

## **State Energy Office Relationships**

### **University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension**

#### **Responses to questions from Linda Kay Benning.**

The University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension (UNHCE) has worked with the NH Office of Energy and Planning over the past 2 years.

1. Briefly describe your relationship with your State Energy Office; explaining the program priorities, the role of each organization, and what value has been gained by working together. [Be brief, in most instances a paragraph will be great.]

- UHNCE is an active partner with the Office of Energy and the Education and Outreach committee. Most all agencies and interested contractors are working together to find ways to reach all audiences. From a draft proposal currently being written now comes this quote:

“The NH Office of Energy is looking to help partner organizations better promote their energy-savings programs to businesses and residential audiences, in order to meet the following objectives:

1. To increase the adoption of energy efficiency, energy conservation and renewable energy measures.
2. To encourage participation in partner organizations’ specific outreach, communication, and educational activities.
3. To focus on reducing the use of electricity and heating fuels in the built environment with secondary emphasis on increasing the acceptance use of renewable energy and reducing the use of transportation fuels.

There is currently no single comprehensive centralized program reaching all audiences. UHNCE developed the Energy Answers program for training volunteers to staff an informational and referral help line to address this program. (See more info below.)

2. What if any sharing of funding and/or personnel occurs between Extension and the SEO? Is so, who does that work?

UHNCE has not received any money from any outside sources yet. Many agency and state offices support the training program for the volunteers by making presentations to the participants and answering question on an on-going basis.

3. How do you know the results of this collaboration are worthwhile?

This is really the only objective source that people can get researched based information in one spot. Also, based on the calls and email we get the need is big. Getting the word out about this program takes a lot of time to build a reputation.

4. As Dean/Director what did you (or do you) do to support direct relations with your SEO?

The Energy Answers program was formed from a program innovation grant process and was put together by a team of educators from multiple disciplines.

5. Contact Person (name, phone and email)? If I have additional, more detailed questions, who do I follow up with?)

Contact Person: Darrel Covell, Forestry and Wildlife Program Leader

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- What is ENERGY STAR

Call our info line Monday – Friday 9am to 2pm, toll free – 1-877-EXT-GROW (1-877-398-4769) or email [answers@unh.edu](mailto:answers@unh.edu) Our UNH Cooperative Extension web site is - [www.extension.unh.edu](http://www.extension.unh.edu)

Our national web site – [www.extension .org/home energy](http://www.extension.org/home%20energy)

**What is Energy Answers?**

**Energy Answers is a trusted source of information to your energy related questions**

**A program of UNH Cooperative in collaboration with many federal, state and local partners.**