

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE

State government leading-by-example to reduce energy use

Several years ago I issued an Executive Order directing state agencies to reduce energy use by 10 percent, as a way to lower state government costs, save taxpayers money and reduce the pollution that threatens the health of our citizens and our environment.

I am pleased and I am proud that the hard work and determination has paid off – and then some. According to the state's recent energy report, our concerted efforts have reduced energy use in state buildings by 16 percent per square foot, saving taxpayers \$3 million.

To meet this goal, we've formed "green teams" to promote smart energy use. Together these teams and employees across state government have developed innovative ways to reduce energy use, which are reducing costs and cutting down on pollution.

We've undertaken big projects, such as retrofitting windows and installing efficient ozone laundry facilities. We're better managing the use of state cars and purchasing more energy-efficient vehicles. And we're taking small but important little steps, such as putting timers on lights and appliances.

We have done a great job and are leading by example. But I know there is more we can do.

That is why I issued a new challenge
Governor, *continued on page 2*

COMMISSIONER'S COLUMN

The state of our lakes is a tribute to Jody



Henry David Thoreau once wrote, "A lake is a landscape's most beautiful expressive feature. It is earth's eye, on looking into which the beholder measures the depth of his own nature."

The DES family recently lost an iconic colleague, Jody Connor, who looked deeply into every lake in this state and in many ways was our own Thoreau. At the time of his death, and some 30 years prior, Jody worked as the Director of DES's Limnology Center, which he helped to establish for the purpose of protecting and ensuring the long-term quality of New Hampshire's lakes and other waterbodies.

It is in no small measure because of Jody's efforts that New Hampshire's lakes are the envy of the rest of the country, and the world for that matter. Jody had a
Commissioner's Column, continued on page 8

Concord developer receives jail time for habitual environmental abuses

In February 2009, DES was asked to assist the Concord Police Department in an investigation of alleged improper storage and disposal of solid wastes at two properties owned by local developer Kevin Guay. One of the properties, 30 Villanova Drive, is located near Penacook Lake, the drinking water supply for the city of Concord. It was also alleged that an illegal septic system discharge was occurring on the second property at 180 Clinton Street.

DES's Spill Response and Complaint Investigation Section and several DES Water Division programs assisted the Concord Police with interviews relative to the allegations. After consultation with the Attorney General's Office, criminal search warrants were executed at each property in March 2009. The spill response staff, with the assistance of DES contractor ENPRO Services, excavated and documented solid waste at both locations that included white goods, scrap metal, broken furniture, mattresses, empty paint cans, building demolition debris and household trash. The unlawful sewage discharge was documented and sampled by Sub-surface staff. The solid wastes found were alleged to have come from a property

Guay, *continued on page 2*

Assistant Commissioner Mike Walls retires

On June 30, DES Assistant Commissioner Michael Walls retired from state service after 26 years of dedicated professionalism and a career committed to public service.

Mike, who served as DES assistant commissioner since 2003, provided leadership, management, and wise counsel to the department's staff. In addition, during his tenure at DES Mike represented the state of New Hampshire as a member and subsequently as chair of the Gulf of Maine Council, where he served as a calm and constructive voice for the ecological health of the entire region.

Before coming to DES, Mike served the state at the Attorney General's Office for 16 years. In that capacity he provided counsel to numerous state agencies, including the departments of Transportation, Environmental Services, Fish & Game, and the Land and Community Heritage Investment Program. Mike was the chief of the Environmental Protection Bureau and later an associate attorney general responsible for the Environmental Protection Bureau, Consumer Protection Bureau and the Civil Bureau.

Mike's sound judgment, steady temperament, humanity and good humor will be missed by all. ■

Governor

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for state government to further cut down the use of energy and fossil fuels in state government.

In April, I issued an Executive Order that sets the goal of reducing the use of fossil fuels in state government by 25 percent compared to 2005 levels by 2025.

This goal may sound ambitious, but I believe it is achievable. We can do it by building on the good work that has already been done, and expanding our use of renewable energy while continuing to reduce our overall energy consumption. Our efforts will also focus on our management of the state fleet and how we can attain efficiencies through better management and through the use of more fuel-efficient vehicles wherever possible.

We must also look to make smart investments in our facilities that will save both money and energy.

As a state, we have been a leader in the pursuit of a new energy future and greater energy efficiency. Continuing to

reduce our energy costs will help us to provide better services to the people of our state, and this effort will also allow us to protect part of what makes New Hampshire so special – our natural resources.

