



Summer 2005

Special points of interest:

- Governor’s Carbon Challenge
- Environmental Excellence Awards
- Green Certification for Lodging Businesses
- Voluntary Environmental Results Program

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Innovation & Assistance

Governor’s Carbon Challenge Off To A Great Start

The Governor’s Carbon Challenge (GCC) is Maine’s newest innovative voluntary program to reduce greenhouse gases. Participants who have carried out cost effective energy reduction projects get greenhouse gas reduction credits for work completed since 1990 and recognition for past and future work.

The Office of Innovation would like your business or organization to join this exciting leadership program. Please contact Ron Dyer at 287-4152 to learn how to be part of the “First 50”!

DEP is seeking the “First 50” participants by the end of the summer.

Participants include:

- Nordx Laboratories Inc.
- Oakhurst Dairy
- University of Southern Maine
- York Hospital
- National Semiconductor Corp.
- Seacoast Management Co.
- Baldwin Apple Ladders
- City of Portland
- The Chewonki Foundation
- ZF Lemforder Corp.
- Lyman-Morse Boat Building Co.
- Maine Energy Investment Corp.



Green Certification Program for Maine’s Lodging Businesses

Maine DEP’s Pollution Prevention (P2) Program is currently developing the criteria for a “Green” certification program for Maine’s lodging sector. This certification process will commence in 2006 and will be available to any hotel, motel, inn, or bed and breakfast. The certification system will look at energy

use, water use, environmentally preferable cleaners and other elements pertaining to the lodging industry.

Businesses interested in becoming certified should contact Peter Cooke at 791-8101 for more details.

Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence: Apply Now!

On November 4, 2005 Governor Baldacci will present the Governor's Awards for Environmental Excellence to a variety of Maine businesses, organizations, and individuals to recognize their work to protect Maine's environment.

Please note the following categories we will be considering for awards:

STEP-UP (recognizes DEP STEP-UP facilities who have met or exceeded their goals in their STEP-UP agreement with the Department), Environmental Stewardship, Public Health and the Environment, Educational Outreach, Greenhouse Gases, and Pollution Prevention.

The following conditions must be met to be eligible for the Governor's Award:

- Projects must either be completed, or have achieved results,
- Projects must clearly have met the significant targeted challenges described in the categories of environmental health, sustainability or environmental stewardship,
- Projects must show a significant reduction or elimination of a toxic or hazardous chemical in water, air or waste media; or reduction in greenhouse gas emissions,
- Projects must be consistent with current pollution prevention and environmental health and safety standards,
- Applicants must agree to have their project shared with others through a written case study; and
- Applicants must be in complete compliance with all environmental laws, regulations and orders administered or issued by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Selection Criteria

Applications will be evaluated based on the criteria below:

- Greater consideration will be given to projects that have a multimedia reduction or elimination of a toxic or hazardous substance.
- Greater consideration will be given to projects that clearly demonstrate significant, measured reduction, or elimination, of a toxic or hazardous waste.
- Overall improvement, or expected improvement of the quality of the environment and/or human health;
- Level of commitment and effort to pursue sustainability, and to promote pollution prevention and/or environmental protection;
- Promotion of innovative approaches, techniques, or technologies;
- Accomplishment of project goals and commitment to future environmental goals;
- Ability of the project to serve as a model for others or to mentor pollution prevention or sustainability methodologies; and
- Clarity and effectiveness of the application.

For application and more information contact Julie Churchill, Office of Innovation & Assistance, at tel. 287-7881 or email julie.m.churchill@maine.gov.



To save money and reduce emissions contact the Maine Public Utilities Commission's (PUC) Efficiency Maine program for a free energy audit at 1-866-376-2463 or website: efficiencyMAINE.com

Environmental Results for Auto Body, Auto Repair Businesses

The Environmental Results Program of the Office of Innovation and Assistance is beginning site visits targeting auto repair/autobody shops in southern Maine. This project will focus on businesses located in Maine's air quality non-attainment areas in York, Cumberland and Sagadahoc counties.

