

Northeast Assistance & Pollution Prevention News

FEATURE ARTICLE

Northeast States Take Action to Address Climate Change

What is climate change?

Climate change refers to unstable weather patterns caused by increases in the average global temperature. There is a consensus among climate scientists that these changes result from increased atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide (CO_2) , methane (CH_4) , nitrous oxide (N_2O) ,

and other heat-trapping gases. These greenhouse gases form a blanket of pollution that stays in the atmosphere and may be the fundamental cause of climate instability characterized by severe weather events, such as storms, droughts, floods, heat waves, and sea level rise.

Is climate change real?

According to the Massachusetts Office of Commonwealth Development, atmo-

spheric concentrations of carbon

dioxide are the highest they have been in 140,000 years, with concentrations rising from 290 parts per million (ppm) in 1870 to 373 ppm today. A consensus of climate change scientists agrees that the increasing concentrations of greenhouse gases (GHGs) are causing a rise in average global temperatures. Whether or not this rise in temperature is fully human-

induced, temperature records are being broken frequently. For example, 2003 was the third warmest year on record, following 2002, while 1998 was the warmest year ever recorded.

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THE NORTHEAST WASTE MANAGEMENT OFFICIALS' ASSOCIATION (NEWMOA)

NEWMOA is a non-profit, non-partisan interstate governmental association. The membership is composed of state environmental agency directors of the pollution prevention, hazardous and solid waste, and waste site cleanup programs in Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island, and Vermont.

NEWMOA's mission is to develop and sustain an effective partnership of states to explore, develop, promote, and implement environmentally sound solutions for the reduction and management of materials and waste, and for the remediation of contaminated sites, in order to achieve a clean and healthy environment. The group fulfills this mission by providing a variety of support services that:

- facilitate communication and cooperation among member states and between the states and the US EPA; and
- support the efficient sharing of state and federal program resources to help avoid duplication of effort and to facilitate development of regional approaches to solving critical environmental problems in the region.

NEWMOA's Assistance and P2 program was established in 1989 to enhance the capabilities of the state and local government environmental officials in the Northeast to implement effective multi-media source reduction and assistance programs to promote sustainability and improvement in public health and the environment. The program is called the Northeast Assistance and Pollution Prevention Roundtable (NEA&P2 Roundtable). This program involves the following components:

- NEA&P2 Roundtable meetings and workgroups
- · Regional information resource center and databases
- · Research and publications
- Training events
- · Regional policy coordination and development.

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Northeast Assistance & Pollution Prevention News

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Addressing Climate Change

Continued from page 1

The International Panel for Climate Change (IPCC), a group sponsored by the United Nations and the World Meteorological Organization, representing more than 2,000 leading climate scientists, predicts an average temperature increase of 5-9 degrees Fahrenheit by 2100, although a wider range of outcomes is possible. To put this number in perspective, only about 9 degrees Fahrenheit separates the world at the beginning of the twenty-first century from the world at the end of the last Ice Age, more than 10,000 years ago.

What could be the impacts of climate change in the Northeast?

Many states are concerned about climate change worldwide because, if it continues, it will bring significant global humanitarian, environmental, and economic impacts. While there is some scientific uncertainty as to the magnitude of these potential changes, there is broad agreement that they would affect many aspects of daily life.

There would be significant impacts in the Northeast. For example, the New England Regional Assessment (NERA) predicts that if climate trends continue as projected, the weather patterns in Boston at the end of this century would look more like those now found in Richmond, Virginia or Atlanta, Georgia. Climate change on this scale would have wideranging consequences. For more information on NERA, visit http://www.necci.sr.unh.edu/. The following provides some examples of how these changes may affect the region:

Weather events

Weather extremes, already a characteristic of New England, are likely to become more frequent and cause more damage under a changing climate. While no one storm is directly attributable to climate change, an increasing number of such events could become more commonplace, severely interrupting life and economic activity. For example, downed power lines, overburdened septic systems, and travel delays are all costs that would have to be borne by citizens.

Coastal impacts

All coastal states would lose beachfront in the coming years as climate change causes rising sea levels and stronger coastal storms. A 5-9 degrees Fahrenheit increase in global temperatures is forecast to double the rate of sea level rise from 11 inches over the last century to 22 inches in this century.

Economic impacts

Climate change would have impacts on important industries, such as tourism and agriculture, which rely on the strength and vitality of natural resources.

Water resources

Higher temperatures would accelerate evaporation and cause drier conditions and droughts, placing pressure on water resources, which are already stressed by regional growth. Water shortages would, in turn, alter the natural fish populations in rivers, streams, lakes, and ponds, and saltwater could intrude in coastal fresh water supplies.

Fish and ocean impacts

A warmer, saltier ocean and changing coastal currents would alter coastal and marine ecosystems, affecting the distribution, growth rate, and survival of commercial fish, shellfish, and lobster stocks.

Human health and comfort

While CO2 itself is non-toxic, its warming effects cause hotter weather with more frequent and severe heat waves, posing multiple health risks that include a rise in heat-related illness, more frequent periods of harmful outdoor air quality, and the spread of certain diseases.

Natural resources

Climate change could have serious impacts on diverse ecosystems and native species and may encourage the spread of non-native species. It would also likely alter the natural range of many different plants and animals. Over the long term, warming could intensify droughts and damage forest ecosystems.

There is growing scientific concern regarding the contribution of human activity to climate change. For example, the International Panel for Climate Change (IPCC) states in its Third Assessment Report that "there is new and stronger evidence that most of the warming observed over the past 50 years is attributable to human activities." The panel also concludes that if no action is taken, average rates of warming by the year 2100 will "be greater than any seen in the last 10,000 years." The New England Regional Assessment (NERA) report asserts that, "There is growing evidence that much of the climate change experienced over the past half of the twentieth century is attributable to human factors."

In 2001, the New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers signed an agreement to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2010 and to 10 percent below 1990 levels by 2020, with the goal of an overall 75 to 80 percent decrease from 2003 levels.

Source: http://www.mass.gov/ocd/-"Massachusetts Climate Protection Plan."

The following sections provide descriptions of the actions that several states in the Northeast – Connecticut, Maine, and Massachusetts – are taking to address climate

change. This Feature Article also includes an interview with the Deputy Director of a regional non-governmental organization, called Clean Air-Cool Planet, about their efforts to engage the private sector in addressing climate change and energy efficiency.

CONNECTICUT

There is no doubt in Connecticut that the climate is changing. Not only have temperatures increased 1.7 degrees Fahrenheit over the past 100 years, but state agencies have forged a new climate of collaboration. Since the adoption of the New England Governors/ Eastern Canadian Premiers (NEG/ECP) Climate Change Action Plan in August 2001, a tight inter-agency network has made great progress in laying the groundwork for reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Connecticut.

The state's climate change initiative is directed by the Governor's Steering Committee on Climate Change, which is comprised of the commissioners of the agencies that have a large influence on the state's carbon footprint: Environmental Protection, Public Utility Commission, Transportation, Administrative Services, the Office of Policy and Management, and the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund. Staff from these agencies form the Climate Change Coordinating Committee and carry out the day-to-day planning, analysis, coordination, and implementation of greenhouse gas reduction measures for the state. Two members of the CT DEP Pollution Prevention Office participate directly in these efforts and are working to come up with solutions that reduce greenhouse gases in Connecticut.

In the past two years, Connecticut's climate change initiative has made the following progress:

- An October 2002 "Climate Change Action Plan Summit" of key state agencies to establish a framework for the development of a Connecticut Climate Change Action Plan.
- A stakeholder process to develop greenhouse gas reduction actions for Connecticut to meet the NEG/ ECP targets of 1990 levels by 2010, 10 percent below that by 2020, and 75 – 85 percent decrease longterm. Over 80 organizations participated in the 9month process, including businesses, non-profit organizations, state and local government agencies, academic institutions, and the general public.
- The development of Connecticut Greenhouse Gas Inventory 1990 –2000, August 2003.
- A report detailing 55 actions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the state: "Connecticut Climate

- Change Stakeholder Dialogue: Recommendations to the Governor's Steering Committee," January 2004.
- The Governor's endorsement of 38 of these actions for immediate implementation.
- A website that serves as a clearinghouse for climate change information in the state: www.ctclimatechange.com
- Executive Order 32, an aggressive commitment to purchase clean energy for all state government facilities (20 percent clean energy by 2010, 50 percent by 2020, and 100 percent by 2050).
- Act Concerning Climate Change, passed by the General Assembly in May 2004. This act codifies the NEG/ECP goals as state greenhouse reduction goals and requires further planning and reporting on climate change action.
- An Act Concerning Clean Cars, passed by the General Assembly in May 2004, which adopts the California emissions standards for light duty motor vehicles sold in Connecticut starting with model year 2008. This was one of the 55 actions recommended by stakeholders.
- An Act Concerning Alternative Fuel Vehicles, passed by the General Assembly in May 2004. This Act exempts hybrid vehicles rated at 40 miles per gallon (mpg) or greater from state sales tax and extends incentives for alternative fuel vehicles. This addresses one of the 55 actions recommended by stakeholders.
- An Act Concerning Energy Efficiency, passed by the General Assembly in May 2004, which establishes energy efficiency standards for a variety of heating, cooling, and other types of products. This was one of the 55 actions recommended by stakeholders.
- Draft of the 2005 Connecticut Climate Change Action Plan, which includes deeper analysis of economic, public health, and environmental benefits of some of the 55 stakeholder recommendations.