Our state employees are on the front lines of this effort. Without their work and their support and innovation, we would not have been able to make the progress we have made. They will also be the best source of new ideas and creative thinking to meet this new challenge.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the Executive Order please contact State Energy Manager Karen Rantamaki at karen.rantamaki@nh.gov or call (603) 271-2698.

John H. Lynch, *Governor*

Please see the May-June 2011 issue of Environmental News for an article on the winners of the state energy efficiency awards.

Guay

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cleanup and disposal business run by Guay.

In October 2010, after a jury trial held in Merrimack County Superior Court, Guay was convicted on misdemeanor charges for the improper storage and disposal of solid waste under RSA 149-M. DES staff involved in the investigation testified at the trial.

On May 16, 2011, Guay was given suspended sentences, but was also committed to jail for one year and ordered to pay \$21,500 restitution to DES and the Concord Police for costs incurred during the investigation. A \$2,000 fine was imposed for the illegal septic system discharge and a fine of \$52,000 was assessed and suspended pending good behavior. The Attorney General's Office argued as reasons to impose a full year jail sentence Guay's prior lengthy history of non-compliance with DES regulations concerning siltation and wetlands issues, as well as his disregard for the bail conditions. ■

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DES programs honored with prestigious regional EPA awards

DES's Small Business Technical Assistance Program and the Brownfields Program were among the five groups and one individual from New Hampshire honored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recently at Boston's Faneuil Hall as EPA presented its annual Environmental Merit Awards for 2011.

Presented by EPA since 1970, the merit awards honor individuals and groups who have shown particular ingenuity and commitment in their efforts to preserve the region's environment. The winners from New Hampshire were among 56 from across New England. Awards were given in the categories of individual; business (including professional organizations); local, state or federal government; and environmental, community, academia or nonprofit organization.

This year's Environmental Merit Award Winners from DES went to:

Environmental, Community, Academia, & Non-profit Organizations Environmental Merit Award: N.H. Small Business Technical Assistance Program; Sara Johnson.

Sara Johnson and the Small Business Technical Assistance Program (SBTAP) have been instrumental in bringing greater awareness and compliance of federal and state environmental regulations to the private sector of auto body facilities in New Hampshire. SBTAP visited over 220 auto body shops to determine current compliance with the National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Area Sources rule and NH Hazardous Waste Rules. Survey results indicated that 87 percent of the shops visited did not know if the coatings they use contain one of the five hazardous air pollutants listed in the Standards and 21 percent of shops do not have exhaust booth filters. In addition, only 33 percent of shops completed the initial notification form in 2010. The form was mailed to every shop in New Hampshire and was distributed to over 415 attendees at 12 workshops hosted by SBTAP throughout the state. In addition to air emissions, hazardous waste management continues to be a concern at auto body shops. Thirty-one percent of shops visited are illegally disposing of waste solvent/thinner onto the ground, into the trash, or allowing it to evaporate. Thirty percent of the auto body shops that have an on-site thinner recycler are illegally disposing of the "sludge/pucks" in the trash. Over 70 percent of shops have failed to conduct a hazardous waste determination on waste booth filters. Only 54 percent of shops are properly recycling fluorescent lamps, while the remaining shops are illegally tossing the lamps into the trash. SBTAP works closely in partnership with the NH Automobile Dealer Association and the NH Small Business Development Center, and will continue outreach efforts through 2011, including additional site visits, publications on the manage-

ment of hazardous waste, and collecting outcome metrics for an environmental justice case study.

Governmental Award: N.H. Department of Environmental Services; Keith DuBois and Gary Lynn.

Keith DuBois and Gary Lynn are on the cutting edge of providing service and technical support in the brownfields arena. In over three years, as DES's Brownfields Program coordinator, Keith has made great strides in communicating with communities and nonprofit organizations. One of his most successful efforts has been in Berlin, a city with many brownfields sites left behind from its pulp and papermaking past. The first property



Curt Spalding, EPA Region 1 administrator (center), poses with Gary Lynn, left, and Keith DuBois, right, holding their EPA Merit Awards.

moving toward success is Notre Dame High School, which is being redeveloped for elderly housing and is expected to open this next year. While Keith is focused on sites contaminated by hazardous substances, Gary Lynn's expertise is petroleum. He has details on almost every property in New Hampshire that is contaminated with petroleum. In 2008 and 2009, DES received funding to assess properties contaminated with petroleum. Keith and Gary helped establish the New Hampshire Brownfield Steering Group, a committee of municipal, planning, state, and private investments in brownfield redevelopment efforts, whose effectiveness is unmatched. One example is the Wausau/Groveton Paper Mill, a 103-acre site that was once the economic and geographic heart of Groveton. Gary and Keith worked with the town and regional planning organization to come up with a redevelopment plan. What started off as a daunting project has now resulted in assessment work, cleanup and a serious investment and project plan for commercial agricultural reuse of the site. Working together, Keith and Gary provide solid technical expertise that ensures these properties are assessed, cleaned up and available for redevelopment.

