

**NORTH COUNTRY
COUNCIL
PLANNING
REGION
COMMUNITIES**

- Albany
- Bath
- Benton
- Bartlett
- Berlin
- Bethlehem
- Campton
- Carroll
- Chatham
- Clarksville
- Colebrook
- Columbia
- Conway
- Dalton
- Dummer
- Easton
- Eaton
- Ellsworth
- Errol
- Franconia
- Gorham
- Groton
- Harts Location
- Haverhill
- Jackson
- Jefferson
- Lancaster
- Landaff
- Lincoln
- Lisbon
- Littleton
- Lyman
- Madison
- Milan
- Monroe
- Northumberland
- Pittsburg
- Plymouth
- Randolph
- Rumney
- Shelburne
- Stark
- Stewartstown
- Stratford
- Sugar Hill
- Thornton
- Warren
- Waterville Valley
- Wentworth
- Whitefield
- Woodstock

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Bethlehem, NH 03574

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Pre-sort Standard

NCC will be coordinating three HHW collection events this summer. They will be held on July 18th (Bethlehem), August 15th (Plymouth), and August 30th (Littleton). The collections are open to residents from the following communities free of charge; Ashland, Bethlehem, Campton, Carroll, Danbury, Dorchester, Easton, Ellsworth, Franconia, Groton, Lancaster, Landaff, Lisbon, Littleton, Lyman, Plymouth, Rumney, Sugar Hill, Thornton, Warren, Waterville Valley and Wentworth. Residents from other communities are welcome to participate but they will be assessed a fee, depending upon the amount of waste they bring. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact James Steele @ 444-6303 x 15 or jsteele@nccouncil.org.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!
UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS...**

July 1, 2009, **Ammonoosuc Local Advisory Committee**, 4:30 p.m., NCC Offices.

July 16, 2009, **CPTNC**, 12-2:00 p.m., NCC Offices.

July 16, 2009, 1-2:30 p.m.
Webinar—Biodegradable Plastics 101, NCC Library.

July 18, 2009, **HHW Collection**, Bethlehem Highway Garage, 9:00-12:00 Noon.

August 5, 2009, **CEDS Meeting**, 2-4 p.m., NCC Offices.

August 12, 2009, **NCC Quarterly Meeting**, 5:30-8:00 p.m., Red Barn Rocks Estate.

August 15, 2009, **HHW Collection**, Plymouth Transfer Station, 9:00-12:00 Noon.

August 19, 2009, **Transportation Advisory Committee**, 3-5:30 p.m., NCC Offices.

August 20, 2009, 1-2:30 p.m. **Webinar—Sustainable Product Outlook**, 1-2:30 p.m., NCC Offices.

August 26, 2009, **NCC Board Meeting**, 3-5 p.m., NCC Offices.

August 30, 2009, **HHW Collection**, Littleton Transfer Station, 9:00-12:00 Noon.

September 2, 2009, **Ammonoosuc Local Advisory Committee**, 4:30 p.m., NCC Offices.

DID YOU KNOW?

OUR NEWSLETTER IS NOW
AVAILABLE VIA OUR
WEBSITE

WWW.NCCOUNCIL.ORG



North Country Council
Regional Planning Commission

POINTS NORTH

A Regional Report From The North Country Council

North Country Council, 107 Glessner Road, Bethlehem, NH 03574

June 2009

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Littleton Food Coop Open For Business

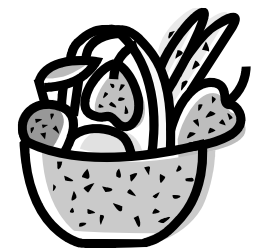
Article by: Patricia Garvin



On May 27, 2009 the Littleton Food Co-op hosted a ribbon-cutting ceremony to mark its

official opening. Food vendors, including local producers from Whitefield and Bethlehem, offered sample tastings. The Co-op opened with over 3,000 members, far exceeding their expectations, although they are quick to point out that non-members are welcome to shop there as well. The Co-op is located on Rt. 302, at the corner of Cottage Street in

Littleton. For more information about the Littleton Food Co-op, go to www.littletoncoop.org



Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planning

Article by: June Garneau

In 2001, the Federal Government mandated that all local communities complete a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan in order to qualify for future Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding in case of a disaster. Hazard mitigation planning is as important to reducing disaster losses, as are appropriate building codes and land-use ordinances. With the development of a Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plan, community leaders are able to identify goals, discuss a variety of potential hazards and establish strategies to reduce the impact of these hazards on the people and structures within the community.

