



Owner Communities

- Bridgton
- Cape Elizabeth
- Casco
- Cumberland
- Falmouth
- Freeport
- Gorham
- Gray
- Harrison
- Hollis
- Limington
- Lyman
- North Yarmouth
- Ogunquit
- Portland
- Pownal
- Scarborough
- South Portland
- Waterboro
- Windham
- Yarmouth

Associate Members

- Baldwin
- Hiram
- Naples
- Parsonsfield
- Porter
- Saco
- Standish

Recycling Members

- Andover
- Cornish
- Harpswell
- Jay
- Livermore Falls
- Manchester
- Monmouth
- Newington (NH)
- North Haven
- Old Orchard Beach
- Poland
- Readfield
- Sanford
- Wayne

DATE: April 13, 2011

TO: Chair and Members of the Board

FROM: Kevin H. Roche, General Manager

SUBJECT: Minutes of Mission Statement Review Sub-Committee Mtg.

The “**ecomaine** Mission Statement Review Sub-Committee met on Wednesday, April 6, 2011 at 4:00PM at the Waste-to-Energy facility.

Mr. McGovern called the meeting together and posed the following question: what do you want **ecomaine** to be?

The group articulated various themes from addressing the conflict between economic goals to environmental stewardship; to freshening the bullets of the current Mission Statement with something “more” and an idea to roll a new Mission Statement into a discussion about the Strategic Plan. Based on an extensive brainstorming session, the ad hoc committee agreed on the following Mission Statement:

*“ecomaine provides comprehensive long-term solid waste solutions in a safe, environmentally **responsible, economically** sound manner, and is a leader in raising public awareness of sustainable waste management strategies.”*

Present Mission Statement of ecomaine:

To manage waste in the most economical and ecologically sound methods possible.

Summary of brainstorming activity in answer to Mike’s question:

Inclusive, large & small towns, far reaching [geographically], sustainable, secure in existence, environmentally sound [not willing to compromise on environmental issues, quality], financial, dependable, location [benefit], management [staff], maintenance program, leader in State for waste management, best practices, to lead - to facilitate - to provide ... solid waste & recycling to communities, long-term sustainable solutions, adaptive, built in flexibility to store MSW at landfill when WTE is down, practice stewardship, education on recycling, public outreach, safe place to work and visit, commitment to future both environmentally and

economically, collaborate to serve, looking to the future, progressive, business approach: fast, easy, seamless, effortless, customer service, effortless to customer, lean financially, philosophy – conservative, business approach [revenue available] –vs - municipal approach [shoestring], bottom-line mentality, environmental steward.

The meeting adjourned at 5:30PM.

PRESENT:

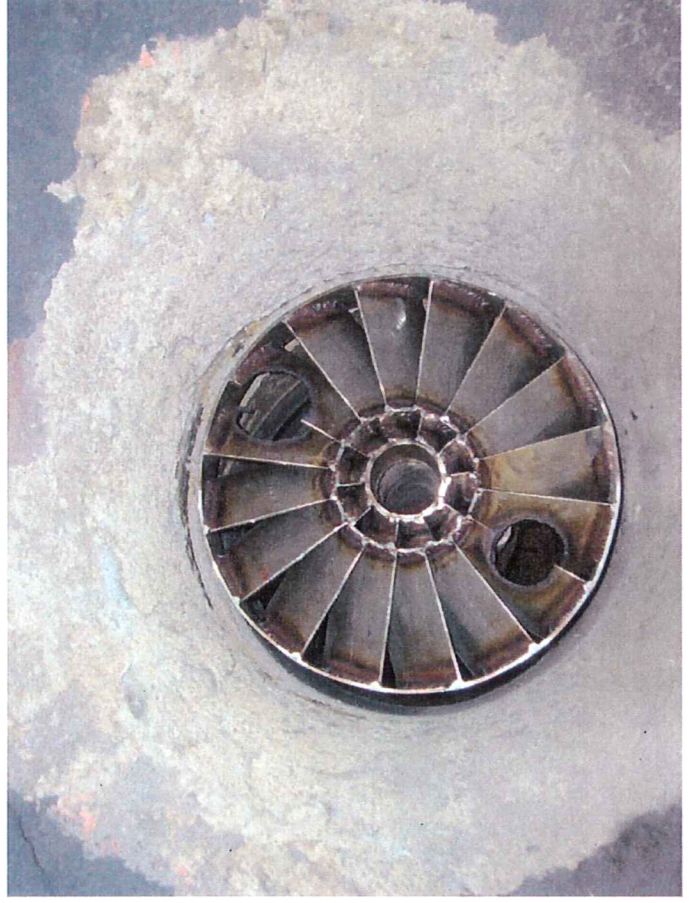
M. McGovern (Chair)
L. Boudreau
T. Moon
N. Miner
R. Regier
A. Hewes

ABSENT:

None

Handout #1

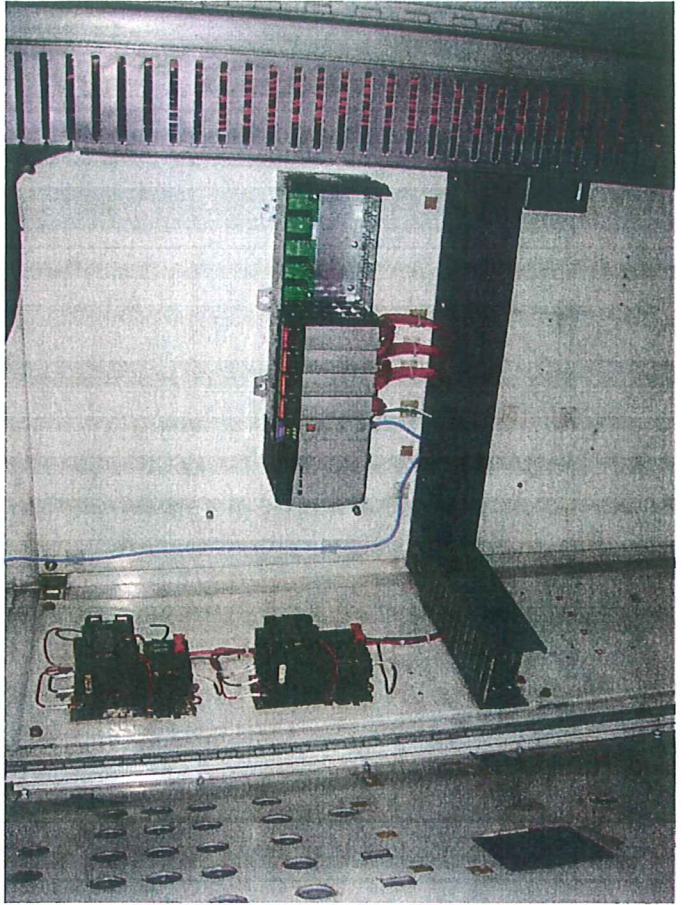
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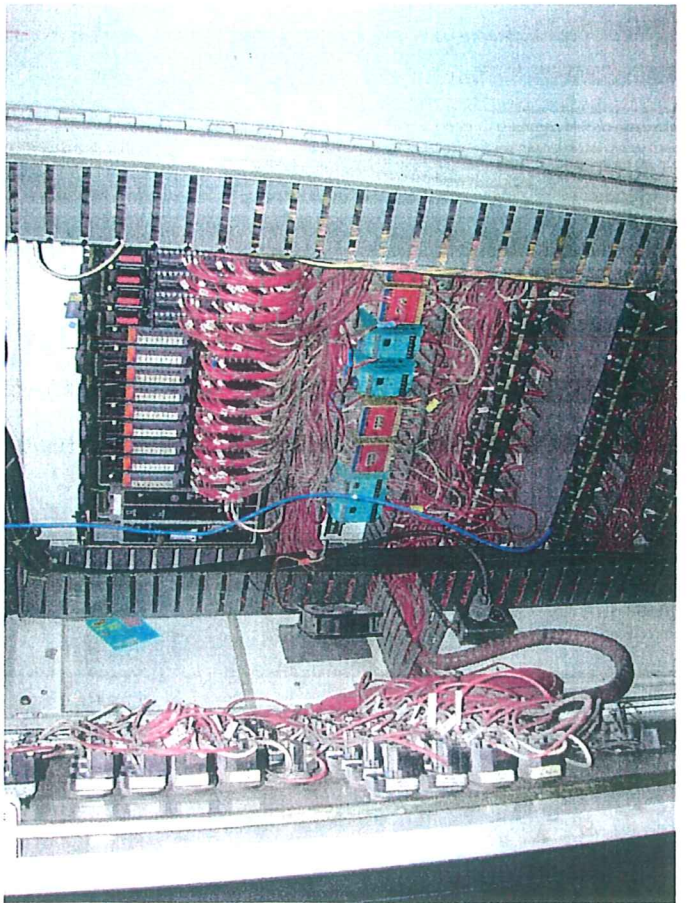
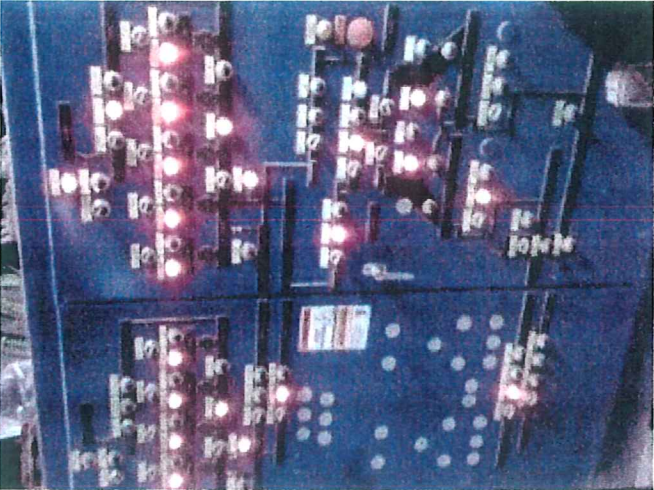
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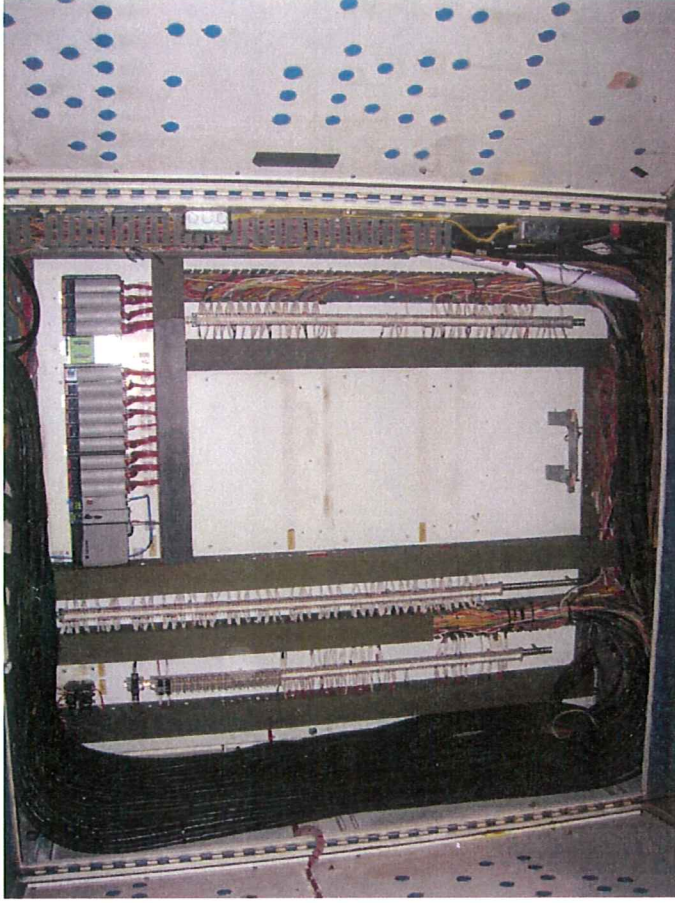
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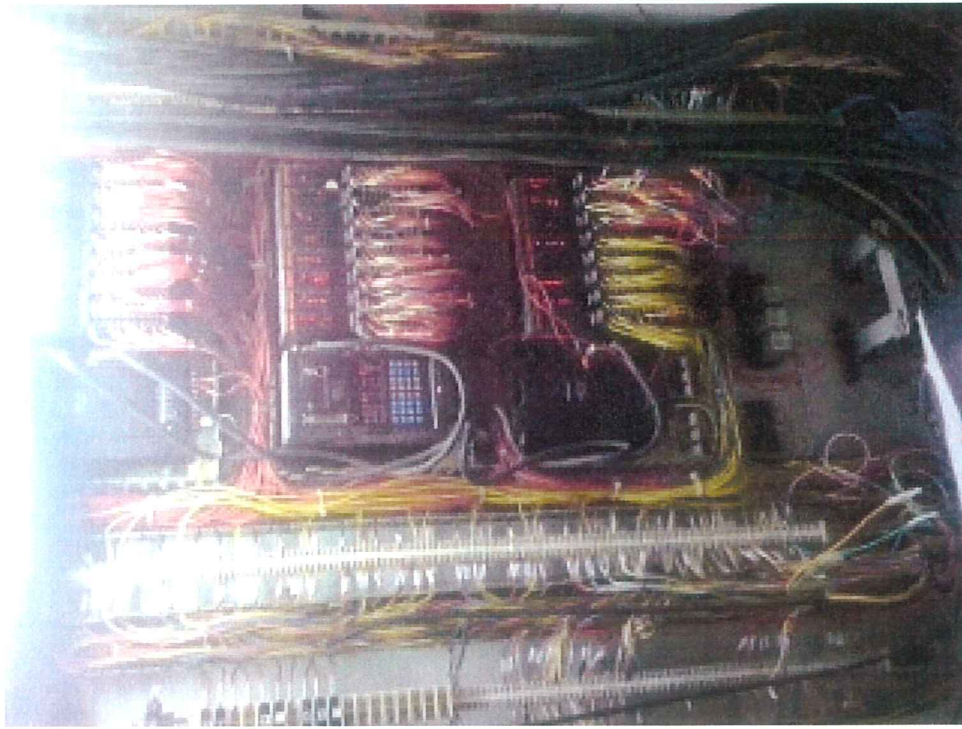
Before



