



WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

Week ending May 22, 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 COMMISSION FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

Maine HEARTH (Home Energy Aid & Response Team Help). Maine HEARTH aims to connect the many generous responses communities have developed to support those trying to stay safe and warm at home. AmeriCorps VISTA members will convene regional or countywide councils supporting residents' ability to stay safe and warm in their homes. Councils will foster coordination and replication of successful approaches, identify gaps in responses to local needs, identify emerging needs at the local level, and connect volunteers with opportunities to support local responses. Resources for these VISTA positions have been made available through the 2009 American Recovery & Reinvestment Act. Sites include Rural Community Action Ministries (Androscoggin), United Way Tri-Valley Area (Franklin), HealthReach RSVP (Kennebec), Habitat for Humanity/7 Rivers Maine (Lincoln and Sagadahoc), Healthy Oxford Hills (Oxford), University of Maine Cooperative Extension Offices (Piscataquis and Somerset), Waldo Community Action Partners (Waldo), United Way of York County (York) and Sea Coast Mission (Hancock). **CONTACT: Pam Zeutenhorst at 287.5313 or pam.zeutenhorst@maine.gov.**

COASTAL PROGRAM

2009 Shore and Harbor Planning Grants. The Maine Coastal Program has awarded 12 new Shore and Harbor Planning Grants. The grants are made to coastal municipalities to promote sound waterfront planning, harbor management, and balanced development of shore and harbor areas that improve marine infrastructure and assure

access to the shore. Funds may be used for harbor planning, including harbor management plans, ordinances, and mooring plans; as well as, planning studies for public and working access, planning and designing of harbor improvements, developing management plans for municipal facilities in harbors and waterfronts that border upon and may include state-owned submerged lands.

**Summary Table
2009 Shore and Harbor Planning Grants**

Municipality	Project Title	Grant Award
Freeport	Harraseeket River Shellfish Management Plan	\$8,800
Freeport	Winslow Park Erosion Control Plan	\$17,000
Harpswell	Harbor Management Plans	\$20,000
Kennebunkport	Mooring Plan	\$5,000
Kittery	Harbor Development Economic Feasibility Study	\$8,918
Machias	Machias River Walkway Project	\$20,000
Mount Desert	N.E. Harbor Waterfront Redevelopment Project	\$20,000
Rockland	Public Landing Engineering Study and Design Project	\$11,100
Stonington	Mooring Field Project	\$5,200
Topsham	Lower Village Public Access and Redevelopment Project	\$20,000
Vinalhaven	Carver's Harbor Mooring Project	\$3,750
Wiscasset	Mooring Removal Project	\$2,250

Funds are provided through the state's NOAA funded Coastal Management Program and the Submerged Lands Fund managed by the Maine Department of Conservation, Submerged Lands Program. **CONTACT: Jim Connors at 287-8938 or jim.connors@maine.gov**

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND SECURITY

Heating Oil Price Averages Leveling Off. 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 **\$2.09 per gallon** the same as last week's survey. Within the OEIS sample, the lowest actual heating oil price of \$1.69 per gallon was found in the Southwestern region. The high-end price of \$2.35 per gallon was found in the Northern region. At the time of this release the price of WTI crude oil, major driver of refined product prices, including heating oil was \$48.53. The statewide kerosene price average is \$2.54 per gallon at this time. The next survey is scheduled for May 26, 2009. **CONTACT: Ian Burnes at 287-8927 or ian.burnes@maine.gov .**

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Maine Floodplain and Mapping News released. In this edition of the newsletter read about the Woods Hole LIDAR update, Oxford county mapping, and FEMA's \$10 million commitment to aid Maine's recovery from December's ice storm. Click [here](#) to read this and past newsletter editions. **CONTACT: Joseph Young at 287-8051 or joseph.young@maine.gov.**