

Assistance for Communities in New Hampshire's Coastal Watershed

DEALING WITH GROWTH AND PROTECTING NATURAL RESOURCES

Application Deadline: November 14, 2008

This is an intensive program providing a community presentation, a discussion session and an extended period of follow-up assistance. The NROC Team helps your community to identify their natural resources goals and take steps to reach them.

Apply for this program if your community wants to use a public involvement process to better focus the community's natural resource-based protection efforts and get more people involved.

Program description:

- The program is open to all community members and is driven by community needs.
- NROC tailors the program to each community's specific needs and typically works with community members for up to 12 months.
- The community selects a maximum of three topics/projects for follow-up assistance.
- The NROC team delivers to community members a customized educational presentation called *Dealing with Growth in (town name)*.
- This presentation is followed by a focused program of assistance by NROC staff, which includes the following:
 - ✓ Helping groups establish goals and priorities
 - ✓ Providing guidance for developing and implementing a one-year action plan for protecting natural resources
 - ✓ Presenting training needed by volunteers to complete specific project tasks.
 - ✓ Providing technical assistance in specialized areas, e.g. land conservation, water resources, etc.
 - ✓ Presenting educational workshops for residents and local officials
 - ✓ Providing guidance to sources of financial and other assistance.
 - ✓ Other assistance as requested by the community

Program Benefits:

The Dealing with Growth program:

- Leads to greater community involvement in natural resources-based projects and adds new volunteers to existing boards and subcommittees.
- Helps to energize community efforts to protect natural resources
- Provides access to expertise from natural resources protection agencies and organizations.
- Provides small grants to NROC communities to begin work on natural resource protection projects.

NROC has assisted 19 communities in the New Hampshire's coastal watershed since 1999. To learn about what communities can achieve with the assistance of NROC, visit our web page:

<http://extension.unh.edu/CommDev/NROC/CANROC.cfm>

How to Apply for the *Dealing With Growth* Program

Before you complete the application form:

1. **Schedule an Introductory Presentation:** If your community is interested in applying for the *Dealing with Growth* Program program, schedule an introductory presentation prior to submitting an application. The 20-minute presentation gives an overview of the NROC program and helps attendees determine if this type of assistance would be helpful to their community. The presentation is followed by 15 minutes of questions/discussion (for a total of 35 minutes). Municipal boards, council and committee members and interested residents should be invited to attend the NROC introductory presentation.

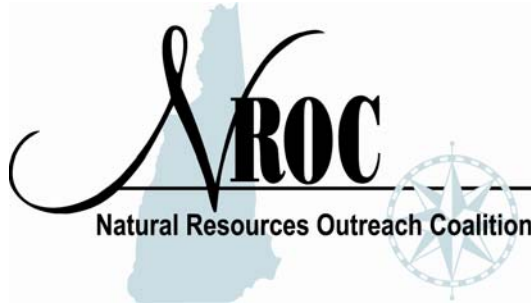
To schedule an introductory presentation in your community, call NROC Coordinator Amanda Stone at 364-5324 by Friday October 10, 2008. Presentations will be scheduled through November 7, 2008.

2. **Complete the Application:** If you decide to apply for the NROC program, complete and return the attached *Dealing with Growth* application form by Friday November 14, 2008. We strongly recommend you involve all municipal boards and other groups in providing information for this application.

NROC Partner Organizations

UNH Cooperative Extension ▪ *NH Sea Grant* ▪ *Great Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve*
NHDES Watershed Management Bureau ▪ *NH Coastal Program* ▪ *NH Estuaries Project*
Rockingham Planning Commission ▪ *Strafford Regional Planning Commission*
Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission ▪ *National NEMO Network*

NROC is staffed by the participating organizations and receives funds from the New Hampshire Coastal Program and the New Hampshire Estuaries Project



DEALING WITH GROWTH PROGRAM *2009 Application Form*

Applications must be received by November 14, 2008

Town(s) Name and Affiliation of Applicant (*e.g. conservation commission, planning board, open space group, conservation group, etc*):

Name of primary contact person: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: (Day): _____ (Evening): _____ E-mail: _____

Please check the community boards and/or other groups actively supporting this application, and provide a contact name and phone number/e-mail address for each:

Conservation Commission _____

Planning Board _____

Zoning Board _____

Select Board _____

City Council _____

Open Space Committee _____

Board Subcommittee _____

Lake/River/Watershed groups _____

OTHER (give details): _____

1. Why are you applying for the *Dealing with Growth* program (what assistance do you need), and what goals do you hope to achieve by working with NROC? Please be detailed and specific. Use a separate page if necessary.

2. Which of the following are priorities for your community? (Please check your TOP THREE):

- Better coordination among municipal boards working on natural resources
- Technical background information for basing decisions
- Increased community support for natural resource protection
- Better planning for natural resources protection
- Better local regulation (zoning, subdivision and site review) for natural resource protection
- Financial assistance to accomplish natural resource protection projects
- More action at the community level for natural resource protection
- Other (describe:)

3. Would education/guidance in any of the following topics help your community boards and committee members better protect natural resources? (Please check your TOP FIVE choices.)