The state agency collaborative has worked effectively with many non-governmental organizations, resulting in impressive initial progress on implementation of the recommendations in the state action plan. Some are new initiatives, such as the development of a clean energy choice for Connecticut utility customers to go into effect in the first quarter of 2005, a pilot project to use biodiesel fuel for space heating at a local university, and a Connecticut science center collaborative to integrate climate science and solutions into programming at the state's science centers and museums. Other efforts build on established programs, such as increasing the purchase of locally grown food, the

preservation of agricultural and forested land, the construction of "green" buildings, and the purchase of environmentally friendly products by state agencies. In addition, Connecticut continues to coordinate with northeastern states to develop a regional greenhouse gas registry and a regional cap and trade program for carbon emissions.

In addition to state level action, several CT communities are working locally to reduce their carbon footprint. These efforts include:

- The Town of Guilford recently hosted a workshop,
 "Climate Change Its Impact on Shoreline Communities.
 A Management Workshop for Municipal Officials."
 This was the first workshop in CT devoted to
 addressing the impacts of the changing climate
 (adaptation rather than mitigation). Participants
 heard about projections for sea level rise and its
 impact on natural resources, coastal land use and
 zoning, insurance, and economic development.
- Sixteen towns in CT have joined the international Cities for Climate Protection program. These towns are conducting GHG inventories and taking action to reduce emissions.
- The City of New Haven has joined other towns, faith communities, and the State of Connecticut to commit to purchase 20 percent clean energy by the year 2010.
 So far, these commitments convert over 100 Giga Watt hours (GWh) of electricity to clean energy by 2010.

For more information visit: www.ctclimatechange.com.

MAINE

Maine now has its own state-based plan to reduce climatealtering pollution. Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Dawn Gallagher, Governor John Baldacci, and Representative Ted Koffman (D-Bar Harbor) highlighted the significance of "A Climate Action Plan for Maine," with its 54 recommended actions and the extraordinary collaborative effort that made it a reality.

The Governor noted that, with Representative Koffman as its champion, "Maine was the first state in the nation to adopt a greenhouse gas law." It "recognized the detrimental effects that greenhouse gases have on our atmosphere, our people's health, and the health of our industries." The statute directed that a plan be developed to enable the state to meet the reduction goals set for 2010, 2020, and over the longer term. Maine's Climate Action Plan was developed with the expertise and input of more than 100 individuals and organizations. The Department of Envi-



NE Assistance & P2 News Interview with Bob Sheppard, Deputy Director of Clean Air - Cool Planet

Clean Air-Cool Planet (CA-CP) is a leading organization in the Northeast dedicated to finding and promoting solutions to global warming. Its mission is to create partnerships to implement solutions to climate change and build constituencies for effective climate policies and actions. CA-CP partners with campuses, communities, and companies throughout the region to help reduce their carbon emissions. It works to build support for the implementation and strengthening of the New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers' Regional Climate Change Action Plan. CA-CP is a science-based, non-partisan, 501(c) 3 non-profit organization.

The following is a summary of a recent interview of Bob Sheppard by Terri Goldberg, NEWMOA. Bob is the CA-CP Deputy Director and has been with them for about four years. He leads their business assistance and outreach program. He works closely with companies in the region to promote greenhouse gas reductions and energy efficiency. In particular, he has been working closely with such companies as Shaw's Supermarkets, Timberland, and Green Mountain Roasters to help them implement their targets as they make formal or informal agreements to commit to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Clean Air-Cool Planet provides workshops and direct assistance to companies to develop energy efficiency, renewable energy portfolios, production reengineering, and programs designed to lower energy use and reduce waste and pollution. CA-CP also promotes the success of these efforts by helping companies communicate internally, with shareholders, with suppliers and vendors, and with the public on the successes. Bob is also involved with bringing partner companies together to talk about common issues and interests.

For more information visit: www.cleanair-coolplanet.org.

Q: What do you see as the most promising opportunities in this part of the US for addressing climate change?

A: I am particularly encouraged by what is happening at the state level — the recent actions taken by Connecticut, Maine, and Massachusetts and the efforts of the Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management (NESCAUM) and the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). Clean Air-Cool Planet has been helping with recruiting companies in Maine to commit to making GHG reductions as part of the effort to meet the targets established by the state.

Overall new players are lining up to talk about sustainable practices, not just companies that are known for being green and have been on record and beating the drum for a long time, like Ben and Jerry's. Now other companies are stepping forward to adopt a role in sustainable practices. Companies like Staples, Timberland, Shaw's, Poland Spring, Oakhurst Dairy, Green Mountain Coffee are committing to making serious changes in their energy use.

One of our partners, Harbec Plastics, is a good example. CA-CP recently released a case study on this firm

(http://www.cleanair-coolplanet.org/information/pdf/ Harbec_case_study.pdf). They are a small 120 to 150 person injection molding company in upstate New York. Harbec makes small plastic parts for their customers, including automotive, sporting goods, and medical and office products manufacturers. They are a great example of what a small company can do. The business owner was frustrated by the high cost of electricity as well as the brown outs and power spikes, which were affecting production. When the electricity went out they would lose thousands of dollars worth of products. He decided to comprehensively examine all of their energy options. They decided to install a series of gas-fired micro-turbines onsite to more completely control their power. The firm integrated this with various green building practices, including the use of radiant heating and natural lighting throughout the building. They also instituted changes in their equipment to use less energy and developed new markets for waste materials. When they first started out their efforts, Harbec's owner Bob Bechtold went to about 20 banks to ask for financing, and he kept getting turned down

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until finally he was able to convince lenders that the combination of energy conservation, a more efficient factory, and on-site electric generation was in the firm's long term interest. The results are very exciting for them. They now have predictability in their energy costs and supply. They are eating their competitors' lunch. These initiatives have allowed them to be competitive in an industry that has gone offshore.

Q: What is motivating these companies?

A: The bottom line is the first motivator for these companies, like most businesses. There are companies that have climate champions on staff or those that have strong environmentally responsible staff and management. However, many businesses these days are operating on very low margins and need to do what they can to remain competitive. Their overall goal is bottom line-oriented. For example, Timberland did an energy audit at their headquarters building and examined lights, motors, and drivers. They were able to invest in a relighting project and to upgrade the lighting in a warehouse. By taking advantage of utility rebates they saw a positive return on their investment in 11 months. There aren't many investments that can produce that kind of return. In another example, Verizon invested about \$25 million across the board in energy efficiency upgrades to lighting, motors, and drives. They showed a return on this investment in excess of \$20 million in one year and about \$25 million in another year.

For service-oriented companies, the bottom line is key. For manufacturing companies, they are interested in address greenhouse gas emissions more directly. Some of them understand that they might be subject to mandatory reductions in the future and are trying to position themselves now to address the issue. United Technologies, for example, sees this as a risk avoidance strategy. They are now looking at measuring, monitoring, and managing their carbon emissions. There are a growing number of businesses in the Northeast that are starting to take notice of the issues and take action to address them.

Q: What are the key challenges for the private sector on climate change in this region?

A: That's a tough question. The answer depends on where the company is and how they are owned. Some companies are facing stockholder initiatives and have to address their shareholder's concerns. The toughest thing that I hear from my contacts is keeping energy and environmental issues on the radar screen for management. They know the issues are

important, but it can be daunting to keep them in perspective with all the other issues facing a company. It is sometimes difficult convincing management that these issues are a priority and need a continuous focus. Clean Air - Cool Planet and other groups help to keep the issue on the radar screen for companies. We are sometimes asked to come in and talk with management about the issues because it is sometimes helpful to have an outside third party provide the message, not just the internal champion.

The same challenge applies in the public sector. It is hard for some government officials to keep a perspective on energy and environmental issues. For folks in cities and towns, you have to address voters, opinion leaders, and a mixed political atmosphere on climate. There is a need to keep the issues up front so the audience of residents, city counselors, and others understand the scope of the problem and what is needed to address it.

For example, transportation is a major contributor of greenhouse gas emissions and ozone causing air pollution. Keene, NH has recently negotiated a middle-of-the-road approach to traffic on the western side of town. They were talking about new construction of bridges and exits. But because the city had a planner, who did his homework on transportation planning and pollution and climate, they have decided on an alternative path recommending the use of roundabouts instead of exit ramps and traffic lights. Research has shown roundabouts can move traffic with less congestion and so are relatively energy efficient. The planners really examined their options and considered the environmental impacts of their decision. They also used performance contracting and examined low hanging fruit to get the biggest bang for the buck of their transportation dollars.

Many communities have been able to use performance contracting to do energy efficiency remodeling in buildings without any capital outlay, and more and more are seeing the value over the long term in constructing green buildings and using green strategies for renovating buildings around the region.

