

SRPC Planning Board UPDATE

12/4/2018



1 The University of New Hampshire (UNH) Carsey School of Public Policy will hold one of its “Coffee and Conversation” events at the UNH School of Law in Concord on Wednesday, Dec. 19, from 8:15 – 9:30 a.m. The theme will be “Building a Stronger NH, Together.” Kathleen Reardon, CEO of the NH Center for Nonprofits, will lead a discussion focused on developing solutions to the increasingly complex challenges facing our communities that will require a renewed commitment from the nonprofit, government, and for-profit business sectors to work together in partnership.

Parties interested in attending can [register online](#).

2 The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) is holding a series of seven public hearings as it works to finalize the state’s wetlands rules. The first was held in Concord on Dec. 3. NHDES will also hold hearings in Keene, Laconia, Lancaster, and Portsmouth. The schedule can be found [online](#).

As explained on the department’s website, NHDES began the formal rulemaking process on Sept. 28 of this year when it filed with the Office of the Legislative Budget Assistant “the initial proposals of the [state wetlands] rules.” The proposed rules are the culmination of a multi-year process. Specifics of the process and the resulting proposed rules can be found in a November 2018 newsletter article available on the [NHDES website](#).

Question about this process can be directed to [Mary Ann Tilton](#) at (603) 271-2929.

3 The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfields Program is now accepting proposal applications for multipurpose, assessment, and cleanup grants. [Multipurpose grants](#) provide up to \$800,000 over five years to support a range of eligible assessment and cleanup activities at one or more brownfield sites in a target area. [Assessment grants](#) provide up to \$200,000 over three years to support brownfield inventories, planning, environmental assessments, and community outreach. [Cleanup grants](#) provide up to \$500,000 over three years to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites owned by the applicant.

Proposals are due to EPA by Jan. 31, 2019. James Burdin, SRPC’s regional economic development planner, runs the current Strafford Brownfields Program. Feel free to contact him at 603-994-3500 or via [email](#) for more information or for assistance with the proposal writing process.

Learn more on [EPA’s website](#).