Every year since 2001, to provide guidance and assistance through this hazard mitigation planning process. North Country Council works with communities to assist in the development of Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plans at no cost to towns except volunteer time from committee members.

Since 2001, North Country Council has assisted thirteen towns in the preparation of their mitigation plans: Colebrook, Monroe, Haverhill, Dalton, Jefferson, Lisbon, Lincoln, Northumberland, Randolph, Warren, Littleton, Waterville Valley, Franconia, Gorham, Pittsburg, Bethlehem, Wentworth, Campton, Landaff and Jackson.

Currently, NCC is working on Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plans for the communities of: Milan, Dummer, Errol, and Carroll and will continue this work throughout the summer and fall with Benton, Easton, Ellsworth and Albany. In addition, work with Lincoln, Whitefield, Lancaster, Lisbon, Stark and Haverhill has begun on Plan updates.

Please contact June Garneau, GIS & Multi-Hazard Mitigation Planner, if you have any questions regarding this program at: jgarneau@nccouncil.org.



New Hampshire's Water Resources

Article by: NCC Planning Staff



Planner's Corner

Does your town allow building in the floodplain if it is "floodproofed"?

Are state regulations the only protection for your local wetlands?

Is development in your town allowed right on the shoreline of headwater

streams where shallow soils can lead to serious erosion?

Is your local river brown in the spring from sedimentation caused by lack of shoreline buffers?

Does your zoning allow hazardous activities over important aquifers?

Over 40 North Country officials and volunteers attended a recent NHDES and North Country Council presentation at The Rocks Estate in Bethlehem on the state of New Hampshire's water resources and what communities can do to protect them. Discussion focused on the *New Hampshire Water Resources Primer*, recently

published by NHDES, and *Innovative Land Use Planning Techniques – A Handbook for Sustainable Development*, developed by the state's regional planning commissions with NHDES.

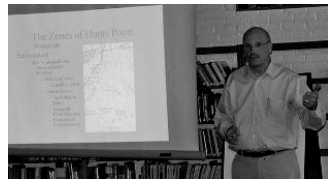
As follow-up to this event, with US EPA and ARRA assistance provided by NHDES, North Country Council is offering free assistance with these issues to the first two member communities to submit requests. Assistance will include meetings with the planning board, facilitation of public input, drafting and editing amendment language, and assistance meeting state requirements for proper adoption.

Does your town have no or minimal zoning? If desired, North Country Council can help you draft a simple zoning ordinance to address only water resource protection. Since water quality impacts do not stop at town lines, it is essential that every community do its part to protect the high quality water resources our region's economy depends upon.

Call, write or email NCC Planning Director Tara Bamford today (603-444-6303 or tbamford@nccouncil.org) to be sure your community is chosen for this free assistance

Preston Gilbert Presents a Brownfield Redevelopment Case Study

Article By: Patricia Garvin



Preston Gilbert, former Executive Director of North Country Council and currently Operations Director of the SUNY Center for Brownfield Studies in Syracuse, NY, presented the Hunts Point Food Village as a case study in the redevelopment of a "brownfield" site at North Country Council's Quarterly Representatives Meeting in April. A brownfield property is a site on which redevelopment, expansion or reuse may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a

hazardous substance, pollutant, or contamination.

Mr. Gilbert presented an overview of the brownfield redevelopment process currently underway at Hunt's Point in New York City. This site in the Bronx is home to the new Fulton Fish Market, and is slated to become the Hunt's Point Food Village. The Village will be a food destination center, with restaurants and shops, as well as a wholesale distribution center. The focus of the redevelopment is to spur reinvestment in the neighborhood as a whole, support and enhance existing businesses, create jobs and foster entrepreneurial opportunities.

