H.*

The latest environmental news  
is just a mouse-click away!

Now you can receive DES press releases, media advisories and notices of just-released newsletters via email.

**New categories added.**

**Subscribe at [www.des.nh.gov/enews](http://www.des.nh.gov/enews).**

(We will *never* share your contact information with anyone, and you can unsubscribe or change your settings at any time.)

**Join today!**

# Federal agreement ensures long-term protection of the Troy Mills Landfill Site

EPA and the Department of Justice have reached a bankruptcy settlement agreement to resolve claims with Troy Mills Inc., and the bankruptcy trustee appointed to oversee the bankruptcy.

The Troy Mills Landfill Superfund site is a two-acre former drum disposal area located on a larger 270-acre parcel owned by Troy Mills in Troy. The site was used by Troy Mills to dispose of drums of hazardous substances that were generated in its manufacturing process. In September 2003, the site was listed on the Superfund National Priorities List.

Under the agreement, the bankruptcy trustee and Troy Mills agree, in exchange for a release from liability at the site, that the United States will have an allowed administrative claim against the debtor in the amount of \$14 million and be allowed to place a lien for this amount on the property. In addition, the bankruptcy trustee will grant an easement and environmental agreement to the State of New Hampshire, which will allow access to the property, establish land use restrictions to prevent exposure to contaminated groundwater and soil at the site.

"This settlement agreement marks an important milestone at the Troy Mills site," said Robert W. Varney, EPA New England regional administrator. "It ensures that the Troy Mills site will have the necessary land use restriction in place to protect human health and the environment. We look forward to continuing to work with the state and local community to implement the site's cleanup."

EPA removal actions initiated in July 2004 involved the excavation of 7,692 buried drums, the removal of 29,924 gallons of flammable liquid waste and 3,099 cubic yards of sludge,

and the excavation of 26,244 tons of heavily contaminated soil, which were transported off-site for disposal at permitted facilities. EPA's long term cleanup plan finalized in September 2005 calls for monitored natural reduction of contaminated groundwater, institutional controls, and maintenance

of the existing remediation systems such as collection trenches, a permeable soil cap, and monitoring wells.

The Troy Mills bankruptcy settlement agreement is available at [www.usdoj.gov/enrd/](http://www.usdoj.gov/enrd/). EPA's Superfund website is [epa.gov/ne/superfund/sites/](http://epa.gov/ne/superfund/sites/). ■

## Be "Air Aware" April 28-May 2

During the week of April 28, DES, EPA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration join together in celebrating Air Quality Awareness Week. The agencies hope to raise awareness about the causes and effects of air pollution, and provide information on protecting our health and keeping the air clean.

On April 30, DES and Breathe NH are sponsoring a "Clean Air Hike" up Pack Monadnock for teachers and eighth graders from Conant Middle School in Jaffrey. The group will learn about how air quality affects their health and the environment. Once on top of the mountain, students can visit the DES air monitoring station and see the real time data being recorded.

For more information about Air Quality Awareness Week, call Kathy Brockett at (603) 271-6284 or visit [www.epa.gov/airnow/airaware/](http://www.epa.gov/airnow/airaware/). Information on air quality forecasts and levels is available 24/7 at [www.airquality.nh.gov](http://www.airquality.nh.gov) to help you make informed decisions for protecting yourself against poor air quality. ■



PO Box 95  
29 Hazen Drive  
Concord, NH 03302-0095

PRSR.STD  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Concord, NH  
Permit No. 1478