More information on all EPA Environmental Merit Award Winners from this year and past years is available at <http://www.epa.gov/region1/ra/ema/index.html>. For more information on the DES Small Business Technical Program, the Brownfields Program and other outstanding DES programs, please see www.des.nh.gov. ■

REWARDING EXCELLENCE

State's school bus association honored

On June 14, 2011, the New Hampshire School Transportation Association (NHSTA) was presented a Breathe Easy Leadership Award from the Northeast Diesel Collaborative for its cooperative efforts with DES to conduct the School Bus Idling Reduction Campaign. NHSTA is the state's trade association of school districts and private bus contractors providing transportation for the state's school children. In January 2002, NHSTA and DES partnered to initiate the campaign to reduce diesel exhaust and protect school children and bus drivers. This effort is still going strong today.

The campaign asks school bus providers and drivers to take a "no idling" pledge and/or renew previous pledges every two years. With the Association's support and encouragement, 80 percent of school bus providers have taken the pledge and most have idling reduction policies fully in place.

In presenting the award, Mike Fitzgerald, of the DES Air Resources Division, stated, "NHSTA has been an invaluable player in helping DES to promote the Idling Reduction Campaign and 'no idling' message to school bus drivers, transportation managers, school officials and the school community in general. This partnership has enabled us to better protect school children and bus drivers from exposure to harmful diesel exhaust emissions."



New Hampshire School Transportation Association President Katie Scholes with the Breathe Easy Leadership Award and Mike Fitzgerald, administrator, DES Air Resources Division Technical Services Bureau, at the recent award ceremony.

The Northeast Diesel Collaborative is a partnership between the EPA, state environmental agencies, and private and non-profit groups. The Collaborative recently recognized six organizations for their exemplary work to reduce toxic diesel emissions through its inaugural Breathe Easy recognition awards. Honors were given to agencies and organizations from New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Maine, New Jersey, New York and Puerto Rico.

The Collaborative's "Leadership Award" recognizes NHSTA as "an organization whose actions best reflect the goals of the collaborative, including the retrofit and replacement of older diesel engines, the reduction of idling from diesel engines, the creation of education and outreach opportunities for diesel emission reduction strategies, and the promotion of cleaner fuels above and beyond local, state and federal requirements."

For more information about the Northeast Diesel Collaborative Breathe Easy Recognition Program, please visit www.northeastdiesel.org. For more information on the School Bus Idling Reduction Campaign in New Hampshire, please visit www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/air/tsb/tps/msp/irc/school_bus.htm or contact Jessica Morton at (603) 271-1390 or jessica.morton@des.nh.gov. ■

DES recognized by Toastmasters Int'l

DES was recently presented with a "Sponsor Award" by Toastmasters International. This award officially recognizes businesses that display outward support of the Toastmasters International program. The award was based on the support DES has provided to the Karner Blue Toastmasters Club in Concord.

The mission of every Toastmasters club is "to provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which every member has the opportunity to develop communication and leadership skills, which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth." To assure that the club is open to all state employees, officially this club is sponsored by the state's Bureau of Education and Training; however, DES has hosted and maintained the club since its inception in 2007. DES also uses the experience of the members for practice sessions prior to speaking engagements, and members often provide Toastmaster-style feedback after events. Members of the club even work with DES Commissioner Tom Burack when he has speaking events such as our "town meetings."

In January 2011, the Karner Blue club helped to launch the commissioner's "Speechcraft" program. Speechcraft is an eight-week Toastmaster course that takes public speaking skills to another level. Fourteen state employees have completed this program thus far. This program hopes to train another six to eight staff before the end of the year and continue the program in 2012.

