



Green Needham Collaborative receives 2010 EPA Environmental Merit Award at Earth Day ceremony at Faneuil Hall



The Green Needham Collaborative has been recognized with a **2010 EPA Environmental Merit Award** for its work to make Needham a more sustainable community. The EPA's Environmental Merit Awards are presented to individuals and organizations for outstanding efforts in preserving New England's environment. Accepting the award on behalf of Green Needham were Green Needham Steering Committee members Michael Greis, Eleanor Rosellini, Jim Glickman and Susan McGarvey.



The awards were presented by EPA's Region 1 Administrator Curt Spalding at a ceremony at Faneuil Hall on April 22nd, 2010, the 40th Earth Day. The Green Needham Collaborative joined seven individuals and nine other organizations from Massachusetts among the forty honorees representing all the New England states.



Green Needham was honored to be recognized for its work to make Needham a more sustainable community. The award citation noted that Green Needham has in just three years “**dramatically increased public awareness and participation in the need to reduce energy use and carbon dioxide emissions**”. The EPA highlighted the “collaborative” in citing our work with “Needham residents, municipal government, schools, local businesses, churches and civic organizations to promote energy efficiency, energy conservation and clean energy as a way of cutting carbon emissions and saving money”. Also playing a prominent role was the **2009 debut of the 10% Energy Challenge**, with 464 households participating and committing to actions keeping almost 4 million pounds of CO2 out of the atmosphere.

The award comes as Green Needham is preparing to take the 10% Challenge to the next level, with a goal of 1,000 households – about 10% of the homes in Needham – having taken the challenge by the time Needham celebrates its tercentenary in 2011.

Other Green Needham active projects in 2010 include:

- a **wind power feasibility study** at Needham's capped landfill
- a parallel study of the potential for **1 MW of solar photovoltaic electricity** generation, also at the landfill site
- a further rollout of its **Home Energy Efficiency Improvement** seminars helping homeowners navigate the challenge of making home energy improvements
- seeking the community's commitment to become a **Massachusetts Green Community**, making Needham eligible for sizable grants toward renewable energy or energy efficiency projects

For more information on the **Green Needham Collaborative**, visit <http://www.greenneedham.org> or contact:

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