

**NORTH COUNTRY
COUNCIL
PLANNING
REGION
COMMUNITIES**

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Jefferson
Lancaster
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Milan
Monroe
Northumberland
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Randolph
Rumney
Shelburne
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North Country Council, Inc.
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Bethlehem, NH 03574

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DID YOU KNOW?

OUR NEWSLETTER IS NOW
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WWW.NCCOUNCIL.ORG

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

An up-to-date listing of meetings and events is available on our website at www.nccouncil.org

March 18, 2009, **NCC Board Meeting**, 3-5 p.m., NCC Offices.

March 19, 2009, **Solid Waste Meeting**, 2-4 p.m., NCC Offices.

March 26, 2009, **Local Energy Committee Workshop**, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Lancaster Town Hall.

April 1, 2009, **CEDS Meeting**, 2-4 p.m., NCC Offices.

April 1, 2009, **Ammonoosuc LAC Meeting**, 4:30 p.m., NCC Offices.

April 14, 2009, **NCC Quarterly Meeting**, 5-7 p.m., Groveton High School Library.

April 15, 2009, **Transportation Advisory Committee**, 3-5:30 p.m., NCC Offices.

May 6, 2009, **Ammonoosuc LAC Meeting**, 4:30 p.m., NCC Offices.

May 20, 2009, **NCC Board Meeting**, 3-5 p.m., NCC Offices.

May 27, 2009, **NCC Quarterly Meeting**, 5:30-7:00 p.m. Red Barn Rocks Estate.

June 3, 2009, **CEDS Meeting**, 2-4 p.m., NCC Offices.

June 17, 2009, **NCC Board Meeting**, 3-5 p.m., NCC Offices.

June 17, 2009, **Transportation Advisory Committee**, 3-5:30 p.m., NCC Offices.

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



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

March 2009

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Inside This Issue

<i>Around the NCC Region</i>	
• NCC Website Updated	2
• Route US 3 Local Concerns	2
• HHW—Is your waste Hazardous?	3
• Solid Waste Bills	3
• HHW Collections	3
<i>Upcoming Events</i>	4

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2008-2013 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Now Available

Article By: Jeff Hayes

NCC's 2008-2013 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is now available on our website at www.nccouncil.org. It contains over 300 pages of colorful maps displaying everything from industrial parks locations to conservation areas, demographics to cell tower locations. The CEDS contains important information for those interested in the region's economic assets including business owners, planning boards, and community and economic development professionals. It has directly resulted in over \$40 million of federal community infrastructure investment in the region by the US Economic Development Administration over North Country Council's 40 year history as a municipal-based organization.

Driving the strategy is the CEDS Committee, representing over 30 economic development experts from across the region. This group analyzed the region's major strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats and developed goals for the next 5 years. The CEDS Committee will now have the primary role of implementing the CEDS and evaluating the results.

NCC is coordinating the update of the CEDS document with the North Country Resource Conservation and Development District's (RC&D's) Area Plan. We have integrated our Goals, SWOT analysis, and implementation plans in attempt to better coordinate our strategies. We will also share sur-

vey information and co-sponsor community listening sessions in the spring of 2009. NCC is also partnering with NH Employment Security to survey Coos County workers, who are on average, the most distressed workers in the region. This work will be updating a Business and Worker survey NCC first administered in June of 2000.

Please send any comments or suggestions on the 2008 CEDS update to Assistant Executive Director Jeff Hayes at jhayes@nccouncil.org. Hard copies of the CEDS will be mailed to each of the 51 communities in the North Country region.

Workshop Announced for Local Energy Committees

Article by: Pat Garvin

Julia Dundorf of the NH Carbon Challenge/ Carbon Coalition and Christa Koehler of Clean Air-Cool Planet will be guest speakers at a meeting hosted by the CEDC and NCC on Thurs, March 26th from 6:30-8:30 at the Lancaster Town Hall, 25 Main St., Lancaster.

Julia and Christa are assisting Local Energy Committees

around the state in formation, energy/greenhouse gas inventorying and energy project prioritization. They will conduct an interactive presentation covering: a brief overview of the landscape of local energy action in communities across the state; an in depth discussion of suggested first steps for energy committees and municipalities; emphasis will be on the

tools and resources for conducting an energy inventory, creating and presenting the inventory report to town officials and; utilization of this process to prioritize energy projects in your community in preparation for project funding opportunities, such as Stimulus funding. Energy Committee members, municipal staff and community members are encouraged to attend.

A Tool for North Country Communities

Article by: NCC Planning Staff

Planner's Corner

Have you browsed www.nccouncil.org lately?

NCC Services has been completely updated with current information on services available to member communities in the areas of:

- Transportation
- Economic Development
- Multi-Hazard Mitigation Plans
- Solid Waste Technical Assistance

- Natural Resource Planning
- Housing Needs Assessment
- Community Planning
- Public Participation
- Assistance with Review of Subdivisions or Site Plan Applications
- Community Outreach and Education
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

NCC Projects provides summaries of a sampling of current or recent projects – both Economic Development and Community Plan-

ning. Read updates on the Coos Economic Action Plan or download the Plan. See what's in the works with the second round of Coos County Sudden and Severe Impact funds. Browse a master plan custom tailored to the needs of a small town, or download model ordinances developed by NCC along with the state's other eight regional planning commissions to provide towns with more flexible approaches to density and clear, easy to apply tools to protect your town's environment.

Resources provides links to a wide variety of other sites with information helpful for local planning or economic development projects.

NCC Event Calendar lists upcoming events of both North Country Council and partner organizations, along with links to registration information where applicable.



