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In the Works

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In The Works is a monthly newsletter providing Environment, Health and Safety (EH&S) news and regulatory updates. The newsletter is provided by Loureiro Engineering Associates, Inc. of Plainville, Connecticut. In this Issue you will find links to the following articles:

CONNECTICUT

RecycleCT Announces New Grants for Schools and Nonprofit Organizations.

Goal is to Increase Recycling Rate and Reuse of Materials

The RecycleCT Foundation, a public-private partnership created to promote recycling, is accepting grant applications from K-12 schools and nonprofits.

The School Grant Program, to support for recycling-related programming at K-12 schools, provides awards up to \$2,500, with application due November 15, 2016.

The Innovation Grant Program, to support new and innovative approaches to recycling and waste reduction, will award as much as \$10,000, with applications due January 20, 2017. Only tax-exempt organizations, including nonprofits and public schools, are eligible to apply.

Commissioner Robert Klee of Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), who chairs RecycleCT, said, "These grants are designed to help advance the state's goal of increasing recycling and reducing waste. These goals are outlined in a new, Comprehensive Materials Management Strategy recently adopted by DEEP."

"The good ideas, hard work, and education needed to meet our statewide goal of 60 percent diversion will come from our schools and innovative nonprofits," Commissioner Klee said. "These grants are aimed squarely at unleashing that potential."

The RecycleCT Foundation was created as a result of legislation in 2014 to raise public awareness and participation in recycling. The legislation also called for the recycling diversion rate to increase to 60 percent by 2024. DEEP says the state's overall recycling rate is currently 35 percent. RecycleCT made over \$12,000 in grants to K-12 schools in 2016.

Current Members of the RecycleCT Council are:

- DEEP Commissioner Robert Klee
- DECD Deputy Commissioner Tim Sullivan
- Tim DeVivo, Willimantic Waste
- Frank Antonacci, Murphy Road Recycling
- Ron Goldstein, Esq.,
- Brian Paganini, Quantum BioPower

More information on the School Grant and Innovation Grant Programs can be found at www.recyclect.org/grants.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

Grants Available for Keeping New Hampshire Waters Clean

New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) is now accepting pre-proposals for the 2017 Watershed Assistance Grants to support local initiatives to restore impaired waters or protect high quality waters.

These grants are offered to municipalities, non-profit organizations, state agencies, regional planning commissions, water suppliers, and county conservation districts. Funds must be used to develop and implement approved watershed plans that address specific water pollution problems.

Funds for Watershed Assistance Grants are appropriated through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. Approximately \$450,000 will be available for grants this year. NHDES awards and administers the grants to local New Hampshire organizations.

NHDES staff members will be available to assist you in developing a comprehensive, pre-proposal for your project. In the Coastal Watershed, contact: Sally Soule (603)559-0032 or sally.soule@des.nh.gov and in all other New Hampshire watersheds, contact: Jeff Marcoux (603)271-8862 or jeffrey.marcoux@des.nh.gov for assistance and to address eligibility before completing a proposal.

For more information and a copy of the proposal, please visit our website at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/division/water/wmb/was/categories/grants.htm>.

MASSACHUSETTS

Massachusetts Governor Baker Signs Climate Change Strategy Executive Order

Order Works to Reduce Carbon Emissions, Protect Residents and Municipalities, Build More Resilient Commonwealth

Building on the Baker-Polito Administration's strong leadership to mitigate and adapt to climate change, Governor Baker today signed an Executive Order pdf format of Executive Order Climate Change Strategy which lays out a comprehensive approach to further reduce greenhouse gas emissions, safeguard residents, municipalities and businesses from the impacts of climate change, and build a more resilient Commonwealth. The Order, Establishing an Integrated Climate Change Strategy for the Commonwealth, represents the collaboration between the Office of the Governor, the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security, and key state, local and environmental stakeholders.

"Combatting and preparing for the impacts of climate change will require a holistic approach across state and local government and collaboration with stakeholders from all corners of the Commonwealth," said Governor Charlie Baker. "By signing this Executive Order, our administration is taking an important step to protect public health and safety, local infrastructure, small businesses, and our state's abundant natural resources from the effects of climate change."

The Executive Order ensures that Massachusetts will continue to lead by example and collaborate across state government to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and build resiliency within government operations. The Order also directs the Executive Offices of Energy and Environmental Affairs and Public Safety and Security to lead the development and implementation of a statewide comprehensive climate adaptation plan that will provide a blueprint for protecting the built and natural environment of the Commonwealth, based on the best available data on existing and projected climate change impacts. Additionally, each Executive Office within the Baker-Polito Administration will be required to designate a Climate Change Coordinator who will work to complete a vulnerability assessment for each office, and assist with implementation and coordination of adaptation and mitigation efforts across state government.

Recognizing the need to strengthen the resilience of communities throughout Massachusetts, the Executive Order directs the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs and the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security to coordinate assistance to cities and towns as they prepare for the impacts of climate change.

"Communities are currently dealing with the impacts of a historic drought and the effects of extreme weather events," said Secretary of Public Safety and Security Daniel Bennett. "This Order will enhance state and local collaboration, helping communities to more quickly recover from violent storms and extreme weather.

To further position Massachusetts to meet the state's environmental requirements under the Global Warming Solutions Act, the Executive Order directs the Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) to engage stakeholders, examine emission limits from a range of sectors, and outline a timeline to promulgate regulations to ensure the Commonwealth meets statewide carbon reduction targets. In addition, the Baker-Polito Administration will work with state and regional transportation leaders, and environment and energy agencies to outline additional steps necessary to develop regional policies to reduce transportation sector emissions. The work will be concurrent with efforts to continue to lead on reform of regional electric energy markets so that power generators can all compete to meet the state mandates for clean energy. The state will also complete a comprehensive energy plan that will enable forward-looking analysis of energy demands and strategies for meeting these demands that include conservation, energy efficiency and other demand-reduction resources.

“With the stroke of a pen, Governor Baker has moved the Commonwealth’s conversation about GWSA implementation and climate change from legal quibbling to getting the job done, while also acting to protect our economy and communities from climate threats that are now unavoidable,” said Conservation Law Foundation president Bradley Campbell. “CLF looks forward to working with the administration to develop meaningful, effective regulations that reduce greenhouse gas emissions as the law requires and change destructive patterns of development that ignore climate risk.”

The Executive Order, which will be reviewed again in 2019 and every five years thereafter, builds upon significant efforts already ongoing across the Baker-Polito Administration to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Initiatives and programs underway across state government include vulnerability assessments and resiliency plans within the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance, Department of Transportation, Massachusetts Water Resources Authority, Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, and MassPort. To address mitigation, the Commonwealth has been working since 2008 to implement the Global Warming Solutions Act, and has numerous policies and initiatives in place to help meet emissions reduction limits. Other existing initiatives and grant programs include the Dam and Seawall Repair Fund, the Coastal Resiliency Grant Program, the Lead by Example Program, and the Community Clean Energy Resiliency Initiative.

“Climate change is already harming communities across the Commonwealth,” said State Representative Frank Smizik (D-Brookline), Chairman of the House Committee on Global Warming and Climate Change. “By coordinating adaptation planning on the state level, we can make resources and information accessible for all regions to prepare for the economic, health, and safety impacts of climate change. Governor Baker’s Executive Order is a critical first step in addressing our state’s vulnerabilities and protecting our communities.”