The ultimate redevelopment is targeted at 110 different sites through the area. The first phase---a regeneration strategy--- is designed to set this neighborhood transformation in motion by focusing on three priority sites. The priority sites will provide space for 100 specialty food processors, manufacturers and food related product dealers---primarily fish, ethnic foods and NY State products. It will also create an educational partnership with local schools, develop green spaces and transportation links for rail and trolley.

Lessons for Groveton

Mr. Gilbert stressed that the redevelopment of Hunt's

Point had many factors in common with Groveton and the former Wausau and Groveton Paper Board complex. While the specific environmental issues may be different, the need to proceed in a holistic manner, involving the community, the site advantages and restrictions, market-driven reuse opportunities, funding and financing all need to factor into an implementation strategy that leads to a completed project. Mr. Gilbert emphasized community involvement in the process from the beginning. This process is not a quick fix, instead it is focused on long-term sustainability to meet the needs of the community into the future.



Coordinated Transportation in the North Country

Article By: Mary Deppe

North Country Regional Coordinated Transit and Human Services Transportation Plan – A large portion of the residents of New Hampshire's North Country, as well as the rest of the state, do not have access to personal automobiles. Given the rural nature of the region, there is inadequate access to public transportation and transit, making it difficult to access employment, health care, shopping and recreation. North Country Council updated the *North Country Regional Coordinated Transit and Human Services Transportation Plan* with the purpose of developing a comprehensive strategy to assist stakeholders like the NH Department of Transportation (NHDOT), NH Department of Health and Human Services (NHDHHS), transportation providers, transportation coordinators, and other community agencies in helping North Country residents meet their transportation needs.

The goals for this plan include:

Develop an inventory of transportation providers (public, private and human services).

Identify the unmet transportation needs for individuals with disabilities, older adults, and people with lower incomes.

Identify gaps in available services.

Identify strategies to meet the identified needs and to maximize the use of limited transportation resources through coordination.

Prioritize transportation services for funding and implementation.

Recommend funding sources that can be used for various transportation projects.

Enhance mobility between communities.

Increase access to jobs, schools, medical centers, and other essential human services.

Increase citizen awareness of public transit and human service transportation providers and programs.

The *North Country Regional Coordinated Transit and Human Services Transportation Plan* is currently in the final stages of development and will be available at www.nccouncil.org in July 2009.

RideShare Program – Many North Country residents have showed an interest in supplementing the existing transportation system with a RideShare Program that would provide increased mobility for residents of Grafton, Carroll and Coos Counties. With the rural nature of the North Country region, many people travel long distances to labor market areas and to

large employers to access jobs. North Country Council has received funding from the NHDOT to develop, launch and promote "North Country RideShare": an initiative to promote the NH RideShare matching service and provide public education to increase success of the program in the North Country. North Country RideShare will offer some residents an alternative to single occupancy vehicle commutes. For some residents who have no vehicle at all, North Country RideShare will provide a means to travel to employment where none now exists.

Development of Regional Coordinating Councils (RCC) – The NHDOT and NHDHHS are working to develop a "seamless" transportation system that connects system users from one part of the state to another. In order to do this, Regional Coordinating Councils must be developed in each region to work with providers to implement coordination policies and provide feedback to the Statewide Coordinating Council relative to policies. The Regional Coordinating Councils would oversee their respective Regional Transportation Coordinators, or transportation brokers. There is a need for transportation providers, users, regional planners, and others interested in public transit to be involved in this process. North Country Council has received fund-



ing through the NHDOT to assist in the development and administration of the RCC's in the North Country region.

Plymouth Transport Central – North Country Council will be receiving funding through the NHDOT to assist Transport Central with a study of the feasibility of a transit system in the Plymouth area. Transport Central is a New Hampshire 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization that has been established to develop transportation services for transportation-challenged residents of the 19-town Plymouth catchment area. The goal of Transport Central is to make sure that three types of transportation services are available for residents in need:

1. Scheduled transportation to medical facilities at Dartmouth Hitchcock Hospital, Lakes Region Hospital, and Concord Hospital.

2. An on-call volunteer system to provide local transportation in the 19-town area as well as to coordinate with fixed-route services.

3. Scheduled service with multiple stops within the Plymouth area, including medical services and shopping.

(Transportation will be coordinated with the Plymouth Area Senior Center's transportation system to prevent duplicate services.)