



WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Week September 11, 2009

State law assigns four core duties to the State Planning Office that include: 1) conducting continuing economic analysis, including economic forecasting, 2) coordinating the development of the State's economy and energy resources with the conservation of its natural resources; 3) providing technical assistance to towns and regions; and 4) providing technical assistance to the Governor and Legislature by undertaking special studies and plans and preparing policy alternatives.

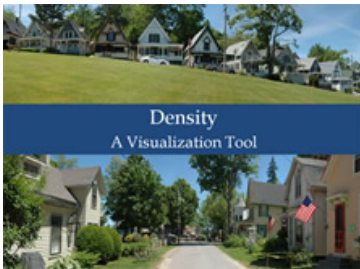
MAINE COASTAL PROGRAM

Trident Yacht Basin becomes Rockland's First 'Clean Marina.' Trident Yacht Basin in Rockland is the Maine Clean Boatyards & Marinas Program's most recently designated Clean Marina. For Trident's president Bill Morong, Jr. this was a natural step for the company to take. "More and more we see customers looking for and making choices to do business with clean marinas. We are really happy that our philosophy of doing what we can to protect our environment is shared our customers." In order to qualify as a Maine Clean Boatyard & Marina, Trident Yacht Basin had to demonstrate a high level of compliance in each of the five 'clean marina' program areas: stormwater management, boat maintenance and repair, fueling activities, solid waste handling, and boat pumpouts and sewage disposal. Participation in the Maine Clean Boatyards & Marinas Program is voluntary; and participating facilities complete a self-assessment, work with assistance providers to make needed improvements, sign a pledge, and then invite a verification team to inspect the facility. The program is implemented by the Maine Marine Trade Association and agency partners with funding from the Maine Coastal Program. **Contact: Paula Thomson at 287-1482 or paula.thomson@maine.gov.**

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

SPO helps Roxbury with flood management issues. This week, staff from SPO's flood management program travelled to Roxbury to assist town officials following a June town meeting vote that jeopardizes residents and businesses' ability to secure flood insurance. At the town's invitation, state and federal representatives described how the town could rejoin the National Flood Insurance program, from which they were suspended earlier this summer, and how to keep their eligibility for federal disaster aid. **CONTACT:** Brigitte Ndikum-Nyada at 287-8932 or brigitte.m.ndikum-nyada@maine.gov at 287-9074 or jetta.antonakos@maine.gov.

LAND USE TEAM



Density Visualization Tool. The SPO Land Use Team has created a brief PowerPoint presentation using Maine-based examples of different housing densities to help town planners, planning boards, and others understand what different densities look like on the ground. You can see the Power Point here:

http://www.maine.gov/spo/landuse/docs/density_visualization.pdf **CONTACT:** Liz Hertz at 287-8061 or elizabeth.hertz@maine.gov .

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND SECURITY

Heating Oil Average Drops. The Governor's Office of Energy Independence and Security (OEIS) conducted its off season oil survey and has found that the current statewide average cash price for No. 2 heating oil to be at **\$2.37 per gallon** falling \$.03 since last week's survey. Within the OEIS sample, the lowest actual heating oil price of \$2.04 per gallon was found in the Southwestern region. The high-end price of \$2.70 per gallon was found in the Eastern region. The statewide kerosene price average is \$2.78 per gallon at this time. At the time of this release the price of WTI crude oil, major driver of refined product prices, including heating oil was \$71.15. **CONTACT:** Ian Burnes at 287-8927 or ian.burnes@maine.gov .