



F.Y.I. — 12/17/09

### **NH CDFA ESTABLISHES ENERGY REDUCTION FUND**

The Energy Reduction Fund is a low-interest loan and grant program available to businesses and non-profit organizations to help finance energy improvements and renewable energy projects in buildings owned by micro, small, medium, and large commercial businesses and non-profit organizations. The NH CDFA and its partners, the New Hampshire Community Loan Fund and the Jordan Institute, were awarded \$3.5 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding through the New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning, to capitalize a revolving loan fund, the Energy Reduction Fund, to reduce energy costs and consumption. A small portion of the funds will be used for grants to conduct energy audits, provide down payment grants to those businesses and non-profits that provide services to those that have been hardest hit by the recession, to leverage significant private sector funds, and to encourage investments in renewable energy. A larger percentage of the funds will be used as loans for businesses to reduce their energy costs.

To learn more, please visit [http://www.nhcdfa.org/web/erp/erf/erf\\_overview.html](http://www.nhcdfa.org/web/erp/erf/erf_overview.html)

### **UPDATING THE COORDINATED TRANSIT AND HUMAN SERVICES TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

To ensure that evolving transit and human services needs are continually met by appropriate federal transit funding, the Lakes Region Planning Commission, working in cooperation with the Central New Hampshire Regional Planning Commission, has begun the process of updating the *Coordinated Transit and Human Services Transportation Plan for Belknap County and the Central NH Region*. The updated plan will be used by the New Hampshire Department of Transportation to review applications for the Job Access Reverse Commute and New Freedom grants. Projects must come from this coordinated plan to be considered eligible for federal funding under these two programs. The first step in updating the existing plan will be to hold a regional forum on January 13, 2010. Once the plan has been updated, a Regional Coordinating Council will be developed. Go to <http://www.cnhrpc.org/transportation/CoordinatedTrans.html> for more information.

### **REAL NEW HAMPSHIRE SPRING WATER**

NH2O, spring water bottled at the source in Belknap County, was the subject of a "Notable Edibles" feature in the Winter 2009/2010 edition of *Edible White Mountains*, a quarterly magazine celebrating the wholesomeness of local food. Committed to providing the finest quality spring water for public consumption while mindfully and responsibly developing an abundant natural resource, Chamberlain Springs, LLC bottles the water at the family's 282-acre Sunny Slope Farm on Old Wolfeboro Road in Alton. Chamberlain Springs is a member of NH Made. NH2O is distributed and sold only in the Granite State. To learn more, please visit [www.chamberlainspringsnh2o.com](http://www.chamberlainspringsnh2o.com) or call 875-7562.

### **PSNH RELEASES 2009 NEW HAMPSHIRE ECONOMIC REVIEW**

If the touch-in-cheek motto "Live, Freeze and Die" rings too true to some New Hampshire residents, the latest edition of Public Service of New Hampshire's *New Hampshire Economic Review* offers many reasons to develop warm feelings about the Granite State. Extensive surveys and substantial data show that New Hampshire leads the nation in quality of life, ranking first in favorable tax climate, standard of living, safety, and child and family wellbeing; it also ranked as the third most livable state and fifth healthiest state. Despite the recession, we are still a great place to Live, Work and Play! Copies of this publication are available at BCEDC or from PSNH.

*Warmest Holiday Wishes from Belknap County Economic Development Council*  
"Our business is helping business."

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