After



Before



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Wayne

Testimony of Kevin Roche, General Manager of ecomaine
before the
Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology
Regarding LD 425, An Act to Stimulate Demand for Renewable
Resources

March 2, 2011

Senator Thibodeau, Representative Fitts, members of the Joint Standing Committee on Energy, Utilities and Technology, my name is Kevin Roche. I serve as the General Manager of ecomaine.

Intro to Waste-to-Energy

ecomaine, the former Regional Waste Systems, is located in Portland and handles municipal solid waste and/or recycling services for 40 Maine communities. Our operation includes a mass burn facility that turns solid waste into renewable electricity. Maine has four waste to energy facilities and each of them support the legislation before you. The four facilities serve over 950,000 citizens and provide over 70 MWs in nameplate capacity. Together they generate 475,000 megawatt hours of power a year.

One of the reasons for this proposal is the conflict between Maine's policies for handling solid waste and the existing renewable portfolio standard (RPS). Maine policy requires an integrated approach to solid waste management based on the following order of priority: reduce, reuse, recycle, compost, waste to energy, and landfilling. Thus, waste to energy is deemed a superior method of waste management over landfilling of raw waste. In contrast, Maine's RPS provides class I incentives to landfill gas, effectively elevating landfilling above waste to energy, which is classified as class II.

LD 425 seeks to address that disparity.

ecomaine

ecomaine provides municipal solid waste and recycling services to 250,000 residents and most businesses in 38 communities in York, Cumberland, Franklin, and Kennebec Counties, including Portland, Gorham, and Waterboro. ecomaine is owned by 21 member communities and run by a publicly-appointed 29 member Board of Directors.

We operate three different facilities:

- A Waste to Energy mass burn facility with a capacity of 14.7 MW,
- A Landfill/Ashfill site for disposal of our ash, and
- A single-sort recycling facility.

In total, ecomaine has 71 full-time employees with an annual budget of \$25 million. We work constantly to keep costs down and limit costs for our owner communities. This proposal would help us control costs, which, ultimately, means lower costs to our member communities. This issue is significant enough to municipalities that the Maine Municipal Association supports this proposal and will be submitting written testimony to that effect.

State Renewable Energy Policy

We believe creating a new waste to energy renewable energy certificate makes sense for Maine as part of its larger renewable energy policy.

WTE advances state policy goals in a number of ways, both in relation to solid waste and energy. WTE reduces the volume of waste by 90%, reducing the amount of scarce landfill space needed for disposal.

WTE complements recycling programs. ecomaine operates a single sort recycling facility in conjunction with its mass burn boiler. Other WTE facilities routinely process the waste and remove many recyclables from the waste before burning.

As I mentioned before, the current RPS policy is in conflict with the state's solid-waste hierarchy. Landfill gas is eligible for the Class I renewable energy certificate, but WTE is not. We believe creating a new WTE renewable energy certificate, as has been done in Massachusetts, is the best solution to that conflict.

Last year, this Committee recognized that conflict and asked, through LD 1720, for the Governor's Office of Energy Independence and Security to look into it. The Office has prepared a report, which will be available shortly, recommending the creation of a new REC for waste to energy facilities, and LD 425 is consistent with this recommendation.

We expect the report from the OEIS to be available in the near future. We respectfully request that this Committee hold off on scheduling the work session on LD 425 until the report is available.

Conclusion

Eligibility of WTE for new renewable energy credits will encourage generation of electricity from renewable sources while diversifying electricity production. It will also provide benefits to those Maine communities, with over 950,000 residents, who rely on WTE facilities for municipal solid waste disposal.

I'm asking for your support on LD425. Thank you and I would be glad to take any questions.

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information *cannot* perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

An Act To Stimulate Demand for Renewable Resources

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 35-A MRSA §3210, sub-§2, ¶B-3, as enacted by PL 2009, c. 542, §3, is amended to read:

B-3. "Renewable capacity resource" means a source of electrical generation:

(1) Whose total power production capacity does not exceed 100 megawatts and relies on one or more of the following:

(a) Fuel cells;

(b) Tidal power;

(c) Solar arrays and installations;

(d) Geothermal installations;

(e) Hydroelectric generators that meet all state and federal fish passage requirements applicable to the generator; or

(f) Biomass generators that are fueled by wood or wood waste, landfill gas or anaerobic digestion of agricultural products, by-products or wastes; or

(g) Waste energy resources; or

(2) That relies on wind power installations.

Sec. 2. 35-A MRSA §3210, sub-§2, ¶D is enacted to read:

D. "Waste energy resource" means a source of electrical generation, which may include pyrolytic waste systems:

(1) That is fueled by municipal solid waste in conjunction with recycling;

(2) Whose total power production capacity does not exceed 35 megawatts;

(3) That is licensed to comply with the air emission requirement levels for resource recovery facilities established pursuant to Title 38, section 585, including, but not limited to, standards for mercury established pursuant to Title 38, section 585-B, subsection 5;

(4) That complies with all applicable licensing requirements for solid waste facilities as established pursuant to Title 38, section 1310-N; and

(5) Whose residuals are transported to a landfill that is licensed to meet at least the performance standards and siting criteria established by rules adopted pursuant to Title 38, section 1304, subsection 1B, including, but not limited to, standards prohibiting contamination of groundwater outside the solid waste boundary of landfills.

Sec. 3. 35-A MRSA §3210, sub-§3-B is enacted to read:

3-B. Portfolio requirements; waste energy resources. Portfolio requirements for waste energy resources are governed by this subsection.

A. Beginning July 1, 2012, as a condition of licensing pursuant to section 3203, a competitive electricity provider in this State must demonstrate in a manner satisfactory to the commission that no less than 3.5% of its portfolio of supply sources for retail electricity sales in this State is accounted for by waste energy resources. Waste energy resources used to satisfy the requirements of this paragraph may not be used to satisfy the requirements of subsection 3.

B. Retail electricity sales pursuant to a supply contract or standard-offer service arrangement executed by a competitive electricity provider that is in effect on the effective date of this subsection are exempt from the requirements of this subsection until the end date of the current term of the supply contract or standard-offer service arrangement.

The commission shall adopt rules to implement this subsection. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2A.

Sec. 4. 35-A MRSA §3210, sub-§10 is enacted to read:

10. Alternative compliance payment; portfolio requirements for waste energy resources. The commission shall allow competitive electricity providers to satisfy the portfolio requirements for waste energy resources under subsection 3-B through an alternative compliance payment mechanism in accordance with this subsection.

