January 2006

Monthly News for the Wachusett Working Landscapes Partnership

Please Attend

Thursday
February 9
5:30 to 7 PM

The Trustees of Reservations
Doyle Conservation Center
464 Abbott Avenue
Leominster

Low Impact Development—The Nitty-Gritty

You Are Invited to a *Free* Community Meeting with

Andrea Cooper of MA EOEA

Sponsored by the Wachusett Working Landscapes Partnership

For more information contact:
Debbie Shriver at
978.534.0379 or Email:
wwlp@commonwaters.org
RSVP requested

Low Impact Development - the Nitty-Gritty

What your town can do *now* to use LID

Would you like to know how your town can adopt a Low Impact Development (LID) bylaw? How a LID bylaw and regulations can help you meet Phase II and state stormwater requirements? Would you like to learn more about LID site planning and design or steps your town can take now to begin using LID?

If so, please join Andrea Cooper, Smart Growth Coordinator at the Massachusetts Executive Office of Environmental Affairs, for a *free* workshop, "Low Impact Development— the Nitty-Gritty," on Thursday, February 9 from 5:30 to 7 PM at the Trustees of Reservations Doyle Conservation Center, 464 Abbott Avenue, Leominster.

Sponsored by the Wachusett Working Landscapes Partnership (WWLP), this workshop will be helpful to members of municipal boards and staffs, developers, members of the business community, environmental groups and residents who are concerned about managing growth in Wachusett communities.

LID employs innovative, low-cost tools to protect land and water in developed areas. LID reduces stormwater impacts of development by using small-scale techniques to reduce runoff from impervious surfaces (e.g., roads, sidewalks, driveways) and allow water to infiltrate the soil on site. Instead of building stormwater collection infrastructure, LID uses methods such as vegetated swales and grassy strips, rain gardens, narrower road widths, constructed wetlands, permeable paving and green roofs to decrease runoff, detain and filter water.

LID methods are economical because less money is spent on construction and maintenance of wider roads and the gutters, pipes and other conveyances for stormwater. Sewage treatment costs are also lowered.

For more information and to RSVP for the workshop, contact Debbie Shriver at 978.534.0379 or email: wwlp@commonwaters.org

Smart Growth Tool Kit—Three Workshops in Central Mass

The MA Office for Commonwealth Development in cooperation with the Central Mass Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC), will conduct three workshops across the region to present the Commonwealth's new Smart Growth Toolkit.

A guide to smart growth techniques, the Tool Kit contains model bylaws, case studies and guidance on how to customize the bylaws to best fit an individual community. Attend any of these *free* workshops. All begin at 7 PM:

- January 17, West Brookfield Town Hall, Main Street (Rt. 9)
- January 24, Blackstone Public Library, 86 Main Street, Blackstone
- January 31, Shrewsbury Municipal Building, 100 Maple Avenue, Shrewsbury

For information contact Stephen Wallace at CMRPC at 508.756.7717 ext. 20 or email: swallace@cmrpc.org

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