Commissioner Burack noted, "Toastmasters has helped a number of our staff more effectively communicate DES's goals and promote the value of environmental stewardship through the guidance and assistance of the Toastmasters' program." ■

2011 BIA/DES Waste Management Seminar

The biannual Business and Industry Association of New Hampshire/DES Waste Management Seminar was held recently in Manchester. More than 235 people attended the seminar, which included engineering and hydrogeological consultants, contractors, site owners and laboratory technicians.

DES speakers were joined by presenters from the NH Department of Information Technology; US Geological Survey; University of New Hampshire; Goldberg Zoino and Assoc.; Hager Richter Geosciences; Maine Drilling and Blasting; and Brightfields Development. Professor Brian Brenner of Tufts University presented an ethics workshop.

Post-seminar comments were very positive, including "This is always a great event." ■

International Coastal Cleanup Days

Friday, September 16

Student Cleanup Day
in Rye and Hampton.

Saturday, September 17

Int'l Coastal Cleanup Day
Various locations along the
New Hampshire Seacoast
and the world.

To volunteer in
New Hampshire, contact the
Blue Ocean Society at
info@blueoceansociety.org or
(603) 431-0260.

STAMP OUT INVASIVES

Invasive plant control underway at Odiorne

This summer, volunteers from the New Hampshire Surfrider Foundation will get their hands dirty to help protect Odiorne Point State Park in Rye. A series of weekend work days coordinated by the DES Coastal Program are being held throughout the summer and early fall.

Invasive shrubs, vines and trees are destroying sensitive coastal habitats and taking over trails at Odiorne by choking, shading out and toppling native plants. Invasive plant species are particularly aggressive, nonnative plants that grow quickly and out-compete native species.

Kevin Lucey, habitat restoration coordinator at the Coastal Program, leads the service days, providing instruction on how to identify, remove and dispose of the invasive plants. The group will focus on hand-pulling Oriental bittersweet, Japanese barberry, autumn olive and honeysuckle from a parcel near the boat launch at Odiorne. Hand tools are provided through the Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve tool lending library.

This control effort builds upon work already being done to control invasive plants at other areas of Odiorne by the Coastal Watershed Invasive Plant Partnership, a partnership of 11 organizations committed to preserving the natural ecology of the coastal watershed from invasive plants. The Partnership focuses on approximately 30 terrestrial invasive plant species that are prohibited for sale and distribution in the state.

"Aside from increased human development, invasive plants are one of the biggest threats to New Hampshire's biodiversity," said Lucey. "Without assistance from groups like the Surfrider Foundation, Odiorne Point State Park will become a monoculture of invasive plants."

Given the small size of New Hampshire's coastline, real estate for rare species is in short supply. Odiorne is home to eight "exemplary natural communities" and eight plant species that are classified as rare or threatened and especially vulnerable. The Rockingham County Conservation District recently received a \$65,000 grant from the DES Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund for removal of invasive plants from the coastal salt pond marsh and a bayberry beach plum maritime shrub land. The coastal salt pond marsh is New Hampshire's only occurrence of this habitat type.

To further address the invasive plant problem, the Coastal Watershed Invasive Plant Partnership also maps problem areas, develops invasive control plans, coordinates with volunteers to clear invasive plants, and hires contractors. Hand-pulling, mechanical pulling, and in some cases herbicides are all methods used to control invasive plants. However, the most effective method of controlling invasive plants is to prevent new infestations before they become a problem—a strategy dubbed early detection, rapid response. This technique has been used for the past three years at Odiorne to address a small population of perennial pepperweed, a recent invader with only three populations found so far in New Hampshire.

For more information, please contact Kevin Lucey at (603) 559-0026 or kevin.lucey@des.nh.gov; or visit www.des.nh.gov, click on the A-Z List and choose "Coastal Watershed Invasive Plant Partnership." ■



Surfrider volunteers at Odiorne State Park.

HERE'S TO MILES NOT DRIVEN!

Commute Green New Hampshire a success!

Commute Green New Hampshire 2011 was a huge success, despite despicable weather. This year we had a state wide goal of *not* driving 50,000 miles. We surpassed that goal and collectively did *not* drive 64,731 miles. This is equal to taking six cars off the road for an entire year and saving \$50,000 in commuting costs. This distance is equal to 10.5 round trips from Concord to Los Angeles.



At left: Vince Perelli marks where he biked in from on the map. Above: Fred McGarry points to the coffee that he picked up on his way in from Deerfield.

As a state, we achieved this success by carpooling 37,691 miles, bicycling 5,056 miles, walking 1,042 miles, using transit 13,616 miles, and telecommuting 7,326 miles. DES made its contribution to the event by *not* driving 2,335 miles. Great job DES — keep up the good work!