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Water Resources | |
| | Community strategies for protecting water resources |
| | Developing and implementing a water quality monitoring program |
| | Managing stormwater runoff |
| | Protecting drinking water |
| | Protecting riparian buffers |
| | Minimizing impervious surfaces and water quality |
| | Other: (describe) |
| Wetlands | |
| | Evaluation of wetlands and understanding wetland ecology |
| | Understanding and implementing wetland and riparian buffers |
| | Other: (describe) |
| Land conservation | |
| | Creating or updating a natural resources inventory |
| | Understanding voluntary land conservation techniques |
| | Developing criteria for prioritizing areas for land protection |
| | Developing and/or implementing a conservation plan |
| | Developing an open space plan |
| | Understanding the economics of land conservation |
| | Land protection funding strategies |
| | Starting an open space committee/land conservation group |
| | Other (describe): |
| Managing the effects of growth | |
| | Applying Minimum Impact Development |
| | Applying Smart Growth principles |
| | Using conservation subdivision techniques |
| | Revising zoning to better address natural resources protection |
| | Other (describe): |
| Building public support | |
| | Developing effective education & outreach strategies |
| Other | |
| | Designing projects and proposals |

4. Provide information about existing, planned or in-progress natural resources-based information that your community already has:

| Natural Resource Protection Efforts | Provide dates of: - Most recent update, - In-progress, or - Planned in near future |
|--|--|
| Most recent Master Plan update | |
| Natural Resources Inventory and/or Natural Resources Section in Master Plan | |
| Natural resource protection ordinances (e.g. wetlands, aquifers, watershed protection) | |
| Resource protection oriented overlay zoning district (specify which resources) | |
| Open Space Plan or Conservation Plan | |
| Land Protection | |
| Open Space/Land Conservation Group (provide date when group was formed) | |
| Bond Allocation for land conservation | |
| Water Resources Protection (e.g. water resources section in Master plan, Water Quality Monitoring, etc.) | |
| Lake, River or Watershed Associations in town (provide date when group/s were formed) | |
| Wetland inventory/evaluation | |
| Forest management plan | |
| Agricultural Preservation | |
| OTHER (please describe) | |

5. Please list other organizations/groups/programs your community is currently working with on related projects and/or will be working with in 2008.

- Civic Profiles
- Plan NH
- Minimum Impact Development
- Main Street Program
- Master Plan update consultants/Reg. Plan Comm.
- Planning Board subcommittees
(specify, e.g zoning revisions, master plan, etc.)

OTHER (give details) _____

6. **Expected Time Frame:** It typically takes the NROC team three months to prepare the *Dealing with Growth* presentation. On the table below, please check the program time frames (Spring or Fall) that your community would be available to start working with NROC. **Please indicate first and second choices.**

| NROC Tasks | <input type="checkbox"/> Spring 2008 Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Fall 2008 Program |
|--|--|--|
| Initial meeting with community | January, 2008 | May, 2008 |
| <i>Dealing with Growth</i> Public Presentation and Initial Follow-up Meeting | April or May, 2008 | September, 2008 |
| Six-month period of intensive Follow-up assistance (this is followed by 5-6 months of less intensive assistance) | May - October, 2008 | Sept 2008 - Feb, 2009 |

7. **How did you hear about the Natural Resources Outreach Coalition (NROC)**

- From another community (which one?) _____
- Newspaper article
- NROC flyer
- NROC mailing
- NROC web page
- Other:

An electronic version of the application form is available on the NROC website:
<http://extension.unh.edu/CommDev/NROC/CANROC.cfm>

Application Deadline: November 14, 2008

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO:

Amanda Stone
 NROC Coordinator
 UNH Cooperative Extension
 220 Nesmith Hall
 131 Main Street
 Durham, NH 03824-3597

603-364-5324 amanda.stone@unh.edu

Working with NROC

Community Responsibilities for the *Dealing with Growth* program

The NROC team will need assistance from community members to prepare for the customized presentation and follow-up meetings. Specific community responsibilities include:

1. **Assemble a work group with representation from each of the municipal boards and other groups (e.g. lake associations, subcommittees, etc.) to work with the NROC team developing the *Dealing with Growth* presentation and to plan the follow-up.** Involving your community's land use decision makers is key to the program's success.
2. **Attend initial meeting between NROC staff and community representatives to discuss the details of the NROC *Dealing with Growth* program (presentation and follow-up assistance) and to discuss local natural resources issues and concerns.**
3. **Select dates and book meeting facilities for the presentation and initial follow-up meeting.**
4. **Publicize the *Dealing with Growth* presentation.**
The community is responsible for advertising the program and inviting community members to attend.
 - Invite town or city officials (including select board, planning board, ZBA, conservation commission), and other local organizations via letters of invitation.
 - Invite members of the public (newspaper articles, notices in public places, letters, and phone calls).
 - Publicize the event.
 - Follow letter invitations with phone calls.
5. **Provide Information for the *Dealing With Growth* presentation.**
 - The community is responsible for taking photographs that can be used to customize the presentation (e.g. scenic views, open spaces, downtown, new developments, town hall, schools, parks, important local resources, etc.). Photographs are preferably in digital format (hard copies are also acceptable). Digital images should be in high resolution .tif or .jpeg format. Permission for NROC to use photos in presentations and on websites, publications, reports and other promotional materials will be assumed for any photos submitted.
 - Supply other local information that would enhance the presentation
6. **Review and comment on the *Dealing With Growth* presentation.**
The community NROC work group provides input during the development of the presentation, plus the group will meet with NROC staff to review and comment on the draft presentation.
7. **Host and attend the *Dealing With Growth* presentation.**
8. **Host initial and subsequent follow-up meetings to develop an action plan.**
The follow-up team should involve all boards, and interested presentation participants. The follow-up meetings are facilitated by members of the NROC team.