Overall, you need to keep a clear perspective on the issue. Keep your audience in mind— understand who has to approve, identify what are the best practices, understand the future directions, and develop a clear plan. Step-by-step, we can all accomplish reductions in pollution and the threat of global warming.

ronmental Protection coordinated the effort and authored the final draft. State legislators now have the opportunity to review the Plan and its implementation.

"I fully expect that implementation will take place over the next two years and that we will see several different approaches," said Gallagher. "Some of the actions have already begun, and we may undertake others through normal program activity. Some measures may require us to develop new rules or the work of several legislative committees to craft the necessary bills. In addition, there are a few issues that need to be more fully examined, and I look forward to full participation on the part of interested folks."

Commissioner Gallagher pointed out that four Working Groups (Transportation & Land Use; Buildings, Facilities & Manufacturing; Agriculture & Forestry; Energy & Solid Waste) formulated the recommendations that comprise the Plan. As a result, the measures cover a broad range of activities: from adopting California tailpipe emissions standards to encouraging anti-idling practices; from improving electrical efficiency in manufacturing to improving residential building codes; from waste-to-energy initiatives to state green power purchases; and from organic farming to increased stocking of faster growing trees. The Plan is available at: www.maine.gov/dep.

Stressing a key strength of the Plan, Governor Baldacci said: "Most of the recommended actions are expected to produce significant co-benefits. Of particular significance are those that will have a positive impact on human health and those that are expected to promote economic growth and development."

In 2003, Maine became the first state to enact the NEGC/ECP Climate Action Plan goals into statute. Part of Maine's Climate Change law directs the Department to develop agreements with businesses and non-profit organizations to accomplish these goals. In the fall of 2004 DEP launched the Governor's Carbon Challenge, a voluntary carbon emission reduction program. Participants will sign an agreement and submit annual progress reports. The reports will include progress to date, reduction methods, activity production index, and future plans for reduction. The program includes the following elements:

- Assistance from DEP will be available throughout the entire process.
- Participants, with the DEP's help, will use their first year in the program to calculate their base year emissions (1990 or first full year of available data).
- Participants that sign on in 2004 will begin by

calculating their base year. Then, during 2005 they will calculate their actual emissions from 2004 and report this information to the DEP in January 2006.

There are a number of benefits of the program:

- Reduction in the state's impact on climate change allowing Maine to lead by example for other states and regions.
- Participants realizing reductions in other regulated pollutants.
- State recognition for high achievers at Annual Awards Programs.
- Practical experience measuring and tracking direct emissions reductions that may qualify for reduction credits in future regional or national programs.
- Savings in time and money while lessening impact on the environment.
- Networking opportunities among all participants and state assistance providers.
- Recognition of participants in the Governor's weekly highlights.

MASSACHUSETTS

The Massachusetts Climate Protection Plan (the Plan) was released in the spring 2004 as an initial step in a coordinated effort to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases (GHGs) and improve energy efficiency - two inseparably linked goals. It presents a comprehensive set of near-term actions that will protect the climate, reduce pollution, cut energy demand, and nurture job growth through the development of sustainable energy resources and advanced technologies.

Interestingly, what has often been missing from the climate change debate in recent years is a recognition that many of the protection measures one would take to alleviate climate impacts also bring with them other significant benefits. The actions outlined in the Massachusetts Climate Protection Plan will help the state's economy, protect natural resources, and preserve the quality of life. They will not only reduce climate impacts, they will advance efforts to promote smart growth, increase the resources dedicated to the maintenance of existing infrastructure ("Fix It First"), and save taxpayer dollars through better management of state operations and services. The Plan represents Massachusetts' commitment to implement the regional climate change plan adopted by the New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers (NEG/ECP) in August 2001.



WEB RESOURCES

This section of the NE Assistance & P2 News lists useful web resources that are focused on Climate Change.

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) –

http://www.ipcc.ch/ – website of the UN IPCC that provides access to the various international reports on climate change, particularly the most recent report documenting the impacts and causes of climate change.

The Pew Center on Global Climate Change -

http://www.pewclimate.org – a website of the Pew Center that provides access to their reports on climate change impacts and policies.

New England Regional Assessment -

www.necci.sr.unh.edu – a website that provides access to the comprehensive report on the potential impacts of climate change on the New England environment and public health.

Earth Institute at Columbia University -

http://www.earthinstitute.columbia.edu/crosscutting/climate.html – summarizes research projects on climate change underway at the Institute.

Climate Change Portal -

www.climateark.org – a search engine for climate change related news and information.

Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management –

www.nescaum.org – summarizes projects underway by the Northeast states air quality programs on climate change and other topics.

Clean Air-Cool Planet -

www.cleanair-coolplanet.org – summarizes various projects and case studies on global warming in the Northeast.

The Massachusetts Climate Protection Plan focuses on a range of strategies to achieve significant near-term reductions in GHG emissions. These strategies give priority to pollution reductions that are compatible with economic growth — measures that ease the transition to cleaner and less expensive energy resources, and which retain a higher proportion of the state's energy dollars within Massachusetts. These strategies encourage public agencies, businesses, industries, and citizens to take cost-effective, common sense steps toward reducing GHG emissions in ways that also advance other important state policies and objectives.

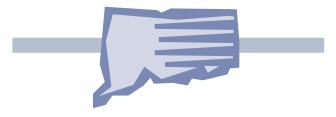
The Plan is divided into the following ten focus areas:

- Establish tough but realistic targets the Plan establishes the following goals (consistent with those established in the NEG/ECP regional climate change plan) to benchmark progress and to allow necessary adjustments to ensure success short term: reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels by the year 2010; medium-term: reduce GHG emissions 10 percent below 1990 levels by the year 2020; long term: reduce GHG emissions sufficiently to eliminate any dangerous threat to the climate (current science suggests this will require reductions as much as 75-85 percent below current levels). Success in meeting this long-term goal will require major scientific and technological advances, advances that will take decades to achieve, requiring action to begin now.
- Assess and communicate emissions trends
- Focus on the state sustainability program provide leadership by example
- Engage cities and towns as climate protection partners
- Work with business, industry, and institutions as climate protection partners
- Increase clean and renewable energy development and energy efficiency
- Promote energy efficient buildings: reduce pollution through sustainable design and construction
- Develop an efficient transportation system and sustainable development: increase choices, reduce emissions
- Protect natural resources as a climate strategy

Each of these focus areas has detailed actions for the state and its partners to undertake.

For more information visit: http://www.mass.gov/ocd/.

PROGRAM UPDATES



CONNECTICUT

Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (CT DEP)

Garment Care Outreach

The Korean American Dry Cleaners Association partnered with the CT DEP Pollution Prevention office in sponsoring a workshop for Association members on September 26th, St. Joseph's College in West Hartford. A similar workshop had been held in 1996, and this was an update held at their request. Topics covered included pollution prevention opportunities; air, water, and waste regulations and inspections; and the property transfer program. A representative from the CT Department of Economic & Community Development provided an overview of the State's dry cleaner remediation fund.

Workshop participants received the newly revised and expanded *Garment Care Fact Sheets Guidebook* and "Dry Cleaner Checklist." The checklist gives the business owner an easy way to keep track of refrigerated condenser inspections as well as monitoring perchloroethylene usage and leaks. The Property Transfer Act and Remediation Fund Facts sheets were translated into Korean by the Association president. Before and after quizzes were given to participants to assess the effectiveness of the workshop.

For more information visit:

www.dep.pollutionprevention@po.state.ct.us.

Hospital Outreach

The CT DEP Pollution Prevention (P2) Office recently became a "Hospitals for Healthy Environment (H2E) Champion." The responsibilities of an H2E Champion are to assist the organization in its goals to eliminate mercury, minimize waste, and reduce the use of persistent bioaccumulative toxic chemicals in health care facilities. The P2 Office will utilize the Connecticut Hospital

Environmental Roundtable (CHER), created in April 2004 with Hartford Hospital, as a way to provide education and encourage information sharing among CT hospitals. For information on H2E visit www.h2e-online.org.

The P2 Office participated in the Connecticut Business and Industry Association (CBIA) Environmental Policies Council seminar entitled "Health Care Facilities: Environmental Target 2005" on September 30, 2004 in Meriden, CT. Presentations were given on a case study from the EPA health care initiative in Region 2; why health care facilities should conduct an environmental audit from an attorney's point of view; and what to expect from an EPA inspection. The P2 Office talked about the many tools available to help health care facilities reduce pollution and increase energy efficiency.

The Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA) and CHER co-sponsored a workshop entitled "Understanding RCRA and State Environmental Regulations: A Workshop for Hospitals" on November 9, 2004 at the CHA facility in Wallingford, CT. During the three-hour workshop, speakers from EPA, the DEP Waste Bureau, and the Albany Medical Center provided participants with information on RCRA "basics," CT's biomedical waste regulations, and how health care facilities can get ready for a RCRA inspection. In addition, H2E and the P2 Office presented information on the resources available to help health care facilities go beyond compliance to pollution prevention. Attendees were given before and after quizzes to assess the effectiveness of the workshop. Presentations for both hospital events can be found at www.dep.state.ct.us/wst/p2/institutions/healthcare.htm.