A. The commission shall set the alternative compliance payment rate by rule and shall publish the alternative compliance payment rate by January 31st of each year. In setting the rate, the commission shall take into account prevailing market prices, standard-offer service prices for electricity and reliance on alternative compliance payments to meet the requirements of subsection 3-B.

B. The commission shall collect alternative compliance payments made by competitive electricity providers and shall deposit all funds collected under this paragraph in the Renewable Resource Fund established under section 10121, subsection 2 to be used to fund research, development and demonstration projects relating to renewable energy technologies.

The commission shall adopt rules to implement this subsection. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

SUMMARY

Current law establishes as a policy of the State the encouragement of the generation of electricity from renewable and efficient resources by requiring that each competitive electricity provider in this State demonstrate that no less than 30% of its portfolio of supply sources for retail electricity sales in this State is accounted for by eligible resources. This bill implements that policy by stimulating demand for electricity from generators fueled by municipal solid waste in conjunction with recycling.

This bill amends the law in the following ways.

1. It amends the definition of "renewable capacity resource" to add waste energy resources.
2. It defines "waste energy resource" as a source of electrical generation that is fueled by municipal solid waste in conjunction with recycling and whose total power capacity does not exceed 35 megawatts. In addition, the waste energy resource would have to meet Maine's air emissions standards for resource recovery facilities and licensing standards for solid waste facilities and ensure that residuals from the waste energy resource are disposed of at a landfill meeting Maine's licensing standards.
3. It establishes a 3.5% portfolio requirement for electricity from waste energy resources.
4. It allows competitive electricity providers to meet the portfolio requirements for waste energy resources through the use of renewable energy credits or an alternative compliance payment to be set by the Public Utilities Commission.

Testimony of Kevin Roche, General Manger of ecomaine

Before the

Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Regarding LD 879, *An Act to Ensure Adequate Landfill Capacity in the State for Solid Waste*

April 13, 2011

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Senator Saviello, Representative Hamper, members of the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, my name is Kevin Roche. I serve as the General Manager of ecomaine.

ecomaine

ecomaine provides municipal solid waste services to over 40 communities in York, Cumberland, Franklin, Oxford, Androscoggin and Kennebec Counties, including Portland, Gorham, and Yarmouth. ecomaine is owned by 21 member communities and run by a 29 member Board of Directors.

We operate three different facilities:

A Waste to Energy (WTE) mass burn facility with a capacity of 14.7 MW,

A Landfill/Ashfill site for disposal of our ash, and

A single-sort recycling facility.

I am testifying today neither for nor against LD 879.

State Solid Waste Policy

For more than 20 years, Maine's solid waste policy has sought to reduce the amount of solid waste that is landfilled in the State by adhering to the solid waste hierarchy. This hierarchy was established in Title 38 Section 2101, and identifies the priorities in managing solid waste in this order of preference:

- Reduce
- Reuse
- Recycle
- Compost
- Waste-to-Energy
- Landfilling

ecomaine is not taking a position on this bill's proposed elimination of certain restrictions on the expansion of commercial landfills. That is a choice for this Committee and this Legislature. However, **ecomaine** would strongly encourage this Committee to take other steps to encourage recycling and create incentives to avoid the landfilling of raw municipal solid waste. For example, Title 38 Section 2204 imposes a \$2 fee to bury municipal solid waste in a landfill. This fee is not being used as it was originally intended. In addition, even if the fee was being charged consistently on landfilling waste, it's too low and doesn't provide any incentive to avoid using up our valuable landfill space. Other States have gone to a much higher fee to discourage landfilling and our State should do the same. Increasing the fee by \$6 (up to \$8) per ton to dispose of all solid waste in our landfills would not only discourage landfilling, it would also discourage the importation of waste into the State.

After Reduce, Reuse and Recycling, Waste to Energy is a better option for the environment than storing raw, unprocessed waste in our landfills. Waste-to-energy advances state policy goals in a number of ways.

- Waste-to-energy reduces the volume of waste by 90%, reducing the amount of scarce landfill space needed for disposal.
- Waste-to-energy ash is more stable than raw waste, thereby reducing the potential environmental damage produced by leachate. There is also up to 90% less leachate that is generated and needs treatment (due to the significant volume reduction).
- Waste-to-energy complements recycling programs. **ecomaine** operates a single sort recycling facility in conjunction with its mass burn boiler. Waste-to-

energy facilities routinely process the waste and remove recyclables before and after burning.

- Waste-to-energy facilities provide renewable energy for Maine communities. The fuel we use (waste) is generated locally.
- Waste-to-energy recovers about 600kwh of electricity per ton of waste, which is about 10 times the amount of energy recovered from a ton of landfilled waste through landfill gas recovery.
- Waste-to-energy eliminates (or greatly reduces) landfill odors and gases.
- Transportation to far away landfills is greatly reduced when waste-to-energy facilities are utilized.
- Waste to energy provides the State with many more jobs and work, as opposed to waste storage in landfills which employ very few workers.

Conclusion

ecomaine recommends this Committee increase the disposal fee for municipal solid waste sent to landfills as raw waste by \$6 per ton. This would encourage compliance with the solid waste hierarchy. The revenues could be used to expand recycling efforts or for other purposes related to solid waste. You will be hearing two bills today, LDs 693 and 1278, which could be vehicles for an increase in the disposal fee for raw waste sent to landfills.

Thank you for your time and attention and I would be glad to take any questions.

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

An Act To Ensure Adequate Landfill Capacity in the State for Solid Waste

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 38 MRSA §1310-X, sub-§3, as amended by PL 1995, c. 68, §1 and c. 465, Pt. A, §21 and affected by Pt. C, §2, is further amended to read:

3. Expansion of facilities. The department may license an expansion of a commercial solid waste disposal or biomedical waste disposal or treatment facility after September 30, 1989 if:

A. The department has previously licensed the facility prior to October 6, 1989;

B. The department determines that the proposed expansion is contiguous with the existing facility and is located on property owned on December 31, 1989 by the licensee or by a corporation or other business entity under common ownership or control with the licensee; and:

(1) Is located on property owned on December 31, 1989 by the licensee or by a corporation or other business entity under common ownership or control with the licensee; or

(2) For a commercial solid waste disposal facility that is a commercial landfill facility that is not under order or agreement to close, is located on property owned by the licensee; and

C. For a commercial solid waste disposal facility the commissioner or the department determines as provided in section 1310-N, subsection 3-A that the facility provides a substantial public benefit.

The department may not process or act upon any application or license an expansion of a commercial landfill facility pursuant to this subsection: before March 1, 2011; until the applicant demonstrates to the department that it is in full compliance with the host community agreement pursuant to section 1310-N, subsection 9, if any, on the existing facility; and until a host community agreement amendment is executed to account for the proposed expansion.

An expanded facility may not receive a property tax exemption on real or personal property.

SUMMARY

This bill amends the law regarding expansion of commercial solid waste disposal facilities and biomedical waste disposal or treatment facilities by authorizing a commercial landfill facility that is not under an order or agreement to close to expand if the proposed expansion is contiguous with the existing facility and is located on property owned by the person holding the commercial solid waste disposal facility license. It clarifies that an expanded facility may not receive a property tax exemption on real or

HP0646, LD 879, item 1, 125th Maine State Legislature
An Act To Ensure Adequate Landfill Capacity in the State for Solid Waste

personal property, and it provides that the department may not process or act upon any application until certain conditions are met.

Oral Testimony of Kevin Roche, General Manager of ecomaine

Before the

Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Regarding LD 1324,

An Act to Create Consistency and Fairness in Maine's Bottle Bill

April 15, 2011

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- Introduced **ecomaine**
- Identified the need to fix the inefficiencies and the costliness of the current bottle bill
- Identified the need to get away from bagging the bottles and trucking air from the redemption centers to the processing facilities (very costly and not environmentally sound)
- Talked about densification of the scrap as being a key component in improving efficiencies
- Discussed the high cost of processing and handling (currently 3.5 cents per container, plus transportation)
- Presented product pricing information for both bottle bill and non bottle bill states
- Identified quality issues between bottle bill scrap and the municipal scrap that we sell (our material includes food packaging which has food residue such as cat food cans & peanut butter jars, and the buyers don't want to pay you for the food)
- Presented information on wine bottles (no value in the glass)



Testimony of Kevin Roche, General Manager of **ecomaine**

Before the

Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Regarding LD 1324,

An Act to Create Consistency and Fairness in Maine's Bottle Bill

April 15, 2011

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Senator Saviello, Representative Hamper, members of the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, my name is Kevin Roche. I serve as the General Manager of **ecomaine**. On behalf of **ecomaine**, I am testifying neither for nor against LD 1324 *An Act to Create Consistency and Fairness in Maine's Bottle Bill*.

ecomaine

ecomaine provides municipal solid waste services to over 40 communities in York, Cumberland, Franklin, and Kennebec Counties, including Portland, Gorham, and Waterboro. **ecomaine** is owned by 21 member communities and run by a 29 member Board of Directors.

We operate three different facilities:

A Waste to Energy (WTE) mass burn facility with a capacity of 14.7 MW,

A Landfill/Ashfill site for disposal of our ash, and

A single-sort recycling facility.

I would first like to say that although the bottle bill has some admirable outcomes, including a financial incentive to encourage these containers to end up in the right place, the bottle bill system also has many inefficiencies that are both costly and have a negative impact on our environment.

The current bottle bill system is the only recycling system I know of that still uses bags to contain recyclables and ship them to recyclers. In addition, it uses cases to contain and ship wine bottles. How many whole plastic bottles can you stuff in a bag, particularly if they're the 2 liter variety? How many bags can you stuff in a truck? And

most importantly, what's the weight of that truck that is about to make a long trip to the recycling facility?

We have to stop this bagging strategy that only works because the handling fees are so unreasonably high. These handling fees promote inefficiencies, such as using bags and cases to package recyclables.

ecomaine owns and operates a single sort recycling facility. We separate out a variety of recyclable materials and ship them off to market. The materials we recycle include ferrous metal, aluminum, plastics #1 - #7, cardboard, all grades of paper and glass. There is a ready market for all these recyclable materials, except for glass. Often, we pay more to ship glass to a market than we receive in payment. For this reason we have resorted to a variety of strategies to find less costly ways to recycle glass, including grinding it into an aggregate for use as a sand or gravel substitute. Despite our best efforts, glass is still a money losing proposition. Others collecting and processing glass have the same challenge.

