

2011 eco-Excellence Award Winners

Harpswell

Winner: Donna Frisoli

Nominator: Harpswell Board of Selectmen



L-R: ecomaine Board Member Troy Moon, Harpswell Solid Waste Manager Fred Cantu, Selectman Alison Hawkes, Selectman Ellie Multer, Donna Frisoli, and ecomaine General Manager Kevin Roche

Donna Frisoli is described by the Board of Selectmen as “a model for recycling” and someone who has “contributed greatly to the education and recycling programs within the Town of Harpswell.” She is personally committed to recycling and has used her skills as the program manager of channel 14 TV in Harpswell to help promote recycling and conservation.

She assisted a local Girl Scout Troop earn media badges by making arrangements for them to film, edit, and produce a two-minute public service announcement for Earth Day. The video, which focused on recycling and alternative transportation, reached 5,000 residents.

Donna also assisted the recycling center manager with development of an education outreach video that included a tour of the facility. She volunteered 16 hours of filming and editing time to produce the seven-minute public service announcement. In addition to reaching 5,000 residents, the video was presented at a Maine Resource Recovery Association workshop, posted on the Harpswell website, and on the Maine State Planning Office website.

2011 eco-Excellence Award Winners

Hollis

Winners: **Deanie Bissonette**
 Tootsie Johnson

Nominator: **Missi Labbe**



L-R: ecomaine Board Chairman Michael Bobinsky, ecomaine’s Hollis Board Member Len Van Gaasbeek, winner Deanie Bissonette, nominator Missi Labbe, and ecomaine General Manager Kevin Roche

Nominator Missi Labbe wrote that “Tootsie and Deanie saw a need to help hard-hit families find the clothing they needed for their families and also saw an opportunity to do something good for the environment by re-using unwanted clothing. Starting in 2010, they began spreading the word, looking for donations of unwanted clothing to create a community closet where anyone can come and take the clothes they need.” With volunteers washing and folding donated clothing, Tootsie and Deanie found a home for their efforts in an unused fire department bay and were able to open just before Christmas, 2010.

2011 eco-Excellence Award Winners

Jay

Winners: **Warren Bryant**
 Tim DeMillo
 Todd Hiscock
 John Johnson

Nominator: **The Town of Jay**



L-R: Tim DeMillo, ecomaine Board Member Troy Moon, Jay Selectmen Chair Steve McCourt, Warren Bryant, Todd Hiscock, John Johnson, and ecomaine General Manager Kevin Roche

In the Town's nomination of these four men, Ruth Cushman wrote the following:

" The Town of Jay has made the transition from standard recycling to single sort and it has not been without some real trials and tribulations. Selectman DeMillo spent many, many hours away from his business to ride routes, investigate the process and to help with the decisions prior to implementation. This particular committee has met many times and they have dissected the whole project to make this the most successful program possible. We have seen the transition go from being a political hot potato to a political sundae!

At first, the crew was very uneasy - feeling that this might mean the loss of positions; and it has, but the people have transferred, so no one is without employment.

We have updated rolling-stock, updated equipment, and we are projecting a decrease in our budget in the neighborhood of \$300,000 for all recycling and solid waste budgets this year."

2011 eco-Excellence Award Winners

Monmouth

Winner: Trudie Lee

Nominator: Herbert Whittier



ecomaine Board Member Troy Moon, Trudie Lee, and ecomaine General Manager Kevin Roche

In his nomination, Herb Whittier said, “Trudie has been a very valuable member of our transfer station team since November, 2009. Trudie goes above and beyond to explain our recycling process with taxpayers using the facility.”

Herb also credits her with beautifying the transfer station by planting flowers and using compost that originally came from the transfer station. That compost was made from vegetation waste collected at the transfer station, transported to a local farm, and brought back after composting for people to take. “Trudie,” said Herb, “truly has added a lot of color to our facility.”

2011 eco-Excellence Award Winners

Old Orchard Beach

Community Award Winner: Fred Dolgon

Nominator: Michael Tousignant, Vice Chair, Town Council



L-R: ecomaine Chairman of the Board Michael Bobinsky, Town Manager Jack Turcotte, Arlene and Fred Dologon, and Town Council Vice Chairman Michael Tousignant

Fred Dolgon's nominator wrote that Fred is an original member of the Town's recycling committee and that his excellence is "driven by passion and powered by dedication." As a member of the committee, he encouraged the Town to adopt single-sort recycling and to institute weekly, curbside recycling. He also promoted recycling for mobile home parks and condominiums with the placement of two silver bullets in convenient, public locations. Fred's innovation and infectious personality have made the most of limited resources.

Michael offered this quote - "Good is to find a way, if there is one; but excellence is to make a way if there is none" - and added, "Fred has done this for us."