For more information contact: Nan Peckham, CT DEP, Nan.Peckham@po.state.ct.us; or Connie Mendolia, CT DEP, Connie.Mendolia@po.state.ct.us.

Bio-energy

Connecticut has prepared a fact sheet on outdoor wood burning furnaces, as a means of getting information out on the health impacts caused by smoke from this unregulated technology. A copy is available at http://www.dep.state.ct.us/air2/consumer/owf.pdf.

The DEP recently held a meeting of the Connecticut Bioenergy Working Group. The Working Group consists of a variety of agencies, businesses, and individuals in Connecticut that have direct involvement or interest in biomass. The Working Group was created a few years ago to provide networking among biomass energy stakeholders, improve communication, and increase public knowledge of biomass and other renewable energy sources. Bioenergy includes a wide variety of renewable organic materials that can be used for fuel or other products. Everything from soy oil and waste grease, to wood, agricultural crops, landfill gas, and animal manures, can be considered biomass. Two to three meetings are held annually.

The December 13, 2004 meeting focused on two areas of biomass - wood and cow manure. The Connecticut Clean Energy Fund (CEF) presented information on the gasifier project at Tallon Lumber in North Canaan, CT. Approximately 3,000 tons per year of wood chips from the on-site sawmill operation will be utilized in the gasifier and produce heat for the facility. The technology is capable of producing around 100kW. Start up testing will begin in January. CEF has also completed a Biomass Assessment that examines the fuel supply for the Waterbury and Plainfield areas of Connecticut. A characterization study of different technologies, a companion document to the assessment, will be completed in the next month. In addition, CEF presented information on the Project 100 Request for Proposals that will be out shortly, which aims to increase the amount of renewable energy available to Connecticut. For more information, visit www.ctcleanenergy.com.

Matt Freund from Freund Farm made a presentation on his efforts to manage manure on his dairy farm and minimize its impact to the environment. His presentation focused on the trials and tribulations of the manure digester that he operates. While this technology can be useful in managing manure and producing energy, there are still challenges to confront, especially for a farm of this scale (about 200 cows). Other innovative projects from Freund include the patented manure plant pots being made of cow manure (instead of peat or plastic) and paper, and a paper made of manure fibers. Marketing of these products will be the next step.

The meeting also included a brief update on the Northeast Regional Biomass Program activities, primarily biodiesel projects underway with Department of Energy (DOE) Supplement Environmental Project (SEP) funding and planned workshops within the next nine months on biobased products and biofuels.

Techno Trash Swap & Collection

On November 16 and 17, the DEP celebrated America Recycles Day by holding a Techno Trash Swap and Collection at the Agency's main office. The event was sponsored by the P2 Office and assisted by volunteers from the P2 Workgroup and Recycling staff. Employees were asked to bring in unwanted or unusable VHS tapes, CDs, DVDs, audio tapes, and diskettes from work or home for a free swap or recycling. DEP collected over 150 pounds of material in three pre-paid containers. *Green Disk* supplied the collection containers at a cost of \$90, which covered shipping and processing. *Green Disk* recycles or reuses the materials. Many more items like classic movies, Barney tapes, and empty jewel cases found new homes.

For more information contact: Nan Peckham, CT DEP, Nan.Peckham@po.state.ct.us.

Recycling at the Hartford Marathon

Special events present their own set of challenges to organizing effective recycling options. Staff from the P2 Office, Hartford City Council, Waste & Recycling, and Parks Departments teamed up with the Hartford Marathon Foundation to pilot special events recycling, starting with this year's Hartford Marathon on October 9, 2004. Ten recyclables collection units ("Clear StreamTM") were placed in Bushnell Park along with 15 95-gallon blue recycling toters. The Clear StreamTM units make recycling straightforward because they have holes in their lids that fit only bottles and cans and are well labeled. In addition, the clear bags allow people to see what is in the receptacle, discouraging its use for trash. With the help of enthusiastic volunteers, most bottles were collected for recycling and the grounds were trash free. The pilot program was a success, great learning experience, and jump-start to establishing recycling at all special events held in the city.

For more information contact: Nan Peckham, CT DEP, Nan.Peckham@po.state.ct.us.

Green Buildings

Construction of buildings that incorporate environmental features is continuing in Connecticut. To date, three college dormitories have been constructed at state colleges that are expected to earn the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification. Students at Western, Eastern, and Southern CT State Universities are now housed in these buildings. A science laboratory and classroom building are also under construction at both the Western and Eastern campuses that will meet LEED standards. Late spring is the anticipated completion date.

For more information contact: Kim Trella, CT DEP,

Kim.Trella@po.state.ct.us.

Hartford Landfill Closure

Over 70 people, including business owners, community leaders, local and state officials, college students, and neighborhood activists, attended a community forum on the Hartford Landfill in November. The forum was a chance for the community to discuss the facts and issues affecting the upcoming closure of the landfill, a regional facility that accepts waste and ash from 69 Connecticut towns. The Hartford Neighborhood Environmental Partnership (HNEP) co-sponsored the event.

The CT DEP's Office of Pollution Prevention initiated the HNEP in 1995 after receiving a grant to work with low-income Hartford neighborhoods to enhance economic opportunities and quality of life by raising environmental awareness and furthering environmental compliance. Along with DEP and neighborhood organizations, the partnership now includes representatives of city and regional government and non-profits promoting community gardening and advocating for health and environmental justice. The HNEP recently received an award from the Connecticut Coalition for Environmental Justice for its outstanding efforts to improve Hartford's environment.

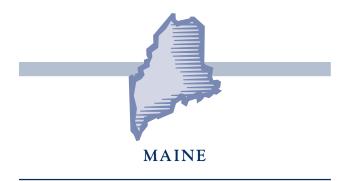
For more information contact: CT DEP Office of Pollution Prevention (860) 424-3297; visit http://www.dep.state.ct.us/wst/p2/urban/urbanin.htm.



The Northeast Assistance and P2 Roundtable is a member of the Pollution Prevention Resource Exchange, P2Rx, a national network of regional P2 information centers linked together to facilitate

information retrieval from experts around the country. Current P2Rx projects include online Topic Hubs and a National Assistance Programs Database. For information about these efforts, visit http://www.newmoa.org/prevention.

For more information contact: Andy Bray, NEWMOA (617) 367-8558 x306, abray@newmoa.org



Maine Department of Environmental Protection (ME DEP)

Current activities of the Pollution Prevention Program in Maine DEP's Office of Innovation and Assistance (OIA) include:

- Working with small businesses that report to the Toxics and Hazardous Waste Reduction Program and assisting them with tracking their toxics and hazardous waste reduction, pollution prevention planning, and future reduction.
- Partnering technical assistance with Public Utilities commission's small business energy assistance program; Department of Labor's Safety Works Program; and other small business providers, including Small Business Administration (SBA), Small Business Development Center (SBDC), and Coastal Enterprises Inc.
- Providing outreach and assistance to small business development centers and small business counselors.
- Establishing further partnerships with business assistance providers.
- Establishing partnerships within the energy efficiency sector and promoting their services to Maine businesses.
- Assisting five companies with the implementation of an environmental management system.
- Conducting onsite compliance assistance utilizing Maine's Small Business Compliance Incentive Policy (SBCIP).
- Continuing to provide assistance to the Green Campus Consortium in their efforts to move towards sustainability.
- Working in conjunction with the Climate Change Steering Committee of the New England Governors' Conference and Eastern Canadian Premiers' initiative to reduce greenhouse gas levels 10 percent under 1990 levels by 2012.

- Continuing to provide assistance to a number of industry sectors.
- Revitalizing the Compliance Advisory Panel (CAP) as an effective tool to weigh in on OIA activities.
- Attended ISO 14001 EMS Lead Auditor training.

For more information contact: Peter Cooke, ME DEP (207) 287-7100.



Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MA DEP)

Inspections Expose Air Quality Violations

Inspections from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), with support from the EPA recently targeted tanker trucks and five bulk petroleum storage facilities in Chelsea, Revere, East Boston, and Everett for inspections of air pollution control equipment

DEP found violations on 92 of the 226 tanker trucks inspected at the 5 facilities, and of the 92 trucks cited, DEP found significant amounts of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in the form of vapors leaking from 29 trucks due to inadequate or faulty seals. Trucks found to have leaking components were not allowed to exit the facility, but had their cargo of gasoline off-loaded and were not allowed to re-load until the appropriate repairs were made.

DEP estimates that the leaking tanker trucks would have released approximately 232 tons of VOCs over a year's time if the leaks had not been detected. VOCs are hydrocarbons - the main ingredients in gasoline and solvents, along with nitrogen oxides. Reducing hydrocarbons, by targeting VOCs and other sources, is seen as a way to prevent the production of excessive ground level ozone.

Perchlorate Risk

In April 2002, the Bourne Water District (BWD) asked MA DEP for guidance on perchlorate after the compound was detected in their wells. To date, no drinking water standard has been set by the EPA or the state. Given the seriousness of the potential adverse effects associated with perchlorate and the fact that children were at risk, combined with uncertainty over the schedule of federal efforts to establish a drinking water standard for perchlorate, MA DEP provided interim guidance to the BWD and initiated the standard setting process.