The market for recycled materials must be considered if the Legislature chooses to amend the bottle bill. Simply removing heavy wine bottles would be a money losing proposition for ecomaine and every community that recycles. We expect the proposal contained in LD 1324 would be workable for ecomaine depending on how much glass is included. The revenue derived from the sale of the large plastic beverage containers it removes from the bottle bill would likely be sufficient to cover the cost of disposing of the small amount of glass that would be included in this bill. However, I have requested more detailed information from the Maine Beverage Association on the number and type of beverage containers sold in Maine, information which would allow me to confirm that this proposal is workable.

It is my hope that this Committee will consider making adjustments to the bottle bill that would reduce costs and make the system more efficient.

Thank you for your time and attention. I would be happy to take any questions.

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information *cannot* perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

An Act To Create Consistency and Fairness in Maine's Bottle Bill

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §1862, sub-§2, as amended by PL 1993, c. 591, §1 and affected by §5, is further amended to read:

2. Beverage container. "Beverage container" means a bottle, can, jar or other container made of glass, metal or plastic that has been sealed by a manufacturer and at the time of sale contains 4 liters~~28 ounces~~ or less of a beverage. This term does not include a container composed, in whole or in part, of aluminum and plastic or aluminum and paper in combination as long as the aluminum content represents 10% or less of the unfilled container weight, the container materials represent 5% or less of the total weight of the container and its contents, and the container is filled with a nonalcoholic beverage.

Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §1863-A, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 819, §3, is amended to read:

§ 1863-A. Refund value

To encourage container reuse and recycling, every beverage container sold or offered for sale to a consumer in this State must have a 5¢ deposit and refund value. ~~The deposit and refund value are determined according to the provisions of this section:~~

1. Refillable containers. ~~For refillable beverage containers, except wine and spirits containers, the manufacturer shall determine the deposit and refund value according to the type, kind and size of the beverage container. The deposit and refund value may not be less than 5¢.~~

2. Nonrefillable containers; exclusive distributorships. ~~For nonrefillable beverage containers, except wine and spirits containers, sold through geographically exclusive distributorships, the distributor shall determine and initiate the deposit and refund value according to the type, kind and size of the beverage container. The deposit and refund value must not be less than 5¢.~~

3. Nonrefillable containers; nonexclusive distributorships. ~~For nonrefillable beverage containers, except wine and spirits containers, not sold through geographically exclusive distributorships, the deposit and refund value may not be less than 5¢.~~

4. Wine and spirits containers. ~~For wine and spirits containers of greater than 50 milliliters, the refund value may not be less than 15¢. On January 1, 1993, the department shall issue a finding on the percentages of wine containers and spirits containers returned for deposit. If the department finds the return rate of wine containers was less than 60% during the year ending September 1992, then, on July 1, 1993, the refund value on wine containers may not be less than 25¢. If the department finds the return rate of spirits containers was less than 60% during the year ending September 1992, then, on July 1, 1993, the refund value of spirits containers may not be less than 25¢.~~

Sec. 3. 32 MRSA §1865, sub-§1-A, as amended by PL 1991, c. 819, §4, is further amended to read:

1-A. Labels; nonrefillable containers; nonexclusive distributorships. With respect to nonrefillable beverage containers the deposits for which are initiated pursuant to section 1863A, subsection 3; the refund value and the word "Maine" or the abbreviation "ME" must be clearly indicated on every refundable beverage container sold or offered for sale by a dealer in this State, by permanently embossing or permanently stamping the beverage containers, except in instances when the initiator of the deposit has specific permission from the department to use stickers or similar devices. The refund value may not be indicated on the bottom of the container. Metal beverage containers must be permanently embossed or permanently stamped on the tops of the containers.

Sec. 4. 32 MRSA §1865, sub-§1-B, as enacted by PL 1995, c. 437, §1, is amended to read:

1-B. Labels; nonrefillable containers; exclusive distributorships. Notwithstanding subsection 1 and with respect to nonrefillable beverage containers, for the deposits that are initiated pursuant to section 1863A, subsection 2; the refund value and the word "Maine" or the abbreviation "ME" may be clearly indicated on refundable beverage containers sold or offered for sale by a dealer in this State by use of stickers or similar devices if those containers are not otherwise marked in accordance with subsection 1. A redemption center shall accept containers identified by stickers in accordance with this subsection or by embossing or stamping in accordance with subsection 1.

Sec. 5. 32 MRSA §1865, sub-§2, as repealed and replaced by PL 1991, c. 819, §5, is amended to read:

2. Brand name. Refillable glass beverage containers of carbonated beverages, for which the deposit is initiated under section 1863A, subsection 1; that have a refund value of not less than 5¢ and a brand name permanently marked on the container are not required to comply with subsection 1. The exception provided by this subsection does not apply to glass beverage containers that contain spirits, wine or malt liquor as those terms are defined by Title 28A, section 2.

Sec. 6. 32 MRSA §1865, sub-§3, as amended by PL 2003, c. 499, §4, is further amended to read:

3. Label registration. An initiator of deposit shall register the container label of any beverage offered for sale in the ~~state~~State on which it initiates a deposit. Registration must be on forms or in an electronic format provided by the department and must include the universal product code for each combination of beverage and container manufactured. The initiator of deposit shall renew a label registration annually and whenever that label is revised by altering the universal product code or whenever the container on which it appears is changed in size, composition or glass color. The initiator of deposit shall also include as part of the registration the method of collection for that type of container, identification of a collection agent, identification of all of the parties to a commingling agreement that applies to the container and proof of the collection agreement. The department may charge a fee for registration and registration renewals under this subsection. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection that

establish fees are major substantive rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2A and subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over ~~business and economic development~~ environmental and natural resources matters.

Sec. 7. 32 MRSA §1866, sub-§4, ¶A, as amended by PL 2009, c. 405, §1, is repealed.

Sec. 8. 32 MRSA §1866, sub-§4, ¶B, as amended by PL 2009, c. 405, §2, is further amended to read:

B. In addition to the payment of the refund value, the initiator of the deposit under section 1863A, ~~subsection 3~~ shall reimburse the dealer or local redemption center for the cost of handling beverage containers subject to section 1863A in an amount that equals at least 3¢ per returned container for containers picked up by the initiator before March 1, 2004, at least 3 1/2¢ for containers picked up on or after March 1, 2004 and before March 1, 2010 and at least 4¢ for containers picked up on or after March 1, 2010. The initiator of the deposit may reimburse the dealer or local redemption center directly or indirectly through a contracted agent or through a party with which it has entered into a commingling agreement.

Sec. 9. 32 MRSA §1866, sub-§4, ¶C, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 499, §6, is amended to read:

C. The reimbursement that the initiator of the deposit is obligated to pay the dealer or redemption center pursuant to paragraph ~~A or B~~ must be reduced by 1/2¢ for any returned container that is subject to a qualified commingling agreement that allows the dealer or redemption center to commingle beverage containers of like product group, material and size. A commingling agreement is qualified for purposes of this paragraph if the department determines that 50% or more of the beverage containers of like product group, material and size for which the deposits are being initiated in the State are covered by the commingling agreement. Once the initiator of deposit has established a qualified commingling agreement for containers of a like product group, material and size, the department shall allow additional brands to be included from a different product group if they are of like material. The State, through the Department of Administrative and Financial Services, Bureau of Alcoholic Beverages and Lottery Operations, shall make every reasonable effort to enter into a qualified commingling agreement under this ~~subparagraph~~ paragraph with every other initiator of deposits for beverage containers that are of like product group, size and material as the beverage containers for which the State is the initiator of deposit.

Sec. 10. 32 MRSA §1866, sub-§4, ¶D, as amended by PL 2009, c. 405, §3, is further amended to read:

D. Paragraphs ~~A, B and C~~ of this subsection do not apply to a brewer who annually produces no more than 50,000 gallons of its product or a bottler of water who annually sells no more than 250,000 containers each containing ~~no more~~ less than one gallon of its product. In addition to the payment of the refund value, an initiator of deposit under section 1863A, ~~subsections 1 to 4~~ who is also a brewer who annually produces no more than 50,000 gallons of its product or a bottler of water who annually sells no more than 250,000 containers each containing ~~no more~~ less than one gallon of its product shall reimburse the dealer or local redemption center for the cost of handling beverage containers subject to section 1863A in an amount that equals at least 3¢ per returned container.

Sec. 11. 32 MRSA §1866, sub-§5, ¶A, as amended by PL 1991, c. 819, §8, is further amended to read:

A. A distributor that initiates the deposit under section 1863A, ~~subsection 2 or 4~~ has the obligation to pick up any empty, unbroken and reasonably clean beverage containers of the particular kind, size and brand sold by the distributor from dealers to whom that distributor has sold those beverages and from licensed redemption centers designated to serve those dealers pursuant to an order entered under section 1867. A distributor that, within this State, sells beverages under a particular label exclusively to one dealer, which dealer offers those labeled beverages for sale at retail exclusively at the dealer's establishment, shall pick up any empty, unbroken and reasonably clean beverage containers of the kind, size and brand sold by the distributor to the dealer only from those licensed redemption centers that serve the various establishments of the dealer, under an order entered under section 1867. A dealer that manufactures its own beverages for exclusive sale by that dealer at retail has the obligation of a distributor under this section. The commissioner may establish by rule, in accordance with the Maine Administrative Procedure Act, criteria prescribing the manner in which distributors shall fulfill the obligations imposed by this paragraph. The rules may establish a minimum number or value of containers below which a distributor is not required to respond to a request to pick up empty containers. Any rules promulgated under this paragraph must allocate the burdens associated with the handling, storage and transportation of empty containers to prevent unreasonable financial or other hardship.

Sec. 12. 32 MRSA §1866, sub-§5, ¶B, as amended by PL 1991, c. 819, §8, is further amended to read:

B. The initiator of the deposit under section 1863A, ~~subsection 3~~ has the obligation to pick up any empty, unbroken and reasonably clean beverage containers of the particular kind, size and brand sold by the initiator from dealers to whom a distributor has sold those beverages and from licensed redemption centers designated to serve those dealers pursuant to an order entered under section 1867. The obligation may be fulfilled by the initiator directly or indirectly through a contracted agent.

