

## 2011 eco-Excellence Award Winners

### Readfield

**Winner: John Parker**

**Nominator: Readfield/Wayne Solid Waste & Recycling Committee**



L-R: ecomaine Board Member Troy Moon, Jay's 2010 winner Glen Hawes, John Parker, and ecomaine General Manager Kevin Roche

Here is what the committee said about John:

“For the past several years, Readfield resident John Parker has volunteered his services at the ‘Stop & Shop Swap Shop’ at the Readfield/Wayne Transfer Station. John spends hours each week going through reusable items delivered to the shop by residents, organizing the items by categories and onto shelves and tables for display and easy public access. John will also deliver excess items to other organizations, such as Goodwill and the local elementary schools if they could use clothing, books, puzzles, and kids’ toys.”

## Saco

**Winner: Howard Carter**

**Nominator: The City of Saco**



L-R: ecomaine Chairman of the Board Michael Bobinsky, Saco Recycling Coordinator Sarah Bernier, Howard Carter, Mayor Roland Michaud, and ecomaine General Manager Kevin Roche

Howard Carter is the Deputy Director for the City's wastewater treatment plant; he is also the City's liaison to the Saco Energy Committee and, in addition, has implemented many of the suggested improvements. Three example are:

- The use of geothermal heat and cooling from the effluent at the wastewater treatment plant. Because the effluent temperature is warmer than the ambient air temperature in the winter and cooler than the ambient air temperature in the summer, it reduces the building's need for energy. Mayor Michaud noted that Saco is one of very few communities in the state to use this technology.
- The waste treatment plant also reduced energy use by installing a photovoltaic solar system that heats both the maintenance garage and the office area; it also heats water in a 120-gallon tank for their use.
- Sky tubes were installed to make greater use of natural light in the labs, garage, and other buildings. These sky tubes magnify natural light during the day, when the area is in use, and cuts back on the use of electricity.

Mayor Michaud wrote: "The City is proud to have so many green efforts and Howard is a great asset to the community in seeing these projects to completion."

## 2011 eco-Excellence Award Winners

### Sanford

**Community Award Winner: Beth Marass**

**Two separate nominators: Shirley Spaulding  
Eugene Alley**



L-R: ecomaine Chairman of the Board Michael Bobinsky, Sanford High School students Jean Halstead, Chelsea Rodrique and Catherine Murley, Beth Marass, Shirley Spaulding, Sanford Public Works Deputy Director Eugene Alley, and ecomaine General Manager Kevin Roche

Beth Marass is the Sanford High School's Environmental Club Advisor and is being recognized for promoting local environmental activities and increasing "eco" awareness. In a school of 1,400 students, she has led her students in a recycling campaign that now includes a bin in every classroom and large outdoor container from the Town's contractor. Beth has made students aware that every recyclable item removed from the trash is one less item that needs to be disposed of as trash.

Beth has her students take on green projects that are fun, effective, and replicable. During Maine's Recycle Week, students were encouraged to dress in a color reflecting an announced environmental issue – for example Monday was black for oil spills, Wednesday was green for deforestation, and Friday was red for recycling. She also arranged for a presentation from the Alliance for Climate Education and, as a result, was invited to take two students to Boston for a day of training. The club then began to share their projects on the Alliance's website and was awarded first prize in New England for their work.

She also spearheaded the club's energy audit of the high school to determine its carbon footprint and initiate changes. Her next project is coming up next month: a Green Fashion Show that encourages students' creativity with reused or recycled material.

Eugene Alley, Deputy Director of Public Works, wrote: "Last year, the Club helped create the most effective recycling campaign ever in Sanford, almost tripling the recycling rate."

## Sanford

**Business Award Winner:** Keith Lindquist, Facilities Manager, Maine Manufacturing

**Nominator:** Craig Cunningham



L-R: ecomaine Chairman of the Board Michael Bobinsky, Keith Lindquist, Craig Cunningham, and ecomaine General Manager Kevin Roche

Maine Manufacturing is a life science manufacturer that expanded into an existing Sanford facility in 2010. Keith's nominator said the facility was producing 6-7 tons of waste per month in May, but Keith's initiatives cut the tonnage nearly in half by November. Initiatives included the following:

- Instead of throwing out hundreds of plastic bags per month, they are now recycled and some are used as a replacement for garbage bags.
- They switched to single-stream recycling dumpsters
- The facility now recycles 200-250 cubic feet of loose paper per week and uses some of it to make scratch pads.
- Printing cartridges and bottles are donated to non-profits for their fundraising efforts

Nominator Craig Cunningham said, "in 2010, Keith increased our recycling efforts by 100% and has reduced our waste by nearly 50%."