Remember, we'll be having Fossil Fuel Free Fridays the third Friday of every month through October. ■

HONORING JODY CONNOR

Do you love our lakes, too?

Have you ever wondered how a state with over 800 public lakes and ponds and eight aquatic biologists can evaluate water quality? It is done through a network of volunteers called the DES Volunteer Lake Assessment Program. Initiated in 1985, VLAP establishes a volunteer-driven lake sampling program to assist DES in evaluating lake water quality, and provides volunteer monitors and lake residents with reports on lake health. This cooperative effort allows biologists and lake associations to make educated decisions regarding the future of New Hampshire's lakes and ponds.

During 2010, approximately 500 volunteers throughout the state sampled a total of 182 lakes, and approximately 1,100 water quality monitoring stations at those lakes. In addition, the VLAP program generated approximately 15,000 total sample results in 2010. The sampling efforts of the volunteer monitors supplement the sampling and assessment efforts of DES, saving the state personnel and travel costs. Only through the help of volunteers can such a volume of sampling be accomplished throughout the state. For information on joining VLAP, please contact Sara Steiner, VLAP coordinator, at (603) 271-2658 or sara.steiner@des.nh.gov. ■

EXPAND YOUR MIND

“Science Café” debuts in New Hampshire

New Hampshire is joining a national grassroots movement aimed at bringing more science into public discussion of scientific topics, with the launch of Science Café New Hampshire. The first café was held at The Barley House in Concord on the topic of climate change.

The free monthly gatherings at The Barley House in Concord involve loosely organized discussions among several invited scientists and the general public, with snacks, drinks and plenty of back-and-forth available throughout the evening. It is modeled after dozens of similar gatherings run around the country and the world by universities, colleges and professional groups, but this one has even more of a grassroots beginning.

Science Café New Hampshire was created by Sarah Eck of Hopkinton, a Ph.D. in biochemistry, and Dan Marcek of Brookline, a veteran of the computer industry. They felt a shortage of opportunities for the general public to learn about, and talk about, the science and engineering of controversial topics that will affect life in New Hampshire, whether it be climate change or digital privacy or the future of food.

The next Café will be held Wednesday, September 21, 7:30 p.m., at The Barley House; the topic is “vaccines.” To learn more about the discussion, please go to <http://www.sciencecafenh.org/>. For other information, contact Dan Marcek at (603) 801-6943, marcek@gmail.com, or Sarah Eck (603) 728-8243, sarah-meck@gmail.com. ■

The above is courtesy of Science Café moderator David Brooks, a science writer at the Nashua Telegraph.

FIRST IN THE NATION

State's Coastal Beaches: 1st in the Nation in Water Quality by NRDC

Hampton Beach State Park Beach is a Superstar Beach; Rated the Cleanest Beach in Nation

The Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) has named New Hampshire coastal beaches first in beach water quality. The NRDC has published its 21st Annual "Testing the Waters" report analyzing beach data reported to the US Environmental Protection Agency by coastal and Great Lakes states. The NRDC report gave a new "Superstar Beach" rating to Hampton Beach State Park in New Hampshire and to two beaches in Delaware and to one in Minnesota. These beaches not only received the highest (5-star) rating, but had perfect testing results for the past three years, indicating a history of very good water quality.

Only 1 percent of 1,138 samples collected at coastal New Hampshire beaches during 2010 exceeded the state standard of 104 counts of Enterococci/100 ml of water. New Hampshire again ranked first among the 30 states that are part of the EPA's beach monitoring program.

"The NRDC's high marks for New Hampshire's coastal beaches are testament to the collaborative efforts of DES, NH Parks and Recreation and the local communities that host the beaches," said DES Commissioner Tom Burack. "It is not by accident that New Hampshire has excellent water quality and a high quality of life. It takes a combination of dedication, good public policy, and resources on the state and local levels to achieve these outstanding results."

Other beaches in the report that scored high marks were a 5 star rating for Wallis Sands Beach at Wallis Road and a 4 star rating for Wallis Sands Beach State Park.

"Certainly, this designation reaffirms the cooperation that is taken to provide a clean beach experience. We appreciate the Department of Environmental Service's efforts in helping to keep our waters clean," stated Commissioner George Bald, Department of Resources and Economic Development (DRED). Part of Bald's agency, the Division of Parks and Recreation is responsible for the management of this area. "Hampton Beach State Park hosts hundreds of thousands of visitors a year, and we are proud to offer them a Superstar Beach."