Sec. 13. 32 MRSA §1866, sub-§5, ¶C, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 499, §7, is amended to read:

C. An initiator of the deposit under section 1863A, ~~subsection 2, 3 or 4~~ has the obligation to pick up any empty, unbroken and reasonably clean beverage containers that are commingled pursuant to a commingling agreement along with any beverage containers that the initiator is otherwise obligated to pick up pursuant to paragraphs A and B.

Sec. 14. 32 MRSA §1871-A, sub-§1, as corrected by RR 2001, c. 2, Pt. A, §41, is amended to read:

1. Procedures; licensing fees. The department shall adopt rules establishing the requirements and procedures for issuance of licenses and annual renewals under this section, including a fee structure. Initial rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. Rules adopted effective after calendar year 2003 are major substantive rules as

defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A and are subject to review by the joint standing committee of the Legislature having jurisdiction over business and economic development environmental and natural resources matters.

Sec. 15. 32 MRSA §1874 is enacted to read:

§ 1874. Transition period

1. Initiation of deposit. Effective December 1, 2011, there is no deposit charged on any beverage container greater than 28 ounces.

2. Redeem deposit. Beginning February 1, 2012, a dealer or redemption center has no liability to any consumer that relates to the deposit on any beverage container greater than 28 ounces. Beginning March 1, 2012, a manufacturer or distributor has no liability to any dealer or redemption center that relates to the deposit or handling fee on any beverage container greater than 28 ounces.

3. Initiation of 5¢ deposit. Effective December 1, 2011, the deposit for all beverage containers 28 ounces or less is 5¢.

4. Redeem 5¢ deposit. Beginning February 1, 2012, a dealer or redemption center has no liability to any consumer greater than 5¢ on any beverage container. Beginning March 1, 2012, a manufacturer or distributor has no liability to any dealer or redemption center greater than 5¢ on any beverage container.

SUMMARY

This bill removes containers larger than 28 ounces from the bottle bill. It establishes a period for phaseout for discontinuing the issuance of deposit and redemption of deposit for these items, including the payment of deposits by redemption centers to consumers and the payment of deposits and handling fees by manufacturers and distributors to redemption centers.

The bill also establishes a uniform deposit of 5¢ for all containers and establishes a similar period for phaseout for converting the deposit on those items from 15¢ to 5¢.

Testimony of Kevin Roche, General Manager of ecomaine

Owner Communities

Bridgton
Cape Elizabeth
Casco
Cumberland
Falmouth
Freeport
Gorham
Gray
Harrison
Hollis
Limington
Lyman
North Yarmouth
Ogunquit
Portland
Pownal
Scarborough
South Portland
Waterboro
Windham
Yarmouth

Associate Members

Baldwin
Hiram
Naples
Parsonsfield
Porter
Saco
Standish

Recycling Members

Andover
Cornish
Harpwell
Livermore Falls
Manchester
Monmouth
Old Orchard Beach
Poland
Readfield
Sanford
Wayne

Before the

Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Regarding LD 1417,

An Act to Exempt Wine Bottles from Maine's Container Redemption System

April 15, 2011

Senator Saviello, Representative Hamper, members of the Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources, my name is Kevin Roche. I serve as the General Manager of ecomaine. On behalf of ecomaine, I am testifying in opposition to LD 1417 *An Act to Exempt Wine Bottles from Maine's Container Redemption System*.

ecomaine

ecomaine provides municipal solid waste services to over 40 communities in York, Cumberland, Franklin, and Kennebec Counties, including Portland, Gorham, and Waterboro. ecomaine is owned by 21 member communities and run by a 29 member Board of Directors.

We operate three different facilities:

A Waste to Energy (WTE) mass burn facility with a capacity of 14.7 MW,

A Landfill/Ashfill site for disposal of our ash, and

A single-sort recycling facility.

Problems with Glass

LD 1417 would produce significant negative impacts on ecomaine and other recycling facilities in Maine.

ecomaine runs a single sort recycling facility. We separate out a variety of recyclable materials and package them for sale. The materials we recycle include ferrous metal,

aluminum, plastics #1-#7, cardboard, all grades of paper and glass. There is a ready market for many of these materials, but not for glass.

Often, **ecomaine** pays more to ship glass to a recycler than we receive in payment. At **ecomaine**, we have resorted to a variety of strategies to find less costly ways to dispose of recycled glass, including grinding it into an aggregate which can be used as a replacement for sand and gravel applications. Despite our best efforts, it is still a money losing proposition. Others collecting and processing glass have the same challenge.

Were LD 1417 enacted, we would see a significant increase in glass wine bottles. We don't want to see just the least valuable recyclable (glass) added to our program. It would end up imposing a significant cost to **ecomaine** to dispose of the additional glass. **ecomaine** is not arguing that the bottle bill should not be changed at all. We agree that the bottle bill has many inefficiencies that need immediate attention. We are asking you not to change it in a way that imposes significant costs on **ecomaine** and our community owners.

Please report our LD 1417 Ought Not to Pass.

Thank you for your time and attention. I would be happy to take any questions.

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

An Act To Exempt Wine Bottles from Maine's Container Redemption System

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §1862, sub-§1, as amended by PL 2009, c. 110, §1, is further amended to read:

1. Beverage. "Beverage" means beer, ale or other drink produced by fermenting malt, spirits, wine, hard cider, wine coolers, soda or noncarbonated water and all nonalcoholic carbonated or noncarbonated drinks in liquid form and intended for internal human consumption, except for unflavored rice milk, unflavored soymilk, milk and dairy-derived products.

Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §1863-A, as enacted by PL 1991, c. 819, §3, is amended to read:

§ 1863-A. Refund value

To encourage container reuse and recycling, every beverage container sold or offered for sale to a consumer in this State must have a deposit and refund value. The deposit and refund value are determined according to the provisions of this section.

1. Refillable containers. For refillable beverage containers, except wine and spirits containers, the manufacturer shall determine the deposit and refund value according to the type, kind and size of the beverage container. The deposit and refund value may not be less than 5¢.

2. Nonrefillable containers; exclusive distributorships. For nonrefillable beverage containers, except wine and spirits containers, sold through geographically exclusive distributorships, the distributor shall determine and initiate the deposit and refund value according to the type, kind and size of the beverage container. The deposit and refund value ~~must~~ may not be less than 5¢.

3. Nonrefillable containers; nonexclusive distributorships. For nonrefillable beverage containers, except wine and spirits containers, not sold through geographically exclusive distributorships, the deposit and refund value may not be less than 5¢.

4. Spirits containers. For wine and spirits containers of greater than 50 milliliters, the refund value may not be less than 15¢. On January 1, 1993, the department shall issue a finding on the percentages of wine containers and spirits containers returned for deposit. ~~If the department finds the return rate of wine containers was less than 60% during the year ending September 1992, then, on July 1, 1993, the refund value on wine containers may not be less than 25¢.~~ If the department finds the return rate of spirits containers was less than 60% during the year ending September 1992, then, on July 1, 1993, the refund value of spirits containers may not be less than 25¢.

Sec. 3. 32 MRSA §1865, sub-§2, as repealed and replaced by PL 1991, c. 819, §5, is amended to read:

2. Brand name. Refillable glass beverage containers of carbonated beverages, for which the deposit is initiated under section 1863A, subsection 1, that have a refund value of not less than 5¢ and a brand name permanently marked on the container are not required to comply with subsection 1. The exception provided by this subsection does not apply to glass beverage containers that contain spirits; wine or malt liquor as those terms are defined by Title 28A, section 2.

Sec. 4. 32 MRSA §1866-D, sub-§3, ¶A, as enacted by PL 2003, c. 499, §8, is amended to read:

A. Beer, ale or other beverage produced by fermenting malt, ~~wine~~ and wine coolers;

SUMMARY

This bill exempts wine bottles from the bottle redemption system.

2011eco-Excellence Awards

Honoring local environmental activities



March 22, 2011 (Tuesday)

10:30 am-1:00 pm

Summary

Attendance: 100+ (based on rental of 100 chairs plus use of our own)

Participating towns: 24

Entries: 36

Awards

Total awards presented: 44

Community awards (individuals): 31

Business awards: 10 plus one Best Business Award

Grand Award (rocking chair): 1

Best Business Award (engraved glass plate): 1

Special exemplary business award: 1 (engraved glass plate; to Paul Bell, Conversion products, Biddeford)

Recycled fleece jackets given to nominators and winners: 88



Comparative Data:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Municipalities</u>	<u>Framed Awards</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
3/16/06	11	12	N/A*
4/24/07	21	21	35
3/18/08	26	31	90
3/24/09	30	33	90
3/16/10	35	38	108
3/22/11	24	41	100+

(*individual town presentations)

Participating communities (owner-communities in bold):

Bridgton	Gorham	Old Orchard Beach	Sanford
Cape Elizabeth	Gray	Parsonsfield	Scarborough
Casco	Harpswell	Portland	South Portland
Cornish	Hollis	Pownal	Standish
Falmouth	Jay	Readfield	Windham
Freeport	Monmouth	Saco	Yarmouth



News Media Coverage:

- January 5; *Portland Forecaster*
- January 6; *The Bridgton News*
- January 7, *Southern Forecaster*
- January 7; *Scarborough Leader*
- January 7; *The Portland Daily Sun*
- January 10; *Journal Tribune*

- February 4; *Lakes Region Weekly*
- March 17; *The Current*
- March 24; *The Bridgton News*
- March 30; *Sun Journal*
- March 31; *Sanford News*
- March 31; *The Bridgton News*
- March 31; *Biddeford-Saco-OOB Courier*

- April 1; *Gorham Times*
- April 1; *Scarborough Leader*
- April 2; *Sun Journal*
- April 7; *Advertiser Democrat*
- April 11: *The Independent*
- April 10; *Maine Sunday Telegram*



BUSINESS

B8



NOTEWORTHY

What's new in local business



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Bridgton Hospital was recently awarded the ecomaine Business Award for 2011. Shown with the award are, from left, ecomaine's Recycling Committee Chairman Troy Moon; Bridgton Hospital Recycling Committee members Kate Fitzcharles and Martha Denison; Mahlon Johnson, ecomaine board of directors for Bridgton; and Kevin Roach, general manager, ecomaine.