## Scarborough

**Community Award Winner: Joanna Basinger**

**Nominator: Barbara Foss**



L-R: ecomaine Board Chairman Michael Bobinsky, ecomaine Scarborough Board Member Michael Shaw, Joanna Basinger, Barbara Foss, Scarborough Recycling Coordinator Sarah Bernier, and ecomaine General Manager Kevin Roche

Joanna Basinger is the originator of Closest Closet...[www.ClosestCloset.com](http://www.ClosestCloset.com)...a site, according to a *Scarborough Leader* article written by David Harry, she launched from her Scarborough home “based on the idea of lending and borrowing skills, goods and services.”

Participation and membership are free.

On the Closest Closet website, Joanna describes the operation as “a place to connect with people near you for:

- borrowing and lending items,
- sharing and receiving help with tasks (skill-sharing),
- recycling or receiving unwanted items,
- bartering and/or trading goods or services,
- supporting local economies,
- and making a commitment to live more responsibly within our communities.

We do this for free. If you’ve ever wished that communities just helped one another, this is where you want to be.”

## 2011 eco-Excellence Award Winners

**Business Award Winner: Mark Follansbee**

**Nominators: Alberta Follansbee  
Paul Austin**



L-R: ecomaine Board Chairman Michael Bobinsky, ecomaine Scarborough Board Member Michael Shaw, Mark Follansbee, Alberta Follansbee, Scarborough Recycling Coordinator Sarah Bernier, and ecomaine General Manager Kevin

Alberta Follansbee, Marks wife, said, “It sounds a little funny, but Mark is passionate about worm composting.” She also says he loves nature, is environmentally conscious, and has reduced his family’s impact on the environment with re-use, recycling, energy conservation measures, raising their own fruits and vegetables, CSA memberships in local farms, installation of solar panels, and more. He has created a website called [WormMania@maine.rr.com](http://WormMania@maine.rr.com) through which he dispenses free worm composting information and sells the materials needed to begin worm composting at your own home- including the worms and the bins that makes himself.

He visits schools (elementary through college), speaks to interested organizations and community groups, lectures at the Common Ground Fair, and is a volunteer on several Scarborough committees.

Paul Austin describes Dr. Follansbee as a toxicologist and Technical Program Manager in the Environmental Center of Syracuse Research Corporation, whose specialty areas are lead risk assessment and asbestos exposure and risk assessment; as an adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Applied Sciences at the University of Southern Maine; and, as a man committed to the reduction of toxic chemicals in the environment and the reduction of energy consumption.

## 2011 eco-Excellence Award Winners

### South Portland

**Winner: Enrico Perruzzi**

**Nominator: Maxine Beecher**



L-R: ecomaine Board Chairman Michael Bobinsky, Rick Perruzzi, CSFM, CRPR, is the Senior Park Maintainer for the South Portland Parks Department and is the Sports Turf Manager of South Portland's Wainwright Recreation Fields.

The Wainwright fields complex is sizable at 150 acres, of which 25 acres are athletic fields maintained with organic fertilizers and management products. His nominator, Maxine Beecher, asked Rick why he switched to organics four years ago and how much extra it cost and his answers are inspiring. Here is some of what he had to say:

- “For years organics were more than synthetic fertilizers, which made the decision to stay with conventional practices easier. As prices rose and technology got better in developing organic fertilizers the choice became clear to make the change.” “My fertilizer budget has pretty much been at a standstill the last four years with little increase.”
- Acknowledging the public’s growing concern about the use of pesticides and fertilizers, he said, “I wanted to be proactive, not reactive, to the situation and also to be a leader in the movement to become a “green city”.
- He also said the results were very good: “I can say the biggest benefit is the sustainability of the turf since going with organics..you don’t see the peaks and valleys of the food source depleting as you might see with synthetics.”