New Hampshire residents should be proud of our coastal



The NRDC report gave a new "Superstar Beach" rating to Hampton Beach State Park.

water quality and strive to maintain these levels. Simple steps everyone can take throughout the coastal watershed will prevent beach pollution. Everyone can help by picking up pet waste, maintaining septic systems, putting swim diapers with plastic covers on babies, and keeping trash off the beach. Together, everyone can work to maintain New Hampshire's top rated beaches.

The NHDES Beach Inspection Program monitors the water at New Hampshire public swimming beaches from late May until early September. Personnel collect water for analysis at coastal and freshwater beaches. The water samples are analyzed for fecal bacteria to protect public health. For more information, visit the programs website: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/beaches/index.htm>. Updates on current beach advisories and warnings can be found on the DES website, www.des.nh.gov under the Alerts button. People also can sign up to receive notifications about beach advisories at the DES ENews subscription service, <http://des.nh.gov/media/enews/index.htm>, or by following the NHDES Beaches Twitter feed at: http://twitter.com/NHDES_Beaches.

The Division of Parks and Recreation is one of four divisions of the Department of Resources and Economic Development. To learn more about the Division of Parks and Recreation, visit www.nhstateparks.org or call (603) 271-3556.

To review the NRDC report, visit: http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/jdevine/nrdc_annual_beach_report_whats.html?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+switchboard_jdevine+%28Switchboard%3A+Jon+Devine%27s+Blog%29. ■

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Commissioner's Column,

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way of making complex scientific issues so simple that everyone could understand how their actions play a role and why they need to get involved. One day many years ago, a state legislator asked Jody to explain to him how watersheds worked and why they are important. Jody told him to imagine a watershed as a funnel that we all live in, and because all rainfall that hits the sides of the funnel eventually ends up at the bottom of the funnel, practically everything we do in our daily lives has a collective impact on water quality in that watershed, no matter how far it may seem that we are from a waterbody. Shortly thereafter, the legislator appeared at a legislative hearing brandishing a large plastic funnel labeled as a watershed, and explained to his fellow legislators that because we all live in watersheds, sources of contamination like construction activities, road runoff, fertilizers and septic systems all have an impact on water quality, so they need to be properly managed. This ability to teach using simple imagery, to help the public look into the water and see their own and others' impacts in the reflection, made Jody a powerful and persuasive force in helping to protect New Hampshire's lakes for the future.

Because he grew up on New Hampshire's lakes and appreciated them for all of their values, when he saw the impacts of human activities on these natural wonders, he took action, often with legislative support, to create many of the programs and approaches that are in place today to protect and restore water quality in the state's waterbodies. The list is long and includes monitoring for the effects of acid rain, beach inspections, biomonitoring, boat inspections (to prevent sewage discharges), sampling for mercury and toxic cyanobacteria, as well as the Clean Lakes Program, the Exotic Species Program, the Lakes Management and Protection Program and the Volunteer Lakes Assessment Program.

At a recent presentation in the Lakes Region, Jody concluded his talk with the following plea to the audience: "Get involved! Yes, YOU can make a difference! There are a variety of ways to help keep New Hampshire's water quality great, including: participating in a local volunteer monitoring program on a lake, pond or river near you; becoming active in a local lake association, conservation commission or planning board; being a good land steward on your own property; staying informed on current issues and evolving solutions; and reporting problems to appropriate officials so that they do not persist or grow." These words are good counsel for all of us.

Jody will not soon be forgotten here at DES, and his positive impact on our state will be felt for generations to come. The depth of his nature was as deep as the deepest of New Hampshire's lakes, and every bit as pure. Jody was an ex-

TO HONOR JODY CONNOR'S LEGACY

DES is seeking ideas for one or more living memorials to Jody Connor and his work. If you have such an idea or would like to support such an effort, please send me your thoughts by Labor Day 2011 at thomas.burack@des.nh.gov.

Front page photo of Jody Connor is by Rick Berry on Jody's favorite lake, Lake Winnisquam.

tremely humble person, never seeking public accolades, although he was certainly deserving. Those of us who had the privilege of being his students, colleagues and friends will carry on Jody's work knowing that it's what he would have expected of us. And New Hampshire's lakes, those eyes of the earth into which Jody gazed so intently, will remain our landscape's most expressive features thanks to what he did to love and care for them.

Tom Burack, *Commissioner*



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