Bridgton Hospital receives award

BRIDGTON — Bridgton Hospital received the ecomaine eco-Excellence Award for the town of Bridgton on March 22 at a special awards presentation and luncheon sponsored by ecomaine of Portland.

The Bridgton Hospital Recycling Committee efforts have been responsible for the honor. Members include Kate Fitzcharles, Martha Denison, Carol Miller, Linda Allen, Trina Sanborn, Florence Ward, Leslie Hill, Chipper Wiggin, Helen Trombly, Joanne

Mclaughlin, Sherrill Brown and Karen Mentus.

Bridgton Hospital is being recognized for its efforts in setting a positive and practical example for others to emulate.

This is the sixth year for the awards and Bridgton Hospital is the first hospital in Maine to be recognized.

There are a total of 40 municipalities who were eligible to be honored with an eco-Excellence Award, including citizens, businesses or organizations.

Eco-friendly projects sought

Eco-Excellence Awards are given annually to recognize green activities by ecomaine, a nonprofit recycling and waste disposal operation that is municipally owned and operated.

Michael Bobinsky, chairman of the ecomaine board of directors and director of public services for the city of Portland, said the organization is seeking nominees.

"Each one of the 40 communities served by ecomaine can win an award — it's a great opportunity to thank a person or group that has made a difference in your community."

The names of nominees must be received at ecomaine by Feb. 18 along with a brief description of the nominee's green activity. Awards are open to individuals and groups who either live or work in any of the 40 communities contracted with ecomaine. For more information, visit www.ecomaine.org.

Last year, the winner from Scarborough was Paul Austin.

GRAY

Eco-Excellence Awards

Eco-Excellence Awards are given annually in recognition of "green" activities by ecomaine nonprofit recycling and waste disposal operation.

The names of nominees for this year's awards must be received at ecomaine by Friday, Feb. 18, along with a brief description of the nominee's "green" activity. Awards are open to individuals, groups and businesses in any of the 40 communities of ecomaine.

Entry forms and information about previous winners can be found at www.ecomaine.org or requested by phoning 523-3108.

Last year's winners included Gray-New Gloucester High School Community

Service Club.

Entries will be judged by members of the ecomaine Recycling Committee. All the recipients and their nominators will be invited to an awards luncheon given in their honor in Portland on March 22.

People & business

Seeking local nominees for eco-Excellence awards

PORTLAND — ecomaine, a nonprofit recycling and waste disposal operation that is municipally owned and operated by 40 local communities, is accepting nominations for its annual eco-Excellence awards.

eco-Excellence Awards are given annually in recognition of green activities

by a person or group that has made a difference in the community.

The names of nominees must be received at ecomaine by Friday, Feb. 18, with a brief description of the nominee's activities/accomplishments.

Awards are open to individuals or groups who either live or work in the 40 communities or businesses of any size that are located in the participating communities. Local communities include: Cape Elizabeth, Cumberland, Falmouth, Freeport, Harpswell, North Yarmouth, Portland, Pownal, Scarborough, South Portland, and Yarmouth.

Entry forms and more information can be found at ecomaine.org or by phone at 523-3108.

Businesses earn 'eco excellence'

Bridgton Hospital and The Village Gift Barn in Casco were each recently honored for their contributions to preserving local ecology with the 2011 eco-Excellence Award, given annually by municipally-owned ecomaine, a single-sort recycling and waste-to-energy operation.

Bridgton Hospital was nominated by Nurse Martha Denison of Harrison, and the award was accepted by her and Kate

Fitzcharles, on behalf of the hospital. In her written nomination, Denison cited several ongoing "green" activities as well as new initiatives begun in the past year, such as: elimination of Styrofoam cups, use of green cleaning products by house-keeping and cafeteria staff, replacement of x-ray film with digital, and establishment of the Connect Shuttle program that provides patients with transportation to Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston, eliminating the need for multiple personal vehicles and, thereby, reducing emissions.

The Village Gift Barn received the Business Award with for Casco for their creative use of found items and for carrying an inventory of which 30 percent is created from recycled material by local crafters. The shop is located in an 1860s-period barn with only minor improvements made to its original condition. Items found in the barn are used for displays
EXCELLENCE, Page 5A



BRIDGTON ECO-EXCELLENCE AWARD — Pictured left to right, ecomaine Recycling Committee Chairman Troy Moon, Kate Fitzcharles, Martha Denison, ecomaine Bridgton Board Member Mahlon Johnson, and ecomaine General Manager Kevin Roche

'Eco excellence' awards

(Continued from Page 4A)
as well as items from the local transfer station.

Terri Linnell, owner, and Joanne Legere-Vail accepted the award.

A luncheon was held at the ecomaine offices in Portland to honor all the winners from 24 participating municipali-

Chairman of the ecomaine Board Michael Bobinsky and Recycling Committee Chair Troy Moon presented each

winner with a framed award and a fleece jacket made from recycled plastic.

ecomaine is a municipally-owned nonprofit organization, which owns and operates the only single-sort recycling facility in Maine, a landfill/ash-fill site and a waste-to-energy plant that produces electricity. All three facilities are certified by the International Standards Organization (ISO 14001) for excellence in environmental

management — a rare achievement. Twenty-one communities are owners of ecomaine, 21 more have contracts with the organization, and all 42 communities were eligible to participate in the 2010 eco-Excellence Awards.

Anyone can make a nomination for the eco-Excellence Awards. Winners are chosen from among all the nominations by members of the ecomaine Recycling Committee.



CASCO ECO-EXCELLENCE AWARD — Pictured left to right, ecomaine Recycling Committee Chairman Troy Moon with Terri Linnell, owner of The Village Gift Barn in Casco and recipient of the Business Award, Joanne Legere-Vail, and ecomaine General Manager Kevin Roche. See story on Page 4A

COMMUNITY

Briefly

EcoMaine seeking award nominees

Winner and one will be named Best Eco-Excellence Business.

Nominations are now being accepted for EcoMaine's "Eco-Excellence Awards," which are given annually in recognition of environmentally friendly activities.

The names of nominees must be received by Feb. 18 along with a brief description of the nominee's "green" activity. Awards are open to individuals and groups who either live or work in any of the 40 communities contracted with Ecomaine and it is also open to businesses of any size that are located in any one of those communities.

Entry forms can be found on-line at www.ecomaine.org, or requested by calling 523-3108.

Judging of entries will be done by members of the Ecomaine Recycling Committee, and all the recipients and their nominators will be invited to an awards luncheon given in their honor in Portland on Tuesday, March 22.

From among the municipal award recipients, one will be named the 2010 Grand Award

E6 Maine Sunday Telegram/ Sunday, April 10, 2011

■ Brentwood Farms Community Garden in Portland and Goodwill of Northern New England were recently honored with ecomaine's 2011 eco-Excellence Award for their contributions in preserving local ecology. Goodwill also won the Best Business Award.

Joanna Basinger of Scarborough was the grand award winner for her free website, closestcloset.com. An additional award for "exemplary business practices" was presented to Paul Bell, president of Conversion Products in Biddeford.

Ecomaine is a nonprofit, municipally owned recycling and waste-to-energy operation.

Sun Journal

Jay residents win eco-Excellence Awards

Published Mar 30, 2011 12:00 am | Last updated Mar 30, 2011 10:07 am

PORTLAND — Ecomaine honored six people March 22 representing the towns of Jay, Monmouth and Readfield for their contributions to preserving local ecology with the 2011 eco-Excellence Award.

Ecomaine is a municipally-owned, nonprofit organization, which owns and runs a single-sort recycling facility in Maine, a landfill/ash fill site and a waste-to-energy plant that produces electricity.

Selectmen Warren Bryant and Tim DeMillo, Transfer Station Supervisor Todd Hiscock, and Public Works Director John Johnson, all of Jay, received community awards for serving on a town committee to research and investigate single-sort recycling for possible use in Jay. Each one spent hours of volunteer time to make sure a decision to switch to single sort was made in the best interest of Jay citizens, according to a news release. As a result of their efforts, the town projects a budget decrease of \$300,000, without any loss of jobs.

The nomination was made by the Jay Board of Selectmen and Town Manager Ruth Cushman.

Readfield resident John Parker received the eco-Excellence Award for his town for his voluntary services at the transfer station Stop and Shop Swap Shop. He was credited with spending hours every week to organize and display reusable items brought to the transfer station. He also takes the time to deliver excess items to other organizations, such as Goodwill Industries and local schools.

Parker was nominated by the Readfield/Wayne Solid Waste & Recycling Committee.

Monmouth employee Trudie Lee was nominated by Public Works Director Herbert Whittier, who said Lee had been going "above and beyond to explain our recycling process with taxpayers using the facility." She also made the station more inviting by planting flowers in compost that originated at the transfer station.

A luncheon was held at the ecomaine offices in Portland to honor all the winners from all 24 participating municipalities. Chairman of the ecomaine Board Michael Bobinsky and Recycling Committee Chair Troy Moon presented each winner with a framed award and a fleece jacket made from recycled plastic.

Joanna Basinger of Scarborough was the Grand Award winner for her free website called Closest Closet (closestcloset.com). She received a white rocking chair — made in Biddeford from recycled plastic lumber — with a plaque identifying the award and noting that the chair was "made using 195 HDPE (#2) milk jugs."

The Best Business Award went to Goodwill Industries of Northern New England and was accepted by Bob Frederick, director of logistics and operations. Michelle Smith was the nominator.

A special award for "exemplary business practices" was presented to Paul Bell, president of Conversion Products, located in Biddeford, and manufacturer of the Grand Award rocking chair. Both business awards were engraved with glass plates made from recycled glass.

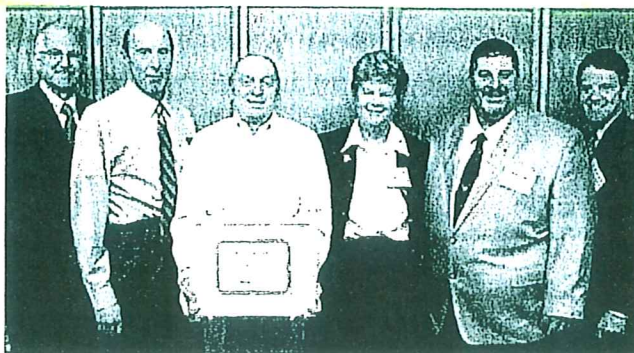


Ecomaine recognized Jay residents March 22 in Portland. From left: Selectman Tim DeMillo, eco member Troy Moon, Jay Selectman Warren Bryant, Station Supervisor Todd Hiscock, Public Works Director John Johnson, and General Manager Kevin Roche.