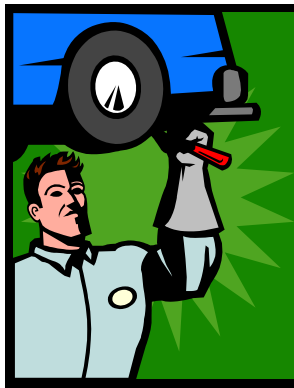
This summer, DEP staff will visit 75 businesses to undertake baseline audits to collect information from questions related to air quality, water quality, and fluids/waste management. Although not compliance inspections, these audits will provide "snapshots" and useful information to allow DEP staff to provide informational workshops, and other assistance to businesses regarding regulations, best management practices (bmps), and pollution prevention.

A pollution prevention checklist for purposes of completing the audits is in final stages of review now and should be available for use soon. A quality assurance project plan is currently under review for final approval by EPA before the audits can begin. The audits

themselves will probably take three to four months of field time to complete.

Once audits are completed, DEP will be holding informational workshops and providing assistance to businesses.

Any questions regarding this project please feel free to contact Sara Lippert, Office of Innovation and Assistance, at tel. 287-4432 or email sara.m.lippert@maine.gov



Training Hosted for Environmental Management Systems

The Maine Department of Environmental Protection's Pollution Prevention Program hosted Environmental Management Systems (EMS) Training in June at their regional office in southern Maine. Participating facilities included:

- Bath Iron Works Corp.
- Kenway Corp.
- Sunday River Ski Area

- Bowdoin College
- Nordx Laboratories Inc.
- Lyman-Morse Boat Building Co.
- University of New England

Businesses and organizations interested in EMS assistance should contact the Pollution Prevention Program's, Peter Cooke, at 791-8101, for more details.

Partnering for Support of Local Farms and Food

Maine DEP has partnered with the Environmental Justice Program of the Maine Council of Churches to encourage citizens of Maine to support local farms for their summer vegetables and dairy goods.

The transportation of food throughout the nation is a major source of greenhouse gases

and climate change. By supporting local farms in Maine, citizens can be a part of the effort to help reduce the impact of greenhouse gases and support the local economies of Maine.

For more information on how to find a local farm in your area, contact Peter Cooke, at 791-8101.

For a free environmental compliance audit of your business or questions, contact our Small Business Assistance Program at tel. 1-800-789-9802 or email roy.t.krout@maine.gov

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Contact Jim Rodrigue at
207-287-8867 or
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for free assistance with your
Toxics & Hazardous Waste
Program questions.

check our web site:
www.maine.gov/dep/oia

Dental Offices Comply with Mercury Amalgam Removal Requirement

Maine DEP has been implementing the amalgam separator law which was passed in 2003 stipulating that if a dental facility, in the process of treating patients, adds, removes, or modifies dental amalgam fillings then they must install an amalgam separator by December 31, 2004.

To assist dentists with compliance with this new requirement, Maine DEP developed a web page which provided the dentists with a clear understanding of exactly what was required of them and provided them with the information they needed to make a decision on which units were best for their situation and met the requirements of the law.

As part of the effort to enforce the new law, Maine DEP staff have been contacting all active licensed dentists in the State of Maine and surveying them to determine if they are required to have an amalgam separator and if they have installed one in accordance with the law.

Currently DEP received notifications from 314 dental facilities, representing 432 individual dentists, confirming that they have installed amalgam separators in accordance with the new law.

Through our telephone surveys, DEP received information from 9 dentists that they were not in compliance with the new law. Three of these situations have been resolved because there was some incorrect information exchanged in the phone survey process. However, the Department is pursuing 6 dentists who are in non-compliance.

Currently, with the results of the phone surveys and the notification forms that have been received, the compliance rate stands at 98%.

The Department is extremely pleased with the efforts of the dental community in Maine and the high rate of compliance with this new law.