For more information visit: http://www.mass.gov/dep/brp/dws/percinfo.htm.

Report Reveals P2 in Enforcement

The DEP Compliance and Enforcement Annual Report for fiscal year 2004 (July 1, 2003-June 31, 2004) revealed that a number of enforcement actions required actual source reduction through the modernization of various manufacturing processes. For example, several facilities replaced toxic and volatile solvents by changing to processes using low volatile and less toxic materials. Fourteen enforcement actions this year accounted for the reduction of at least 50 tons per year of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), plus small amounts of particulate matter and carbon monoxide.

DEP performs multi-media inspections of industrial facilities to ensure pollution prevention through source reduction, rather than transfer to another environmental medium. As a result, many of the environmental requirements in DEP enforcement actions are multi-media in nature. For example, enforcement actions this fiscal year will improve operations in air, water, toxics reporting, and waste management at 28 regulated facilities, reducing over 17 tons per year of VOCs, and reducing emissions of various amounts of carbon monoxide, particulate matter, hydrogen sulfide, and other hazardous air pollutants,. Additional savings will be realized in six future permitting actions that were required by enforcement orders.

Many DEP enforcement actions require the replacement of pollution control equipment or the physical modification of the facility to prevent discharges. Among 18 enforcement actions with such requirements, savings include 22 tons per year of volatile organic compounds, 35 tons per year of hazardous air pollutants, and at least 5 tons per year of nitrogen oxides.

For more information visit: http://www.mass.gov/dep/enf/enfpubs.htm.

Massachusetts Office of Technical Assistance (MA OTA)

New Industry Groups: Rubber & Marine Technologies

MA OTA plans to hold two focus groups in the spring of 2005 for those Massachusetts companies in the rubber industry sector (typically from, but not exclusive to, SICs 2821, 2822, and 301 thru 306) and those companies in the marine technology industry sector (typically from, but not exclusive to, SICs 357, 369, 376, 381, 382, 386, 387, and 873).

The overall goal of the meetings is to assist OTA to (1) develop a better understanding of the pollution prevention opportunities and regulatory compliance issues of the companies in these sectors, as well as the supply chain for the companies, and (2) to identify the types of services OTA can provide to address these opportunities and issues. The assessment of pollution prevention opportunities will consider OTA's High Priority Substance Initiative and take note of opportunities arising from non-environmental regulations. The assessment of regulatory compliance issues will focus on environmental concerns (e.g., toxics use, hazardous waste, air emissions, water use, wastewater discharges). Of particular interest will be issues surrounding those products that contain lead, lead compounds, or other toxics.

For more information on the rubber industry sector group contact: Scott Fortier, MA OTA (617) 626-1090, scott.fortier@state.ma.us.

For more information on the marine technology industry group contact: Jim Cain, MA OTA (617) 626-1081, james.cain@state.ma.us.

Medical Device Manufacturers Workshop

As a result and request of those who attended the medical device focus group meeting held this past summer, OTA is planning a Design for the Environment workshop for the medical device sector in the spring. The Design for the Environment (DfE) program is one of the U.S. EPA's premier partnership programs, working with individual industry sectors to compare and improve the performance and human health and environmental risks and costs of existing and alternative products, processes, and practices. The DfE workshop will involve manufacturers of the following three types of medical devices: surgical and medical instruments; electro-medical and electrotherapeutic

apparatuses; and surgical appliances and supplies; as well as companies in their supply chains and product designers.

The medical device manufacturing industry is a significant contributor to the Massachusetts economy. This sector includes approximately 217 manufacturing establishments with 20,365 employees, a payroll of \$1.2 billion, and shipments valued at \$5.0 billion. The industry was a stabilizing influence on the Massachusetts' economy during the difficult economic times over the last few years. The industry's growth offers a unique opportunity for good wages and professional growth for employees as well as to provide revenue for communities and the state.

For more information contact: John Raschko, MA OTA (617) 626-1093, john.raschko@state.ma.us.

Water Conservation Seminar at Cranston Print Works

For the second year in a row, OTA sponsored a Technology in Process (TIP) seminar on industrial water conservation. The event was hosted at the Cranston Print Works Company, a textile printing facility on November 9, 2004. Participants learned about how a union/management team-oriented approach enabled Cranston to achieve water savings not believed possible in the textile industry. The highlight of the seminar was a guided tour of the facility, which helped participants gain a thorough understanding of the more than 25 water conservation projects that have been implemented. The collective result of these projects is an annual savings of 110 million gallons of water and close to \$350,000 in wastewater and energy costs.

For more information contact: Gus Ogunbameru, MA OTA (617) 626-1065, augustus.ogunbameru@state.ma.us.

Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Institute (MATURI)

Simple Solutions Database Available Online

The Toxics Use Reduction Institute's (TURI) Simple Solutions Database allows users to search online for an alternative-cleaning product based on basic operating conditions (i.e., current solvent and contaminant to be removed). The database is based on testing conducted at the TURI's Laboratory on the performances of industrial and institutional cleaning products. The tool can make searching for safer and effective products easier and faster.

For more information visit: www.cleanersolutions.org/ SimpleSolutions.

Sustainability Reporting

There has been a significant increase in sustainability reporting, voluntary public statements of a company's environmental and social performance. Companies are doing this for proof of good governance to stockholders, who are increasingly socially responsible investors (SRIs). Sustainability reporting also helps companies achieve preferred trading partner status and improve their relationship with regulators and neighbors. Whether or not a company is offering a sustainability report, the ability to do planning and reporting under the Toxics Use Reduction Act (TURA) places Massachusetts companies at the forefront of a key piece of sustainability progress.

At the TURI Continuing Education Conference in November, a sustainability reporting session explored the opportunities for companies that report under TURA to build on this advantage and to lead in an area of increasing challenge to those companies less experienced in TUR. Crane Inc., Rohm and Haas, and Madico reported different but exciting movement on this front. Vesela Veleva, a researcher at Citizen's Advisors, which manages a Socially Responsible Investment fund, described a burgeoning new sector that is attracting the interest of major corporations, their local facilities, and their suppliers.

For more information contact: Janet Clark, TURI (978) 934-3346.

Grants for Healthy Cosmetology, Pesticide Reduction, & Safer School Cleaners

In October, TURI awarded five \$10,000 Toxics Use Reduction Networking (TURN) grants to community organizations across Massachusetts to reduce chemical use in salons, schools, and neighborhoods. Recipients are the Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health (MassCOSH), Dorchester; New Ecology, Inc., Cambridge; Town of Westford Water Department; Lower Pioneer Valley Education Collaborative, East Longmeadow; and Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences.

As described below this year's five projects include advancing the use of green cleaners in Boston schools, promoting healthy cosmetology through the development of a model vocational salon school and alternatives analysis with Vietnamese nail salon workers, and raising awareness about pesticide use and alternatives.

Green Cleaners in Boston Schools

Now in its second year, The Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health, Dorchester, will continue its *Healthy Boston Schools Janitorial Project* that engages custodians, Boston Public Schools, and the larger school community in an effort to reduce the use of toxic cleaning chemicals in schools and promote healthy policies and procedures in Boston and across the state.

Healthy Cosmetology

New Ecology, Inc., Cambridge will implement the Vietnamese Healthy Nail Salon Initiative Project to evaluate the performance of safer products with salon owners and promote alternative products to salon suppliers and salons in Greater Boston and Western Massachusetts.

The Lower Pioneer Valley Career and Technical Education Center, East Longmeadow will initiate the Model Cosmetology Salon Project to incorporate toxics use reduction into the curriculum and building design of a new state-of-the art vocational school in West Springfield slated to open in 2005.

Pesticide Use & Alternatives

The Town of Westford Water Department will build public awareness about pesticide use with the *Bridging Pesticide and Human Health Awareness with Water Resource Protection Project.* The goal is to improve communication among town departments regarding pesticide use reduction, recommend safer alternative methods for lawn care, and bridge pesticide use reduction with water resource protection and human health impacts.

The Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences will seek to identify and reduce long-term pesticide exposures in humans and wildlife with the Massachusetts Wildlife and Human Health Initiative: Focusing on Exposure to Current-Use Pesticides Project. The Center will present a synthesis report and recommendations in a workshop with land managers, scientists, regulators, and educators.

For more information contact: Eileen Gunn, TURI (978) 934-4343.



NEW HAMPSHIRE

New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NH DES)

Thermostat Recycling Program

New Hampshire electrical wholesalers have collected approximately 873 thermostats, totaling approximately 2,930 grams of mercury from wholesalers throughout the state of New Hampshire. The amount of mercury collected each year has nearly doubled, while the amount of thermostats collected has risen accordingly.

Green Paint Campaign

The Green Paint Campaign, a partnership between DES and paint retail stores in New Hampshire, is distributing educational materials to consumers at the point-ofpurchase about the potential disposal problem that may result from unwanted leftover paint. The stores provide consumers with various informational items, including paint can stickers, paint stirrers, and brochures containing helpful tips on paint disposal. Paint is packaged, priced, and used in a way that encourages the consumer to purchase more paint than they need. In addition to educating the public regarding proper disposal methods, the goal of the campaign is to change behavior and attitudes surrounding paint use and disposal, leading to a reduction or elimination of the amount of oil and latex paint that is disposed of, thereby decreasing the expense and environmental impact related to these wastes.

