

B·C·E·D·C **F.Y.I. — 3/18/09**

Last Call for BCEDC Annual Meeting

The Belknap County Economic Development Council's Annual Meeting of Incorporators will be held Wednesday, March 25, beginning at 4:15 p.m. at the Inn at Church Landing in Meredith. Principal speaker will be economist Dennis Delay who will discuss the current and forecasted economic outlook for Belknap County, New Hampshire, and the US. The Annual Meeting is by reservation only, and seating is limited. If you wish to attend, please phone your acceptance not later than 3:00 p.m. on Friday, March 20, to 524-3057 or email info@bcedc.org.

Economic Stimulus — What Is the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and Where Is It?

We all have questions about how economic stimulus will help us cope with the recession. For guidance and answers to many questions, the following agency websites are helpful:

New Hampshire's implementation of the anticipated \$860 million in ARRA funding:

<http://www.nh.gov/recovery>

New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services offers information and resources pertaining especially to ready to go infrastructure projects relating to drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, brownfields, or other infrastructure funding that are a part of the stimulus package:

<http://des.nh.gov/recovery>

As of March 16, 2009, the U.S. Small Business Administration has implemented two key provisions laid out by the Recovery Act: temporary elimination of certain loan fees in relation to the SBA 504 program and increase of guarantees on some SBA 7(a) loans up to 90%. An overview of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and frequently asked questions can be found at the SBA's website:

<http://www.sba.gov/recovery>

<http://www.sba.gov/localresources/district/nh/>

Once the Lakes Region Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Plan has been approved by the Economic Development Administration (EDA), municipalities will be eligible to apply to the EDA for funding under ARRA. Read more at <http://www.eda.gov> and <http://www.grants.gov>

The USDA Rural Development continues to offer a wide range of programs to assist business and communities. Please visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/VT>