



## WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

June 11, 2010

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.

### COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

**Legislature's Natural Resources Committee asks SPO to present again.** SPO will provide the committee its recycling recommendations in response to the committee's request for ways to increase Maine's statewide recycling rate. Sue Inches' presentation will be Monday, June 14 at 10:00 am in Room 214 of the State Office Building. **CONTACT:** Sue Inches at 287-2989 or [sue.inches@maine.gov](mailto:sue.inches@maine.gov) or Sam Morris at 287-8054 or [sam.morris@maine.gov](mailto:sam.morris@maine.gov)

**Five-year floodplain management plan released.** This week the floodplain management program at SPO submitted its five-year plan to FEMA, its funding agency. This plan is a requirement for the state of Maine under FEMA's community assistance program grant. It is intended to show the relationship of Maine's community assistance activities and resource allocation to achieving the flood loss prevention goals of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and to identify gaps that may prevent effective flood management in Maine. To see the plan:

<http://www.maine.gov/spo/flood/publications.htm>. **CONTACT:** Sue Baker at 287-8063 or [sue.baker@maine.gov](mailto:sue.baker@maine.gov)

### ECONOMICS AND DEMOGRAPHICS

**Coastline population growth.** SPO's economics and demographics staff released an analysis of Maine coastline population, which has been growing since the 1960s. More

people have been moving to the coastline counties than to the non-coastline counties. From 2000 to 2008, Maine's coastline counties had an average net migration of 3,044 while the non-coastline counties had an average net migration of 1,284. When data from the 2010 Census are released, we'll know whether this pattern has continued during the economic challenges of the past few years. For more information: [Coastline population trends, 1960-2008](#). CONTACT: Michael LeVert at 287-1479 or [michael.levert@maine.gov](mailto:michael.levert@maine.gov)

## MAINE COMMISSION FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

**Call for 9/11 service projects.** Maine National Service programs are invited to submit a service project in honor of the *9/11 Day of Service and Remembrance*. The Maine Commission for Community Service challenge to National Service programs all over Maine is to develop volunteer service projects that engage local residents and National Service members in efforts that honor those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001. Commission members and staff will join volunteers to complete their projects. Find out more in the "[Invitation to Apply](#)." CONTACT: Rochelle Runge at 287-8933 or [Rochelle.runge@maine.gov](mailto:Rochelle.runge@maine.gov)



**Jay students to erect geodesic dome.** As part of a service learning grant funded by Time Warner Cable and the Commission, Jay Middle School will erect a geodesic dome on Saturday June 12, allowing them to grow produce for the school cafeteria and local food pantry. This grant was awarded to the school in part because of its focus on STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) education. It is part of Time Warner Cable's *Connect a Million Minds* initiative. The initiative aligns with the Commission's goal of bringing quality service learning to Maine students while increasing the public's understanding of service learning and its benefits to students. CONTACT: Rochelle Runge at 287-8933 or [Rochelle.runge@maine.gov](mailto:Rochelle.runge@maine.gov)

## LAND USE PLANNING

**Climate Change in Maine webinar on June 17.** The land use team at SPO has launched a program of planning webinars for Maine communities to examine planning tools available and present examples of successful programs and policies implemented locally. The next webinar, *Adaptation to Sea Level Rise in Saco Bay*, is scheduled for

June 17 from 12:00 – 1:00 PM. It will be presented by Peter Slovinsky, Marine Geologist, Maine Geological Survey, Department of Conservation and J.T. Lockman, AICP, Planning Director, Southern Maine Regional Planning Commission.

The webinar's purpose is to share experiences gained by working with coastal communities in Maine. It will include outreach strategies and approaches to adaptation to sea level rise. To register or find out more about planning for climate change, visit SPO's website at [Planning for Climate Change](#). CONTACT: [Ruta Dzenis](#) at 287-2851 or [ruta.dzenis@maine.gov](mailto:ruta.dzenis@maine.gov)

#### GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF ENERGY INDEPENDENCE AND SECURITY

**Heating oil prices down one cent this week.** The Governor's Office of Energy Independence and Security's June 7, 2010, oil survey found the current statewide average cash price for No. 2 heating oil to be \$2.61 per gallon, down one cent from last week. At the time of this release the price of WTI crude oil, a major driver of refined product prices, including heating oil was \$72.24. The office believes that the sluggish economy may be keeping heating oil prices relatively constant. CONTACT: Jeffrey Marks at 287-8927 or [Jeffrey.marks@maine.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.marks@maine.gov)