For more information contact: Melanie Wheeler, NH DES (603) 271-2047, mwheeler@des.state.nh.us.

Most Valuable P2 Award

The Pollution Prevention Internship Program recently received recognition from the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable. DES, in collaboration with The University of New Hampshire and EPA Region 1-NE created the N.H. Pollution Prevention Internship Program in 1995. Through this program, the New Hampshire Pollution Prevention Program (NHPPP) has been able to work

jointly with local businesses, academia, and government institutions to increase the level of awareness and acceptance of pollution prevention practices in New Hampshire. Not only do participating companies profit from reduced waste and cost savings, but students are provided the opportunity to learn and employ cutting edge pollution prevention strategies. Additionally the N.H. Pollution Prevention Internship Program gains valuable insight into new pollution prevention technical practices that it can share with other companies. To date, nearly 100 students and 50 facilities have benefited from this program. The facilities have not only achieved significant environmental benefits but have also saved more than \$3 million a year.

For more information contact: Sara Johnson, NH DES (603) 271-6460, sjohnson@des.state.nh.us.

Governor Award Winners

The winners of this year's NH Governor's P2 Award include the City of Keene, Millipore Corporation in Jaffrey, and Freudenberg-NOK General Partnership in Bristol.

In 2000, *Keene* was the first municipality in New Hampshire to voluntarily join the Cities for Climate Protection

The goal of the campaign is to change behavior and attitudes surrounding paint use and disposal, leading to a reduction or elimination of the amount of oil and latex paint that is disposed of, thereby decreasing the expense and environmental impact related to these wastes.

campaign (CCP). As part of this initiative, the City of Keene has implemented a variety of energy and cost-saving programs. The City installed a geothermal heat pump in a newly purchased older building to replace an older heating unit. It initiated public forums and workshops to involve the community in creating a local action plan. In 2002 the City's fleet services replaced diesel fuel with a blend of diesel and vegetable oil, which saved 50,000 gallons of fuel in 18 months and eliminates 417 tons of carbon dioxide per year from being produced.

The Police Department installed LED lights in its traffic signals, which use 80-90 percent less energy than incandescent bulbs and require one-sixth of the maintenance of incandescent bulbs, saving on labor costs. The Police Department also implemented a Police on Bikes program, which replaces cruisers 25 percent of the time. The program eliminates six tons of carbon dioxide per year and saves the City \$800 per year in gasoline.

Millipore manufactures filtration devices that are used for high technology and high purity applications in pharmaceutical, biotechnology, and life science industries. This ISO 14001 certified company has won the Governor's Award in 1999 and 2001, and honorable mentions in 2000 and 2002. The winning initiative in 2003 was the completion of a large-scale water reuse project. The project will save the company 14 million gallons of water in a 17-month period, saving \$86,000 per year.

Freudenberg-NOK General Partnership (NOKGP) in Bristol manufactures metal and rubber components used primarily in the auto industry to make oil seals. This ISO 14001 certified company was awarded the Governor's Award for its "Chemical Management for Metal Treatment" project. By careful observation and scrutiny of the chemical management of its metal treatment process, Freudenberg-NOKGP realized that more oil than needed was used for the stamping of the metal. The company reduced its stamp oil usage by 70 percent by utilizing a new technology that eliminates the chemicals needed to remove the oil at the end of the process. The company was also able to consolidate two metal treatment locations into one and combine three machines into one, while increasing their overall metal production by 80 percent. Overall, the project eliminated the use of over 67,000 gallons of chemicals per year and saved the company \$300,000 per year.

Homeowner IPM Pilot

DES was recently awarded a grant with the objective to educate the public on the dangers of pesticide use and encourage homeowners to purchase less toxic alternatives and use more environmentally sound methods of caring for their home, garden, and lawn. The pilot project will partner with garden centers, hardware stores, planning commissions, and municipalities to promote integrated pest management (IPM) methods. The desired goal is to decrease the amount of pesticides being purchased, used, and disposed of by homeowners.

For more information contact: Melanie Wheeler, NH DES (603) 271-2047, mwheeler@des.state.nh.us.



New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJ DEP)

Dry Cleaner Assistance

As part of its ongoing Dry Cleaner Compliance and Pollution Prevention Initiative, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's (NJ DEP) Small Business Assistance Program (SBAP) conducted 65 site visits at dry cleaners in September, October, and November, with a special emphasis on Korean-owned or operated establishments. During these site visits, guidance is provided on how to comply with air permitting requirements, right to know reporting requirements, hazardous waste requirements, and wastewater issues. Additionally, facilities are informed about ways to reduce emissions from dry cleaning equipment by implementing best management practices as outlined in the SBAP's Dry Cleaner Checklist.

In addition, the SBAP recently developed its 2005 Dry Cleaners Compliance Calendar, in both English and Korean. This calendar is a convenient tool for dry cleaners to use to perform their required maximum achievable control technology (MACT) record keeping.

Auto Repair Assistance

The SBAP conducted three workshops with the Alliance of Automotive Service Providers (AASP) and one sponsored by DuPont that were attended by over 200 auto body repair operators. The attendees received information on new volatile organic compound (VOC) requirements contained in recently promulgated air pollution control regulations. Record keeping requirements of the VOC content in the applied surface coatings was the biggest concern of the auto body repair operators. Working with NJ DEP's Compliance and Enforcement Program, the SBAP was able to advise the auto body repair facilities that possession of material safety data sheets for the paints used could be used to show compliance with this record keeping requirement.

Community Right to Know

In New Jersey, there is a requirement that all regulations must be readopted every five years. The NJ DEP's

Community Right to Know (CRTK) regulation was recently readopted. The CRTK rules require employers having business activities with certain specified North American Industrial Classification System (NAICS) codes to annually report their inventories of environmental hazardous substances that meet or exceed established thresholds to the following entities: the Department; appropriate local police and fire departments; the Right-to-Know county lead agency (usually the county health department); and the Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) for their municipality. Approximately 35,000 facilities are covered under the program and are required to use the Community Right to Know Survey to report, by March 1st of each year, their chemical inventories for the period covering January to December of the previous year. The CRTK rules also establish requirements for chemical throughput, multi-media environmental releases, on-site waste management, off-site transfers, and pollution prevention reporting via the NJ DEP's Release and Pollution Prevention Report (RPPR). The RPPR is similar to the Federal Form R, but goes beyond by requiring chemical throughput materials accounting data.

The major changes enacted with this re-adoption include exempting un-staffed sites (i.e., cell telephone towers, telecommunications relay boxes, switching boxes, and telephone poles), and users below thresholds and non-users from annual CRTK reporting requirements, providing a facility provides a one-time notification to NJ DEP verifying its status. Should its status change, a facility is required to notify NJ DEP. Administration for these type sources is resource intensive with very little environmental gain. Another change involves designating violations as minor or non-minor pursuant to the Fast Track Compliance Law. Violations designated as minor automatically receive a 30-day grace period for achieving compliance.

CRTK now requires materials accounting for inputs and outputs, reported on the NJ DEP's RPPR, to be balanced within five percent. DEP believes this requirement will greatly improve their data collection/quality. The RPPR is the NJ DEP's TRI-equivalent reporting mechanism. Electronic reporting of the RPPR is now mandatory, except if a facility is making a confidentiality or hardship claim. The Agency had also proposed adopting a CRTK reporting threshold of "any amount greater than zero" for persistent, bioaccumalative, toxic (PBT) substances and eliminating the CRTK reporting exemption for de-minimus quanties of PBTs in mixtures. However, due to the overwhelming negative comments received from the regulated community, they withdrew these last two requirements and instead will investigate appropriate thresholds for a future proposal.

For more information visit: www.nj.gov/dep/opppc.



New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYS DEC)

Environmental Leaders Program

NYS DEC staff continues to work on the development of the Environmental Leaders Program to encourage Environmental Management Systems (EMS). Staff conducted a survey that was used to gather input from a diverse group of stakeholders. The results of this survey were used to help develop an agenda for stakeholder meetings that were held in Albany, Rochester, and New York City.

For more information contact: John Vana, NYS DEC (518) 402-9469, jmvana@gw.dec.state.ny.us.

Sustainability Series

NYS DEC held a series of three seminars on sustainability for NY State agencies. The purpose of this three part series was to explore the potential role of state government in fostering a sustainable economy and environment in New York State.

Poster Contest

A team of judges were convened and over 700 posters were judged to identify 4 first place and 4 runners-up. Winners were identified and letters were sent to the school principals to inform them of the winners from their respective school. Winners were presented awards and prizes (camping equipment) during P2 Week activities.

For more information contact: NYS DEC P2 Unit (518) 402-8705, www.dec.state.ny.us/website.