2011 eco-Excellence Award Winners

Old Orchard Beach

Business Award Winner: Donald Gean

Nominator: Mary Doyle



L-R: ecomaine Chairman of the Board Michael Bobinsky, nominator Mary Doyle (who picked up the award for Donald Gean), and ecomaine General Manager Kevin Roche

Mary Doyle wrote that there was no doubt in her mind that Donald Gean, of Old Orchard Beach, and the Executive Director of the York County Shelter Programs was a most deserving recipient of the eco-Excellence Award. She explained that Donald has spearheaded many green initiatives throughout the entire agency. In fact, the York County Shelter Programs is the first recipient of the Green Alliance's Sustainable Commerce Scholarship.

The number of facilities involved makes his effort large scale:

- 30 houses in southern Maine
- A shared-use community kitchen
- A community farm
- A food pantry
- Two free-meal kitchens
- Two commercial bakeries
- And, a commercial café

Just a small sampling of green initiatives accomplished under Donald's leadership includes:

- Composting of food from all dining rooms and both bakeries
- Rewards clients with exceptional green practices with Green Team Awards
- The addition of solar, wood, photovoltaic and radiant floor heating at various locations
- Recycles clothing as well as glass, paper, metals and cardboard
- Created a team which meets regularly to find additional greening opportunities.

2011 eco-Excellence Award Winners

Parsonsfield

Winner: Fred Morrill Elementary School ...represented by Marion Wright

Nominator: Judy Ingram



L-R: ecomaine Board Chairman Michael Bobinsky, Fred Morrill Elementary School representative Marion Wright, nominator Judy Ingram, and ecomaine General Manager Kevin Roche

Nominator Judy Ingram said both the staff and students at Fred Morrill Elementary School have been committed to recycling for the past ten years. There is a recycling bin in every classroom and students make posters illustrating what is and is not recyclable. “Most importantly,” wrote Judy, “the custodian is also onboard and more than willing to help – including collecting and storing recyclables until curbside recycling pick-up” comes twice a month.

2011 eco-Excellence Award Winners

Portland

Community Award Winner: Brentwood farms Community Garden

Nominator: Alison Kenway



L-R: ecomaine Chairman of the Board Michael Bobinsky, nominator Alison Kenway, representing Brentwood Farms Community Garden Amy Bell Segal and Elizabeth Tarasevich, and ecomaine General Manager Kevin Roche

Simply stated, the Brentwood farms Community Garden is 1.5 acres of City land that has just been converted to sixty 10x10 garden plots. Impressive as that is, there is much more to this successful project.

Alison explained in her nomination that the project took three years of work from volunteer members of the Deering Center Neighborhood Association to transform a neglected lot at the back entrance of Evergreen Cemetery on Brentwood Street. And they accomplished all this without using any funds from the City. She wrote, “This past summer the Brentwood Farms Community Garden sprang to life with individual garden plots, community garden areas, and fruit trees, and shrubs which will provide pears, blueberries, and other fruits in a few years.

“More than 60 local families and neighbors participated in building the garden site, raising funds, and clearing the land of debris and over-growth. The Garden, on the historically significant site of the Risbara family greenhouses, which provided vegetables to Portland grocery stores in the 20’s and 30’s, is a true community endeavor, with all members participating in the upkeep, composting, and nurturing of the soil. As a way to provide locally grown produce in a city neighborhood, it is a success. As a way to bring neighbors together to talk, share planting strategies, and trade vegetables, it is an even greater success!”

2011 eco-Excellence Award Winners

Portland

Business Award Winner: Goodwill Industries of Northern New England

Nominator: Michelle Smith



L-R: ecomaine Chairman of the Board Michael Bobinsky, Bob Frederick of Goodwill, nominator Michelle Smith, and ecomaine General Manager Kevin Roche

Goodwill has made it both possible and easy for Maine residents to recycle their outdated computer equipment in an environmentally responsible manner...and it's free.

The program – called ReConnect – is a result of Goodwill’s collaboration with Dell and a third party recycler to safely de-manufacture and recycle all parts in the United States. Nominator Michelle Smith noted that, “With a network of 19 stores in Maine and five donation centers in the Greater Portland area, Goodwill serves as a natural donation drop-off for unwanted electronic waste.” Since the launch of ReConnect in 2009, Maine residents have brought 2,269,686 pounds of electronic waste” out of our waste stream. Goodwill is, in fact, the largest e-waste collector in the state. Importantly, Goodwill continues its program outreach through advertising, news releases, and events – continually informing the public about their program and encouraging residents to safely recycle their e-waste.

2011 eco-Excellence Award Winners

Pownal

Winners: **Mary Lee Fowler**
 Alan Bradstreet
 Sharon Townsend

Nominator: **Solid Waste Reduction & Recycling Committee**

[No photo available]

The current committee members nominated three of their past members for the eco-Excellence Award to “recognize their long-term commitment and contributions in community waste and recycling education in Pownal.”

Their recent accomplishments included:

- Acceptance of a pay-as-you-throw system
- Curbside recycling
- Obtaining a State grant to hold a composting seminar for the community

Their research and educational efforts on behalf of these initiatives has resulted in a **very** high monthly recycling rate of 44%-54% over the last twelve months.