Local Concerns about US 3 Receive Center Stage

Article by: NCC Planning Staff



NCC Planners held a series of meetings over the winter to identify issues along the US 3 corridor of concern to local officials, residents and businesses. The meetings were held in Stratford, Northumberland, Lancaster and Whitefield and were one of the first steps in the development of a management plan for US 3 through the four towns.

Like many of the region's state and federal highways,

US 3 is both an important foundation of the North Country's transportation system and is also a main street for the town's village areas along it. This sometimes leads to conflicts between through traffic and traffic entering and exiting businesses, as well as concerns for pedestrian safety. Several locations were identified during the public meetings that were considered unsafe by townspeople due to:

- Confusing intersection
- Poor intersection geometry
- Inadequate site distance at intersection
- Lack of separation between pedestrians, bicycles and traffic
- Passing zone by busy local facility

- Excess speeds
- Wildlife crossings
- Traffic entering and exiting a business
- Inadequate shoulders to pass on the right
- Crosswalks absent or in poor location.

Other issues raised at the public meetings included poorly functioning downtown parking, the need for transportation alternatives, inadequate signs, a need for more energy efficient lighting and lack of handicapped accessibility.

In addition to these public meetings, issues were also identified through a traffic study and a windshield survey of the corridor during the spring and summer.

North Country Council's

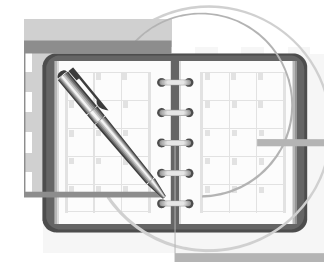
planning team will be working with local officials and NHDOT staff to develop recommendations for access management, traffic calming, and other improvements to address these problems.

For more information on the US 3 Corridor Management Plan, or to discuss other high priority transportation corridors in the region, contact NCC's Planning Director, Tara Bamford at tbamford@nccouncil.org



Webcast Scheduled for Monitoring and Reporting EPA's 2008 MSGP

The US EPA has scheduled a Webcast – **Monitoring and Reporting for EPA's 2008 MSGP** for Thursday, March 19, 2009 2:00 pm – 4:00 pm. The webcast will discuss the monitoring requirements in the 2008 MSGP (multi-sector general permit), including how to collect samples, complete an MSGP Discharge Monitoring Report (MDMR) form, and submit the monitoring results electronically via EPA's eNOI system. In addition, the webcast will also discuss annual and other reporting requirements for all facilities. This webcast follows up on EPA's November 5, 2008 webcast on "EPA's New Industrial Stormwater Permit: What You Need to Know About the 2008 MSGP", which focused on application and SWPPP requirements in the 2008 MSGP. An archived version of that webcast can be downloaded at www.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/msgp. NCC has registered for this webcast and invites those who do not have internet access to attend. Space is limited so if you would like to attend please contact James Steele to register.



The following are brief descriptions of proposed bills currently in the NH legislature. If you want more details, you can find them online as follows: go to www.nh.gov and click on "Legislative Branch" to the right under State Government. Now under Legislation, click "Quick Search." Type in the bill number in the appropriate location with no spaces between, for example, "HB283." Then you can click on "Bill Docket," "Bill Status," and "Bill Text" to the left. The docket tells you any hearings or work sessions; the status tells you the bill's current status and the sponsors whom you can e-mail by clicking on their names; and the text provides the entire bill.

HB283 - Establishes a solid waste management fund, establishes a beverage container fee, and changes the name, duties, and membership of the recycling market development steering committee. (Retained in committee 2/26/09)

HB338 - Adds video display media recorders, players, and computers to the list of items that may not be placed in a landfill or incinerated. This bill is a request of the commission to study electronic waste. (Due out of committee 3/19/09)

HB350 - Prohibits the sale and distribution of household cleaning products containing phosphorus. (Due out of committee 3/19/09)

HB423 - Requires payment of an annual fee for solid waste permits. This bill also

Solid Waste Bills

Article by: James Steele

establishes a fund for solid waste management. (Floor date scheduled for 3/04/09)

HB607 - Establishes the pharmaceutical drug disposal program. The bill grants rulemaking authority to the commissioner of the department of health and human services for the purposes of the bill. (Retained in committee 2/26/09)

HB675 - Requires a refundable deposit on beverage containers. (Retained in committee 2/26/09)

Household Hazardous Waste—Is Your Waste Hazardous?

Household hazardous waste is residue of potentially harmful substances you use in your home. Hazardous waste usually has one or more of the following symbols:



Toxic / Poison

These may cause short- or long-term illness (such as cancer). Pesticides, paint thinners, many auto products, and some cleaners are toxic. Look for words on the product label like: "Harmful or fatal if swallowed." If it says "Use only in a well-ventilated area," this means product fumes are toxic.



Flammable

As the name implies, flammable products burn easily. Paint, paint thinners, other solvents, and auto products are the most flammable home products. They usually have warning labels like: "Do

not use near heat or flame. Combustible. Do not smoke while using this product."



Corrosive

These items eat through materials like acid. Oven cleaners, drain cleaners, toilet bowl cleaners, and auto batteries are common corrosive products. Warning labels include: "Causes severe burns on contact. Can burn eyes, skin, throat."

North Country Council has scheduled the following HHW collection events for 2009:

Dates & Locations

All collections will be open (rain or shine) from 9:00 a.m. and close promptly at 12:00 p.m.

Saturday, July 18th
Bethlehem Highway Garage
Prospect St., Bethlehem

Saturday, August 15th
Plymouth Transfer Station
Beech Hill Rd, Plymouth

Sunday, August 30th
Littleton Transfer Station
Mt. Eustis Rd, Littleton

All residents are encouraged to utilize one or all of these collections. Fees apply for residents of communities that have not pre-registered. Contact James Steele at 444-6303 for further information.