Once Rick was convinced that the change to organics was a good idea, he said he “went all in the first year – no synthetic fertilizers or pesticides. I felt that this switch was the only way to determine if it worked.” It was a huge gamble for him, but it paid off that very first year.

Rick was nominated by his peers in the National Sports Turf Managers Association to present at the National Recreation and Parks Association for their 2011 conference in Atlanta, where he will speak on “Sustainable Organic Recreation Area.”

As his nominator said, “The condition of the fields is better. The benefits, according to Ricks, are cost, availability, ease of use, sustainability and public relations. We all need to listen.”

## Standish

**Winner: Philip Pomerleau  
Michael Shaw  
Louis Stack**

**Nominator: Mary Chapman**



L-R: ecomaine Board Chairman Michael Bobinsky, Mary Chapman, Philip Pomerleau, Standish Town Manager Gordon Billington, and ecomaine General Manager Kevin Roche

All three gentlemen represent Standish as members of the Route 113 Corridor Committee, which is made up of representatives of five towns: Standish, Baldwin, Hiram, Brownfield, and Fryeburg. The goal of the committee is to promote economic development and they clearly understand the connection between a healthy ecology and a healthy business climate.

Mary wrote that “their efforts include having a section of Route 113 designated as a scenic by-way and are working toward the restoration of rail service along the Mountain Division Trail Line, which, if approved, would take hundreds of vehicles off the road.”

For the past three years the Committee has scheduled one day in spring for volunteers to join them in picking-up trash and debris along Route 113. This effort starts in Standish and ends, after a long day, in Fryeburg.

Mary explained her nomination further by adding, “What strikes me with this being special in the collaboration of towns taking stewardship of their local communities in this effort; and their commitment to continue this project, which, in the long run, will benefit all the towns along the Route 113 corridor for years to come.”

## Windham

**Winner: Energy Awareness Partnership**

**Nominator: Jeanne Gulnick**



L-R: ecomaine Recycling Committee Chair Troy Moon, St. Joseph's College representatives, Elizabeth Schran, Molly O'Donnell and Jeanne Gulnick, and ecomaine General Manager Kevin Roche

Jeanne Gulnick wrote the following description of the Energy Awareness Partnership:

“Sometimes working together, groups can accomplish far more than they could on their own. As an example of this, the collaboration between St, Joseph’s College and Windham Middle School increased energy literacy among both sets of students, faculty and staff – and reduced energy consumption on both school campuses. Three aspects of this project have enabled the collaboration to be successful and effective: new technology, innovative curriculum and interaction of students and teachers from both groups.”

Accomplishments included the following:

- Successfully applying for grant money to install meters that measure electricity consumption in small, specific areas
- St. Joseph’s College faculty hosted a summer workshop for 7<sup>th</sup> grade math and science teachers to develop new course curriculum that connects students with their own energy use. For example, students use the electric meters to measure savings from turning off unused computers and lights.
- College students competed in a competition among residence halls to reduce energy consumption ...and,
- The college held a Fall Sustainability Festival and Eat Local Lunch attended by Windham students.

## Yarmouth

**Business Award Winner: Bruce's Burritos**

**Nominator: Yarmouth Recycling Committee**



L-R: ecomaine Board Member Troy Moon, Yarmouth Public Works Director Erik Street, Yarmouth Recycling Committee Member Diana Hibbard, Bruce Luttrell, and ecomaine General Manager Kevin Roche

The Yarmouth Recycling Committee Chose to honor Bruce's Burritos for their organic foods, recycling efforts, and waste reduction.

After purchasing the business, Bruce and Erin Bruns immediately replaced Styrofoam take-out containers with compostable containers. Most waste is recyclable, including cans, paper, cardboard, and large plastic ingredient containers. Their returnable cans and bottles are all donated to school and civic organizations.

School groups often tour their facility to hear about their business and learn about their recycling practices.

The Committee said, "Bruce's Burritos has been effective in keeping their trash to a minimum and being a good example for their fellow business owners of how easy it is to minimize the impact on our environment."