RHODE ISLAND

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management (RI DEM)

Auto Salvage Yard Certification Program

The Department of Environmental Management has been awarded an Innovations Grant by the EPA for the development of a voluntary Environmental Results Program (ERP) for auto salvage yards. The project is entitled, "Auto Salvage Environmental Results Program: Improved Compliance and Performance Through Innovation."

Tom Armstrong participated in an Environmental Results Program Workshop, hosted by Maine DEP and EPA Region 1-NE in Portland, Maine on December 9th and 10th. The workshop concentrated on auto body, auto repair, and auto salvage programs. He gave a presentation on Rhode Island's auto body certification program that began in early 2003 and gave a brief overview of RI DEM's other ERP initiatives that are now underway (i.e., underground storage tanks, exterior lead paint removal, and auto salvage yards). Massachusetts and Florida also presented overviews of their programs. The workshop included presentations about data automation, management, statistics, and ERP implementation that provided information that will be important for use in ERP initiatives, and included an open roundtable discussion.

A large facsimile check for the auto salvage yard grant award was presented to RI DEM by Sam Silverman from EPA Region 1-NE; Maine DEP and Vermont DEC received similar checks for their grant awards. Since the grant was awarded in September, RI DEM's Office of Technical & Customer Assistance and University of Rhode Island (URI) Center for Pollution Prevention & Environmental Health staff have been working on preliminary planning and scoping, with the project becoming actively engaged in early 2005. Through the grant, an ongoing, sustainable program for auto salvage yard certification will be created, with re-certification anticipated to take place every two years.

Exterior Lead Paint Removal Certification

A stakeholder meeting for RI DEM's Exterior Lead Paint Removal Certification Program was held on December 14th. It included stakeholders from governmental agencies cooperating in the project (i.e., RI DEM, the RI Department of Health, RI Housing Resources Commission, and URI's Center for Pollution Prevention & Environmental Health), as well as external stakeholders including industry and trade representatives.

A draft workbook and checklist package to be used with the program were reviewed and discussed, as well as other related issues, such as education and outreach, and enforcement efforts. The group will be meeting again in mid-January.

RI DEM's goal is to complete the document review process, conduct contractor training, and kick off the voluntary program in the late winter or early spring of 2005.

For more information contact: Thomas E. Armstrong, RI DEM (401) 222-4700 x4412, Thomas.Armstrong@dem.ri.gov.



VERMONT

Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation (VT DEC)

Hospitals

In November, VT DEC co-sponsored a hospital environmental roundtable meeting with Triumvirate Environmental and EPA Region 1-New England at the VA Hospital in White River Junction. The focus of the roundtable was on hazardous waste compliance. A total of 9 of Vermont's 15 hospitals attended. Pre- and post-tests were given to attendees. In the pre-test, only 12 percent had passing grades. In the post-test, 75 percent passed.

Also in November, a workshop was held for hospital engineers at the Rutland Regional Medical Center. There were 25 attendees representing most Vermont hospitals for a discussion of environmental management regulations affecting hospitals. The Small Business Compliance Assistance Program is providing direct compliance assistance and pollution prevention assistance to several hospitals as a result of outreach efforts.

I Ith Annual Governor's Awards

The Governor's Awards ceremony for Environmental Excellence and Pollution Prevention was held on December 2 in the State House. This was the eleventh annual event,

which was presided over by Mark Snelling in the Governor's absence. During the ceremony, 16 awards were given out to businesses, organizations, and educators. Also recognized at the event were 4 new green hotels and 15 businesses that achieved status as Environmental Partners in the Vermont Business Environmental Partnership. Mark Snelling spoke of the significance of the efforts being recognized and encouraged the award winners to mentor others to become environmental leaders. A reception followed the event and provided a great opportunity for networking and meeting individually with award winners and their families.



NEW PUBLICATIONS & EDUCATIONAL MATERIALS

This section of NE States Assistance & P2 News lists new publications and other educational resources available from the Northeast states and EPA.

Pitney Bowes Practices Sustainability

CT DEP has a new case study available that details how Stamford-based Pitney Bowes has put in place a number of innovative programs, including a product take-back program called Asset Recovery, an Energy Management Team, a Design for Environmental Quality program, and an ISO14001-certified Environmental Management System. As a result, the company has been reducing the amount of waste they generate; increasing recycling; conserving energy; purchasing clean, renewable electricity; and designing products to be more environmentally friendly.

For a copy of the case study visit: www.dep.state.ct.us/wst/p2/ (click on the "Business/Industry" link to see the entire list of available case studies of CT companies).

Energy Guide for Municipalities

The CT DEP P2 Office has put together an "Energy Guide" especially geared to assist municipal officials.

The 10-page Guide provides a list and description of many energy-related programs that may be helpful to cities and towns, as well as contacts for more information. Program topics covered in the "Energy Guide" include energy efficiency (i.e., lighting, buildings, and transportation), renewable energy, greenhouse gas reduction strategies and campaigns, and other resources.

For a copy of the guide visit: http://www.dep.state.ct.us/wst/p2/energy/municpal_energy_resource_guide.pdf.

Ski Facilities

A companion guide/checklist to supplement the information presented in the NYS DEC ski area video has been completed.

For a copy of the video and companion guide contact: Sarah Evans, NYS DEC (518) 402-9469, shevane@gw.dec.state.ny.us.

CEG Workshops

In October, DEC and the Vermont Small Business Development Center conducted five workshops around the state for conditionally exempt hazardous waste generators. There were 89 attendees at these workshops, which have become an annual event to assist small generators in understanding regulations and linking with assistance resources for pollution prevention and compliance assistance.

For more information contact: Gary Gulka, VT DEC (802) 241-3626, gary.gulka@anr.state.vt.us.

Vermont Small Business Development Center (SBDC)

The Vermont SBDC Environmental Assistance Program continues to provide energy efficiency and "environmental opportunity assessments" to Vermont small businesses. In Fiscal Year 2004, 33 on-site assessments with recommendations for improvements were conducted, including 11 in partnership with the VT DEC Environmental Assistance Office and 20 for the shared Vermont Business Environmental Partnership Program. Recently, the VT Environmental Assistance Partnership (VEAP, www.veap.org), including the Vermont Manufacturing Extension Center, Economic Development, DEC, and SBDC, revised the 2002 VT Small Business Environmental Primer and reprinted 5,000 copies to replace that number distributed to date.

For more information contact: Peter Crawford, VT SBDC (802) 728-1423, PCrawford@vtc.vsc.edu.



EPA REGION 1 - NEW ENGLAND

Stormwater

Jack Healey, Chris Jendras, and Abby Swaine, working with direction from Thelma Murphy (EPA Region 1- NE permitting authority) continue to conduct outreach on Phase II of the EPA's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) stormwater regulations. The requirements are prevention-oriented and address pollutants that both EPA and communities are concerned

about. They work mainly in NH and MA, the two NE states where EPA is the permitting authority, but RI and ME have also requested and received help. Over the past two years, they have conducted:

- intensive outreach on the stormwater general permit for construction,
- basic workshops for the regulated communities,
- workshops for "industrial" facilities (i.e., wastewater treatment plants) operated by communities, and
- training on illicit discharge detection and elimination (IDDE) for the regulated communities.

Jack has also visited many regulated entities to find out how they are progressing in implementing the six-part stormwater management programs that EPA requires. He has learned that these communities need more guidance on how to create good construction and development oversight programs, so EPA will provide workshops on that topic this winter. If resources allow, they may then offer detailed "how to inspect a construction site" training for community staff, workshops on "good housekeeping" at community facilities, and/or training for "non-traditional" regulated entities like universities and institutions.

For more information contact: Abby Swaine, EPA Region 1-NE (617) 918-1841, swaine.abby@epa.gov.

Federal Electronics Challenge

Chris Beling is heading up the Regional effort to promote the "Federal Electronics Challenge" (FEC) to federal facilities. FEC is a voluntary partnership program that encourages federal facilities and agencies to:

- Purchase greener electronic products,
- Reduce impacts of electronic products during use, and
- Manage obsolete electronics in an environmentally safe way.

Launched nationally in October 2004, FEC targets a broad range of electronic devices ranging from televisions and cellular phones, VCR and DVD players, to personal computers.

For more information contact: Chris Beling, EPA Region 1-NE (617) 918-1792, beling.christine@epa.gov.

Green Buildings

Cynthia Greene has taken the lead on green building design as EPA Region 1-NE prepares for its future move to the Post Office Square Courthouse in downtown Boston. In December, EPA provided comments to architects and building management on sustainability aspects of the cafeteria, including space for recycling, collection of

preparatory and plate food waste, recyclable dinnerware, unbleached napkins, and refillable mugs. Efforts are also underway to design a green roof; use environmentally preferable materials; institute a green cleaning program; and promote energy efficiency, recycling, and source reduction.

For more information contact: Cynthia Greene, EPA Region 1-NE (617) 918-1813, greene.cynthia@epa.gov.



