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For Immediate Release:

Carter's Auto Service of Gorham receives 2016 eco-Excellence Business Award

Awards Honor Individuals, Organizations or Businesses Who Demonstrated Commitment to Environmental Sustainability in 2015

PORTLAND, MAINE – (March 25, 2016) Carter's Auto Service has received a 2016 eco-Excellence Business Award for its sustainable business practices.

"We are proud to recognize Carter's Auto Service for its notable commitment to environmental sustainability," ecomaine CEO Kevin Roche said. "This business, led by Doug Carter, has walked the talk of the waste hierarchy every day to leave the smallest carbon footprint in its path."

The opportunity to reduce, reuse and recycle is everywhere and often takes creative thinking on the part of business owners to pinpoint what are often unconventional ways to reduce waste.

"Doug Carter, owner of Carter's Auto Service, located in Gorham Village, has employed a good deal of creative thinking to reduce his carbon footprint and operate in the most sustainable way he knows how," said Jim Gailey, Chairman of the Board for ecomaine, during an awards luncheon at ecomaine's headquarters at 64 Blueberry Road here on March 23.

Among the innovations, Doug Carter installed 120 solar panels that generate 80% of the business's total power needs. These panels are very effective and are highly visible, thereby providing increased awareness in the community and with the public about sustainable energy generation.

In addition, Carter's operates a waste oil furnace to provide all of their heating needs, and recycle their paper and plastic waste.

The eco-Excellence Award winners are selected based on effectiveness, increasing awareness, community impact and ease of replication of their initiatives or programs. Other criteria include:

- Each municipality may have an award winner in both the community and business categories.
- Any person or organization may submit multiple entries; self-nomination is encouraged.
- All effort or activities in support of sustainability are eligible for award, regardless of size or scope.
- Award recipients may be individuals, organizations or businesses.
- There is no age limit.
- The nominated activity must have occurred during 2015 or be ongoing to be eligible.

- Nominees must live, work or be located in the municipality for which the award will be given; that municipality must be one of the 55 ecomaine communities.

Photo caption:

ecomaine Board Member and Recycling Committee Chair Erik Street, left, and ecomaine Chief Executive Officer Kevin Roche, right, presented Doug Carter, owner of Carter's Auto Service, with a 2016 eco-Excellence Award for his sustainable business practices on March 23.



ecomaine is the nonprofit, recycling and waste-to-energy operation that serves 25 percent of the state's population; it is owned by 20 communities and is located in Portland, Maine. Learn more at ecomaine.org.

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