



Lakes Region Planning Commission Meeting

September 24, 2012

Meredith Community Center

One Circle Drive – Meredith, NH

6:00 P.M.

Dear LRPC Commissioners, Planning Boards, Conservation Commissions, and Interested Parties:

On Monday, September 24, the Lakes Region Planning Commission (LRPC) is convening a meeting in the Meredith Community Center, One Circle Drive, Meredith, NH. Starting at 6:00 pm, the main topic of the meeting will be the **Shoreland Water Quality Protection Act (SWQPA)** enacted in 2011. The primary goal of the SWQPA is to protect the water quality of the state's public waters. Administered by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES), the SWQPA regulates the development and land use planning of upland areas surrounding the state's lakes, rivers, and coastline. The **changes from 2011 relaxed several former requirements** designed to conserve and protect water quality. Representatives from the NH Department of Environmental Services will review the Act, and talk about their experiences implementing it over the past year. Joining the conversation will be the chairman of the **Shoreland Advisory Committee**, a committee created by the NH Legislature in 2011. This Committee is charged with developing recommendations to help improve the current act.

Given the number of large water bodies in the Lakes Region, **watershed management is of critical importance**. Much of the region's economy is directly or indirectly related to water quality, and many studies have been completed which show a direct relationship between water quality and property values. This meeting is an **excellent opportunity** to become aware of the effectiveness of the SWQPA from the perspective of the people responsible for enforcing it, and to learn more about strategies that will help ensure the long-term viability of our prized water resources.

In addition, LRPC Commissioners will be asked to consider the proposed FY14 LRPC membership appropriations, approve the FY 13 Annual Report, and to consider adoption of a Communication Policy. All LRPC meetings are open to the public. For additional information or special accommodation, please contact the LRPC: 279-8171 or lrpc@lakesrpc.org.

A G E N D A

- 6:00 pm** **Welcome and Introductions / *Stanley Bean, Jr.***, LRPC Chairman
Approval of the Minutes of the April 30, 2012 LRPC Commission Meeting (*enclosed*).
Yes____ No____ Amended____
- 6:05** **The Shoreland Water Quality Protection Act at One Year: How is it Doing? / *Darlene Forst***, Shoreland Section Supervisor, NH DES
- 6:50** **The Shoreland Water Quality Act: Are Changes Needed? / *Mark Traeger***, Chairman, NH Shoreland Advisory Committee and Chair of the Rockingham Planning Commission
- 7:25** **FY13 LRPC Annual Report and FY14 Membership Appropriations, *Stanley Bean, Jr.***, LRPC Chairman
Commissioners approve the Annual Report and FY 14 Membership Appropriations (*enclosed*).
Yes____ No____ Amended____
- 7:35** **LRPC Communications Policy, *Boone Porter***, LRPC Commissioner
Commissioners approve the LRPC Communication Rules Procedure (*enclosed*)
Yes____ No____ Amended____
- 7:50** **Other Discussion**
Adjourn

Light Refreshment Available
(*directions on reverse*)