Performance Track Roundtable

On December 14, the Region hosted an annual networking meeting for members of EPA's National Environmental Performance Track Program. Acting Regional Administrator (ARA) Kathy Callahan's opening remarks stressed the Agency's priority on strengthening the program by implementing new federal regulatory incentives that provide benefits to members and enhance the partnership with the States. The ARA also presented special certificates to the two newest members: Brookhaven National Lab and Pfizer Pharmaceuticals Vega Baja and to several renewing members attending the meeting. Members participating in the meeting included Baxter Healthcare, Johnson & Johnson, American Ref Fuel, Navy Lakehurst, National Energy and Gas Transmission, and IBM. Several prospective applicants, such as Schering Plough and Wyeth attended as well.

The program focused on national and state updates from EPA Headquarters, Region 2, and NYS DEC and on the delivery of member services and incentives. This year's "Member's Spotlight" featured Janssen Pharmaceutica's innovative use of renewable energy, stormwater management program, and on-site habitat preservation and restoration efforts. A representative from Baxter International spoke about Baxter's involvement in EPA's Green Suppliers

Network, a voluntary program focused on lean and clean manufacturing. Finally, Steve Rinaldi of the NJ DEP shared information and successes of the New Jersey Waste Wise Business Network – a voluntary public-private partnership initiative in NJ in which several Performance Track members participate.

For more information contact: Marcia Seidner, EPA Region 2, (212) 637-3584.



NORTHEAST ASSISTANCE & P2 ROUNDTABLE

Open Burning of Solid Waste

Backyard burning of solid waste is an important challenge in the overall efforts to control dioxin and other air pollutant emissions in the Northeast. The Northeast state environmental agencies are exploring effective ways to reduce this source of dioxin and other air pollutant emissions in the region. NEWMOA is coordinating with its sister organization, Northeast States for Coordinated Air Use Management (NESCAUM), on a program to address this problem. As part of this project, the two interstate organizations developed the following joint resolution, which was signed by the Northeast State Environmental Commissioners and EPA Regions 1-NE and 2 Administrators during the past fall.

Don't Trash Our Air: A Joint Resolution Promoting Interstate Cooperation to Reduce Air Pollution from Open Burning of Solid Waste

The undersigned State Environmental Commissioners and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 1–New England and Region 2 Administrators acknowledge that open, uncontrolled burning of trash impairs air quality in the surrounding community and may release to the environment fine particles, dioxin-like compounds, heavy metals including lead, arsenic, chromium and mercury, and other hazardous air pollutants, and may

degrade visibility by contributing to the formation of regional haze; and

WHEREAS,

- the nature and composition of household trash includes many plastic and electronic products that contribute to noxious and unhealthful air emissions from uncontrolled burning;
- the conditions under which uncontrolled trashburning occurs (i.e., relatively low temperatures, low oxygen input, no pollution controls) result in higher pollution emissions, pound-for-pound, than those from well-controlled municipal waste incinerators, regardless of waste composition;
- open trash-burning is considered by EPA to be one of the major uncontrolled sources of dioxin-like compounds and other combustion-related toxic pollutants;
- exposure to smoke from open trash-burning may result
 in immediate and long-term health effects, including a
 burning sensation in the eyes and nose, coughing,
 nausea, headaches, dizziness, asthma attacks, increased
 risk of cancer, and aggravation of respiratory illnesses
 in the general population and, in particular, in people
 with heart and lung disease;
- current levels of dioxin-like compounds in the general population approach levels that may be associated with health effects, based on current scientific knowledge, thus the need to minimize exposures to these compounds;
- most states in the Northeast have imposed complete bans and restrictions on open burning of trash due to concern about odors, potential health effects, and risk of fires;
- some residents still continue to openly burn trash; and
- increased outreach and education are needed to encourage residents to safely manage household trash.

THEREFORE, the undersigned resolve to:

- work together to understand the magnitude of the problem and its potential impacts;
- collaborate toward educating the public about the risks associated with uncontrolled open burning of trash and the importance of using safer alternatives;
- support state and local authorities that enforce bans and issue permits restricting open trash-burning;
- support proper solid waste management options, including recycling, that are both convenient and cost-effective;
- strengthen state and local restrictions or broaden bans, where appropriate; and

 share state and local outreach and assistance projects to learn from those experiences.

Arthur J. Rocque, Jr., Commissioner, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection; Dawn R. Gallagher, Commissioner, Maine Department of Environmental Protection; Robert W. Golledge Jr., Commissioner, Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection; Michael P. Nolin, Commissioner, New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services; Bradley M. Campbell, Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection; Erin M. Crotty, Commissioner, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation; Frederick J. Vincent, Interim Director, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management; Jeffrey N. Wennberg, Commissioner, Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation; Robert W. Varney, Regional Administrator U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 1-New England; Jane M. Kenny, Regional Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 2

Mercury Reduction Conference

NEWMOA in cooperation with New England Interstate Training Center (NEITC), the Maine Department of Environmental Protection (ME DEP), and EPA Region 1-NE is organizing a national conference for local, state, tribal and federal government officials on successful strategies for reducing mercury in products and waste. The conference is scheduled to take place May 24-26 in Portland, ME. There are a number of co-sponsoring organizations for the conference including the Quick Silver Caucus, the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC), NESCAUM and others. A conference steering committee has been formed and is planning the agenda for the conference. A save-this-date notice will be going out shortly.

For more information contact: Terri Goldberg, NEWMOA (617) 367-8558 x302, tgoldberg@newmoa.org.

Regional Environmental Assistance Summit

NEWMOA, in cooperation with EPA Region 1-NE and a Steering Committee of the NEWMOA member states, is organizing a regional conference on environmental assistance and pollution prevention for the early fall 2005. Local, state, tribal, and federal officials involved with providing any sort of environmental assistance or pollution prevention program will be invited to participate in the conference. The agenda will focus on sharing strategies, programs, technologies, and policies related to assistance and P2. NEWMOA will be issuing a call for papers in the next month or so; if you are interested in making a

presentation contact NEWMOA at the number below. More details on the conference will be available through the NEWMOA website in the spring 2005.

For more information contact: Terri Goldberg, NEWMOA (617) 367-8558 x302, tgoldberg@newmoa.org.

Pollution Prevention News!

NEWMOA's is one of eight regional centers in the Pollution Prevention Resource Exchange (P2Rx) that is focused on providing a central point of contact for P2 information on the internet. P2Rx is beginning to develop an ability to publish news items related to assistance and pollution prevention. NEWMOA has joined this effort; go to www.newmoa.org/prevention and click on the HOT TOPICS button to access the P2 news. Over the coming year, P2Rx will be expanding this service and linking all of the regional centers' news items. NEWMOA is eager to hear from the readers of this newsletter about the types of P2 news that would be of high interest.

For more information contact: Andy Bray, NEWMOA (617) 367-8558 x306, abray@newmoa.org.

TITLE	SPONSOR	DATE / LOCATION	CONTACT
UMass Green Chemistry Conference	TURI	January 13-14, 2005, Fall River, MA	978-934-3142
Exploring New Rules & Regulations From EPA & DEP	Mintz Levin	January 18, 2005, Boston, MA	617-348-4783
Air Quality, Global Climate Change & Renewable Energy	Electric Utilities Environmental Conference	January 24-26, 2005, Tuscon, AZ	www.euec.com
EPCRA Tier II Workshop for Hospitals	EPA	January 18, 2005, Lawrence, MA; January 20, 2005, Westminster, MA	617-918-1806
Green Chemistry for the Biotech & High Tech Industries	TURI	January 24, 2005, Lowell, MA	978-934-3142
TRI 2005 National Conference	ECOS	February 8-10, 2005, Washington, DC	202-624-3662
EPCRA Tier II Workshop for Hospitals	EPA	February 8, 2005, Windsor Locks, CT; February 9, 2005, Danbury, CT; February 10, 2005, New London, CT	617-918-1806
What it Means to Be Green in Europe	TURI	March 8, 2005, Chicago, IL	978-934-3249
EMS Internal Audit Course	TURI	March 10, 2005, Worcester, MA; June 2, 2005, Woburn, MA	978-924-3275
The Practice of Sustainability	NESEA	March 15-17, 2005, Boston, MA	www.be05.org
Our Watersheds: Working Together to Achieve Results	NEIWPCC	May 24-26, 2005, Bretton Woods, NH	www.neiwpcc.org
5 th Organics Recycling Summit	MA DEP	March 30, 2005, Boxborough, MA	617-292-5734
Advanced Workshop on Community-Based Social Marketing	Aceti Associates	April 11-12, 2005, Boston, MA	781-646-4593
Advancing Environmental Stewardship Through Collaboration	NPPR & Partners	April 11-14, 2005, Chicago, IL	www.p2.org
Continuing Education Conference	TURI	April 14, Sturbridge, MA	978-924-3275
2005 IEEE International Symposium on Electronics & the Environment	IEEE	May 16-19, 2005, New Orleans, LA	www.iseesummit.org
Overcoming Technical & Logistical Challenges of Lead-Free PWB Assembly	TURI	May 26, 2005, Mansfield, MA	978-934-3247
AWMA Annual Conf. & Exhibition	AWMA	June 21-24, 2005, Minneapolis, MN	www.awma.org
Cutting the High Cost of Energy	ACEEE	July 19-22, 2005, West Point, NY	302- 292-3966

For a more complete listing of upcoming events, visit www.newmoa.org



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