- Submitted Photo

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community



VP Elmer Alcott of Nappi Distributors in Gorham accepted the 2011 eco-Excellence Award from ecomaine, a non-profit, municipally owned and operated recycling center. By consolidating their distribution centers into one building in Gorham in 2007, Nappi Distributors increased their efficiency by installing a high-efficiency natural gas heating system and by using LED lighting throughout the warehouse and offices. They were also recognized for helping the environment by recycling paper, plastic and cardboard. L-R: ecomaine Chairman Michael Bobinsky, Gorham Town Manager David Cole, Nappi Distributors Vice President Elmer Alcott, Gorham Council Vice Chair Brenda Caldwell, Gorham Council Chairman Mathew Robinson, and ecomaine General Manager Kevin Roche.



Rick Perruzzi, South Portland's head sports turf manager, shown here at the Wainwright Farm Recreation Complex, recently won an eco-Excellence award from **ecomaine for his work using organic turf management products.**

Staff photo by Michael Kelley

Group's annual eco-Excellence Awards open to nominees

DAILY SUN STAFF REPORT

The eco-Excellence Awards, given annually in recognition of "green" activities by ecomaine, welcomes nominees.

Michael Bobinsky chair of the ecomaine board of directors and director of public services for the city of Portland, said the organization is seeking nominees and explained, "Each one of the 40 communities served by ecomaine can win an award — it's a great opportunity to thank a person or group that has made a difference in your community."

Municipally owned and operated, ecomaine is a nonprofit recycling and waste disposal operation.

The names of nominees must be received at ecomaine by Friday, Feb. 18 along with a brief description of the nominee's "green" activity. Awards are open to individuals and groups who either live or work in any of the 40 communities contracted with ecomaine, and it is also open to businesses of any size that are located in any one of those communities. The brief entry forms and information about previous winners can be found on-line at ecomaine.org ("News & Events"), or requested by phoning 523-3108.

Last year's award recipients included: PATHS Carpentry Class; Elliott May; Portland Waste Reduction Group, which was also the Grand Award winner for 2010.

The judging of entries will be done by members of the ecomaine Recycling Committee. Troy Moon (Portland), chair of the committee, and a member of the board of directors, said all the recipients and their nominators will be invited to an awards luncheon given in their honor in Portland on Tuesday, March 22. "At that time," said Moon, "we will present the individual community awards, announce the Grand Award winner, and, for the first time, present an award for the best eco-Excellence business. After the presentations, recipients will be encouraged to share their experiences. Then, tours of ecomaine's facilities, including Maine's only single-sort recycling operation, will be offered."

Moon noted that past winners have been representative of a wide variety of activities and ages. Examples include a high school ecology club that initiated a successful school-wide recycling program, a volunteer who organizes and operates the local transfer station swap shop, a local newspaper columnist who has written articles about recycling, a store employee who convinced the owners to recycle, and a lumber company with a strong commitment to green operations. A complete listing of past award recipients and their activities is available at ecomaine.org.

From among the municipal award recipients, one will be named the 2010 Grand Award Winner and one will be named Best eco-Excellence Business. The Grand Award winner in 2010 was the Portland Waste Reduction Group.

The 40 communities eligible to participate in the annual eco-Excellence Awards are: Andover, Baldwin, Bridgton, Cape Elizabeth, Casco, Cornish, Cumberland, Falmouth, Freeport, Gorham, Gray, Harrison, Harpswell, Hiram, Hollis, Jay, Limington, Livermore Falls, Lyman, Manchester, Monmouth, Naples, North Yarmouth, Ogunquit, Old Orchard Beach, Parsonsfield, Poland, Porter, Portland, Pownal, Readfield, Saco, Sanford, Scarborough, South Portland, Standish, Waterboro, Wayne, Windham and Yarmouth.

In the News

Lisa Fernandes, a Cape Elizabeth resident, was recognized for creating Portland Maine Permaculture, a meet-up.com group that has grown from seven members to 1,000 in three years. Members use the message board and meet to re-skill, re-localize and build resilience.

Joanna Basinger of Scarborough was named Grand Award winner. Basinger is the originator of Closest Closet, a nonprofit website (www.closestcloset.com) she created from her Scarborough home.

The site connects people who have skills to offer or items to lend or give away with those who want them. There is no charge for participating, nothing is for sale, and she does not take a salary.

Mark Follansbee won the business award for Scarborough with his Worm Maine website (wormmaine@maine.rr.com) that sells worms and bins for in-home worm composting.

Follansbee devotes most of his time to provide free, detailed information about worm composting through his website, as well as in person at schools and at large events.

Enrico "Rick" Perruzzi, senior park maintainer for the South Portland Parks Department and sports turf manager of South Portland's Wainwright Recreation Fields, was honored for his maintenance of athletic fields with organic materials. Aluncheon was held at the ecomaine offices

Scarborough woman wins ecology award

One business and three individuals were recognized for their contributions in preserving local ecology with the 2011 eco-Excellence Award. The awards are given annually by ecomaine, a nonprofit municipally owned single-sort recycling and waste-to-energy operation.



Joanna Basinger of Scarborough was the Grand Award winner for her free website called closestcloset.com. She received a white rocking chair made in Biddeford from recycled plastic lumber with a plaque identifying the award and noting that the chair was made using 195 HDPE (No. 2) milk jugs. (Courtesy photo)

in Portland to honor all the winners from 24 participating municipalities. Ecomaine Board Chairman Michael Bobinsky and recycling committee chairman Troy Moon presented each winner a framed award and

fleece jacket made from recycled plastic. The Best Business Award went to Goodwill Industries of Northern New England and was accepted by Bob Frederick, director of logistics and operations.

ecomaine honors Sanford's Marass and Lindquist for preserving local ecology

Thursday, March 31, 2011

SANFORD — Sanford High School teacher Beth Marass and Maine Manufacturing Facilities Manager Keith Lindquist recently were honored for their contributions in preserving local ecology with the 2011 eco-Excellence Award.

The awards are given annually by ecomaine, a nonprofit municipally-owned single-sort recycling and waste-to-energy operation.

Marass was recognized for her work as Sanford High School's Environmental Club adviser. Through such work, she has promoted local environmental activities and increased "eco" awareness. She spearheaded the club's energy audit of the high school to determine its carbon footprint and then initiated positive improvements.

Marass received the award in part because her creative approach maintains student interest while promoting learning and civic action. She has worked with students to hold a "green" fashion show at Sanford High School this Friday. Students under her advisement also dressed in selected environmental colors during Maine's Recycle Week.

Marass was nominated by Shirley Spaulding, a teacher at Sanford High School, and Deputy Director of Sanford Public Works Eugene Alley.

Keith Lindquist, the facilities manager at Maine Manufacturing, was nominated by fellow employee Craig Cunningham for "increasing our recycling efforts by 100 percent and reducing our waste by nearly 50 percent." Lindquist accomplished the impressive results in just seven months by recycling between 200 and 250 cubic feet of loose paper per week, switching to single-stream dumpsters and recycling hundreds of plastic bags per month.

Maine Manufacturing is a life science manufacturer in Sanford.

A luncheon was held at the ecomaine offices in Portland to honor all the winners from all 24 participating municipalities. Chairman of the ecomaine Board Michael Bobinsky and Recycling Committee Chair Troy Moon presented each winner with a framed award and a fleece jacket made from recycled plastic.

ecomaine is a municipally-owned nonprofit organization, which owns and operates the only single-sort recycling facility in Maine, a landfill and ashfill site and a waste-to-energy plant that produces electricity. All three facilities are certified by the International Standards Organization for excellence in environmental management. Twenty-one communities are owners of ecomaine, 21 more have contracts with the organization, and all 42 communities were eligible to participate in the 2010 eco-Excellence Awards.

Anyone can make a nomination for the eco-Excellence Awards. Winners are chosen from among all the nominations by members of the ecomaine Recycling Committee.



courtesy photo ecomaine recently honored Keith Lindquist, of Maine Manufacturing, with its annual ecoExcellence Award in the category of business. From left are ecomaine Chairman Michael Bobinsky; Lindquist; Craig Cunningham, of Maine Manufacturing, who nominated Lindquist; and ecomaine General Manager Kevin Roche.

[Click here to view Foster's prints for sale](#)



courtesy photo ecomaine recently honored Sanford High School teacher Beth Marass with its ecoExcellence Community Award. From left are ecomaine Chairman Michael Bobinsky; Sanford High School students Jean Halstead, Chelsea Rodrique and Catherine Murley; Marass; SHS teacher Shirley Spaulding, who nominated Marass; Sanford Public Works Deputy Director Eugene Alley, who also nominated her; and ecomaine General Manager Kevin Roche.

Ecomaine honors residents, business for work

Two local individuals and a business were honored for their contributions in preserving local ecology with the 2011 eco-Excellence Award.

The awards are given annually by ecomaine, a nonprofit municipally-owned single-sort recycling and waste-to-energy operation.

Fred Dolgon of Old Orchard Beach received the Old Orchard Beach Community Award for his dedicated and passionate work as an original member of the town's recycling committee. Dolgon encouraged the adoption of single-sort recycling and weekly curbside recycling. He also promoted recycling for mobile home parks and condominiums with the placement of two silver bullet containers.

Dolgon was nominated by Michael Tousignant, vice chairman of the Old Orchard Beach Town Council. In nominating Dolgon, Tousignant said, "Good is to find a way, if there is one; but excellence is to make a way if there is none. Fred has done this for us."

Donald Gean, a resident of Old Orchard Beach, was presented the Business Award for his environmental contributions as executive director of York County Shelter Programs. He worked to improve the programs' recycling, reduction of waste and reduction of the organization's carbon footprint. The work was done at 30 houses, a community farm, two commercial bakeries and a café. Gean was nominated by Mary Doyle of West Newfield.

Howard Carter received the Saco Community Award

for his work as deputy director of the city's wastewater treatment plant and as liaison to the Saco Energy Committee. He implemented environmental improvements that included the use of geothermal heat and cooling at the wastewater treatment plant. The system reduced the building's need for energy. Energy was reduced in other buildings with a photovoltaic solar system for heat and sky tubes for natural light.

Carter was nominated for the award by the city of Saco. Award winners were recognized at a luncheon at the Portland offices of ecomaine. Michael Bobinsky, chairman of the ecomaine board, and Troy Moon, recycling committee chairman, presented each winner with a framed award and a fleece jacket made from recycled plastic.

BUSINESS NEWS



BRIDGTON AWARD WINNER — From left are ecomaine Recycling Committee Chair Troy Moon; Kate Fitzcharles and Martha Denison of Bridgton Hospital; ecomaine Bridgton Board member Mahlon Johnson and ecomaine General Manager Kevin Roche.



CASCO AWARD WINNER — From left are ecomaine Recycling Committee Chair Troy Moon, Terri Linnell and Joanne Legere-Vail of the Village Gift Barn and ecomaine General Manager Kevin Roche.

Local businesses earn award for earth-friendliness

AREA — Bridgton Hospital and The Village Gift Barn in Casco were among those honored for their contributions to preserving local ecology with the 2011 eco-Excellence Award, given annually by municipally-owned ecomaine, a single-sort recycling and waste-to-energy operation.

Bridgton Hospital was nominated by Nurse Martha Denison of Harrison, and the award was accepted by her

and by Kate Fitzcharles, on behalf of the hospital. In her written nomination, Denison cited several on-going "green" activities as well as new initiatives begun in the past year, such as elimination of Styrofoam cups, use of green cleaning products by house-keeping and cafeteria staff, replacement of x-ray film with digital and establishment of the Connect Shuttle program that provides patients with

transportation to CMMC, eliminating the need for multiple personal vehicles and, thereby, reducing emissions.

The Village Gift Barn received the Business Award for Casco for their creative use of found items and for carrying an inventory of which 30 percent is created from recycled material by local crafters. The shop is located in an 1860s period barn with only minor improvements made to its original condition.

Items found in the barn are used for displays as well as items from the local transfer station. Terri Linnell, owner, and Joanne Legere-Vail accepted the award.

A luncheon was held at the ecomaine offices in Portland to honor all the winners from all 24 participating municipalities. Chairman of the ecomaine Board Michael Bobinsky and Recycling Committee Chair Troy Moon presented each win-

ner with a framed award and a fleece jacket made from recycled plastic.

ecomaine is a municipally-owned nonprofit organization, which owns and operates the only single-sort recycling facility in Maine, a landfill/ashfill site and a waste-to-energy plant that produces electricity. All three facilities are certified by the International Standards Organization (ISO 14001) for excellence in environmental

management - a rare achievement. Twenty-one communities are owners of ecomaine, 21 more have contracts with the organization, and all 42 communities were eligible to participate in the 2010 eco-Excellence Awards.

Anyone can make a nomination for the eco-Excellence Awards. Winners are chosen from among all the nominations by members of the ecomaine Recycling Committee.

Area news

Page 12A, The Bridgton News, March 24, 2011

Hospital earns 'eco' award

Bridgton Hospital received the ecomaine "eco-Excellence Award" for the Town of Bridgton on Tuesday, March 22, at a special awards presentation and luncheon sponsored by ecomaine, which is located in Portland.

The Bridgton Hospital Recycling Committee efforts, including members Kate Fitzcharles, Martha Denison, Carol Miller, Linda Allen, Trina Sanborn, Florence Ward, Leslie

Hill, Chipper Wiggin, Helen Trombly, Joanne McLaughlin, Sherrill Brown and Karen Mentus, have been responsible for the honor. Bridgton Hospital is being recognized "for their eco-friendly efforts setting a positive and practical example for others to emulate."

This is the sixth year for the awards and Bridgton Hospital is the first hospital to be recognized. Committee member Martha Denison submitted the

nomination.

There are a total of 40 municipalities who were eligible to be honored with an eco-Excellence Award, including citizens, businesses or organizations.

ecomaine is a nonprofit, municipally owned and operated recycling and waste-to-energy operation owned by 21 communities and serving an additional 19 communities through contractual agreements.



RECYCLING COMMITTEE at Bridgton Hospital includes (top row, left to right) Chi Wiggin, Sherrill Brown, Helen Twombly, Kate Fitzcharles, Trina Sanborn and Leslie Hill (bottom row) Florence Ward, Carol Miller and Karen Mentus.

'The grass grows seven days a week, 24 hours a day'

Q&A with Rick Perruzzi

By Michael Kelley
mkelley@keepmecurrent.com

With the weather warming up and the vernal equinox mere days away, spring is in the air. In South Portland, the transition from winter to spring could not be made possible without Rick Perruzzi, the city's head sports turf manager who for the last decade has been getting athletic fields ready for athletes young and old. Recently Perruzzi's work was recognized when eco-maine awarded him the 2011 eco-Excellence award for South Portland due to his use of organic turf management products.

Perruzzi took a break from field management this week to answer some questions from The Current about his career and the future of turf management.

Q: What does the eco-Excellence award mean to you and your fellow employees in the parks department?

A: The award is a great honor not just for myself and the crew, but also for the city of South Portland. The administration has given us the support and resources to be more creative and make the city a better place for its citizens.

Q: How long have you been working in the parks department in South Portland and how did you get involved in the industry?

A: I have been working for the city since 1994; four years as a seasonal employee and have been full-time since 1998, with the last 11 years as the head sports turf manager. During the time I was a seasonal employee the crew I worked on took care of the high school complex. Being a former athlete it just came natural to work on sports fields. Most people don't get the opportunity to continue their athletic career after high school so this is another way to stay involved in athletics. After graduating from SMCC in 1996 with an A.S. in environmental science, I worked in a lab for six months, at which point I realized how much I missed working outdoors on sports fields. I have been doing it ever since.

Q: You have done a lot of work with organic products. Do you think that is where turf management will go in the future? What are the benefits or disadvantages to the approach?

A: The future of turf management is ever changing and new technologies are being developed all the time. I consider organic products another tool in maintaining turf.

As far as the benefits or disadvantages, you have to do your homework. As technology creates new products you have to research and ask questions

and see if it will work for you and your organization. Obviously the products we use have been successful, but then again you can't get too comfortable because there might be a better product out there, so it is constant process to stay abreast of new technologies.

Q: The Scarborough Town Council has talked about banning synthetic pesticides on town-owned property. Do you favor such an effort?

A: I was not aware of the situation in Scarborough, but any municipality or organization needs to do what they feel is in their best interest. Unfortunately we in the green industry are at times at the mercy of legislation. I know the Board of Pesticide Control works hard with the state Legislature to make

sure they get the appropriate information to make such decisions.

As a master applicator licensed through the state we have to pass an exam and regularly attend seminars to keep our license as service providers whether public or private, but a homeowner can go to a retail store and can obtain similar if not the same products and apply them at their homes when they may not know the proper application methods. Economically speaking, banning could add more stress to the economy and that is where education needs to play bigger part of this debate.

Q: How do you go about maintaining Wainwright Farm Recreation Complex?

A: Great question. First and foremost, it starts at home. Turf managers, whether it be sports fields, golf or lawn care, do not work conventional hours. The grass grows seven days a week, 24 hours a day, so having support at home is vital. My wife Tara and sons Ricky and Andrew are very supportive of the crazy hours my crew and I work, but understand it is a necessary evil. We do what needs to be done based off the schedule, with the weather playing a huge role in how tasks are accomplished. Green industry professionals are constantly looking at the weather, not just the current day or tomorrow but many days in advance. At times it does get

a little crazy but my crew and I understand the importance of the service we provide to the community of South Portland.

Lastly, any manager is only as good as the people they work with and I have great, passionate individuals that I work with, Ryan Norton, asst. sports turf manager, and crew members Eli Madsen, Todd Legassy and Rick Higgins.

Q: If you could be the maintenance manager for any piece of property, whether it be a sports field, private estate or public property, where would it be?

A: I have had the fortunate opportunity to visit many athletic venues around the country: Fenway Park in Boston, Raymond James Stadium and Legend's Field in Tampa and Qualcomm Stadium in San Diego, to name a few. Being that baseball my favorite sport I would have to say baseball. I had the opportunity to work a spring training game a few years ago at Disney's Wide World of Sports and the AA All Star game in Manchester, N.H. three years ago. It was an experience I will never forget.

It would be hard to pick just one, but either Anaheim Stadium or Dodger Stadium. Those two venues are annually picked by players as the best surfaces in baseball, but there is always Augusta National (home of the Masters golf tournament).

Area news

Page 4B, The Bridgton News, January 6, 2011

Seeking local nominations for eco-Excellence Awards

eco-Excellence Awards are given annually in recognition of "green" activities by ecomaine, a nonprofit recycling and waste disposal operation that is municipally owned and operated. Michael Bobinsky, chairman of the ecomaine board of directors and director of Portland Public Services, said the organi-

zation is seeking nominees and explained, "Each one of the 40 communities served by ecomaine can win an award — it's a great opportunity to thank a person or group that has made a difference in your community."

The names of nominees must be received at ecomaine by Friday, Feb. 18 along with a brief description of the nominee's "green" activity. Awards are open to individuals and groups who either live or work in any of the 40 communities contracted with ecomaine, and it is also open to businesses of any size that are located in any one of those communities. The brief entry forms and information about previous

winners can be found online at www.ecomaine.org ("News & Events"), or requested by phoning 523-3108.

Last year, local winners included: Al Burk of Bridgton, Alice Darlington of Casco, Worster's Rubbish of Harrison, Barbara McDonough and Boni Rickett of Naples.

The judging of entries will be done by members of the ecomaine Recycling Committee. Troy Moon (Portland), chairman of the committee, and a member of the board of directors, said all the recipients and their nominators will be invited to an awards luncheon given in their honor in Portland on Tuesday, March 22.

"At that time," said Moon, "we will present the individual community awards, announce the Grand Award winner, and, for the first time, present an award for the best eco-Excellence business. After the presentations, recipients will be encouraged to share their experiences. Then, tours of ecomaine's facilities, including Maine's only single-sort recycling operation, will be offered."

Moon noted that past winners have been representative of a wide variety of activities and ages. Examples include a high school ecology club that initiated a successful school-wide recycling program, a volunteer

who organizes and operates the local transfer station swap shop a local newspaper columnist who has written articles about recycling, a store employee who convinced the owners to recycle, and a lumber company with a strong commitment to green operations. A complete listing of past award recipients and their activities is available at www.ecomaine.org

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