



National NEMO Network

Summer 2010 Newsletter

NEMO programs are dedicated to protecting natural resources through better land use planning and site design.

Part of the University of Connecticut Center for Land Use Education and Research (CLEAR).

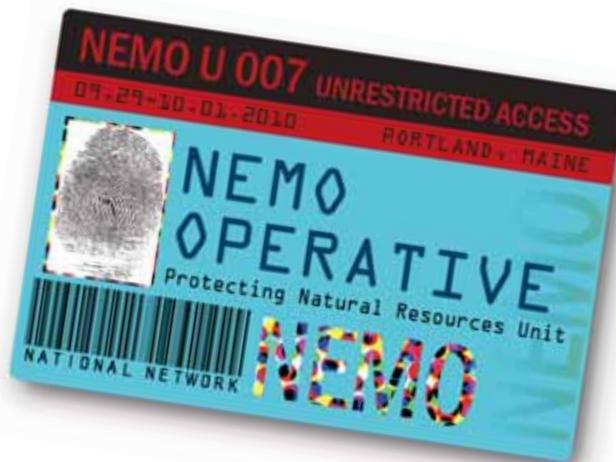
Spotlight On...

NEMO University (00)7

Maine. Portland, Maine is the site of the latest NEMO mission. While the location has changed, the goal of the mission is the same—extract vital intelligence that will be used back at home to protect water resources from poor land use decision making.

In most respects, this seventh iteration of NEMO University will be all you have come to expect from a NEMO conference and much more. There will be **presentations** galore from NEMO programs and partners across the country on topics ranging from low impact development to riparian buffers to nitrogen sinks. We will have a boat trip through the islands and lighthouses of gorgeous Casco Bay and a Family Lobster Bake.

U 007 will feature some very exciting plenary sessions. Leading the pack is a symposium on day two featuring **Randall Arendt**, the father of conservation planning.



Mr. Arendt's work has "shaped a generation of planners, designers, and landscape architects." His session at NEMO U will focus on hybrid approaches to land use planning and site design using a number of techniques taken from conservation design, new urbanism, form-based zoning and low impact development.

Other **plenary sessions** will be equally engaging. One session will look at some very innovative approaches to conducting **stormwater retrofits in very urbanized areas**, the next major NEMO frontier. We

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National LID Atlas 2.0

The National NEMO Network has launched version 2 of the National Low Impact Development (LID) Atlas. Based on your feedback, we have made several adjustments to the Atlas that should make it an even more user-friendly resource for adding and locating low impact development projects around the country, including:

Adding projects made easy. No more waiting for a lonely grad student to wonder into your office looking for a volunteer project to get your projects added to the Atlas. Now, if you already have a database of LID projects, you can add them to the Atlas in one fell swoop. Just save/export your data as an excel file that matches the Atlas format. Contact the Hub for an excel template file.

Now works with IE. We fixed a glitch in the system that was confusing the popular yet antiquated Microsoft Internet Explorer, so the Atlas now should work fine in the current version of all major browsers.

Added search capabilities. We added the ability to search by project type, land use type and/or keyword to the embedded version of the Atlas (i.e. the version you can load on your very own website with just your state showing). For those who have already embedded a localized version of the Atlas to their website, you have already been upgraded to these new features. ☀

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NEMO University 007

- LID Resources in the Network
- Coastal Services Digital Coast
- New Tools & Resources Online
- Maps on the Web Training
- Changes at Headquarters

Secret U7 Intel: The race to add projects to the Atlas continues! The state with the most projects added will be given one full complimentary registration to NEMO U7. Contact your Hub informant for details.



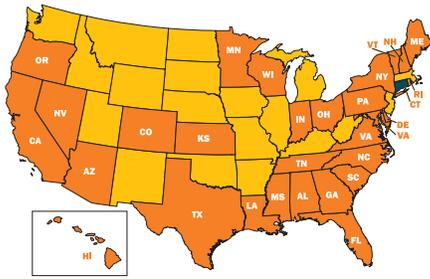
NEMO U (00)7 CONTINUED...

have also put together a half day block of [redacted] presentations on **climate change**, how it relates to traditional NEMO values, and ways folks are addressing it at the local level. But wait, there's more. We have a quartet of [redacted] **field trips** planned, including a tour of the University of New Hampshire's nationally renowned Stormwater Center, [redacted] a habitat conservation [redacted] tour of the Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve, a tour of [redacted] an exciting urban retrofit project in South Portland, and an LID and Smart Growth Walking Tour of downtown Portland. And, of course, there will once again be oodles of **training options** from [redacted] using social science to beef [redacted] up your NEMO programming to learning [redacted] approaches to integrating the latest in LID research into your educational arsenal to creating interactive maps on the web with very little skill or effort. Finally, [redacted] in an effort to expand the opportunities for networking and information and resource sharing, we have expanded the audience beyond just educators who

are part of the NEMO Network [redacted] to anyone in the Sea Grant, USDA, NERRs or [redacted] other outreach education networks who are working or interested in working with local land use officials on natural resource issues. As luck would have it NEMO U 007 is the same week as another stellar conference being held in Portland, Maine - NOAA Sea Grant's Working Waterways and Waterfronts [redacted] Conference. [redacted] In addition the Sea Grant Sustainable Coastal Community Development (SCCD) Network, [redacted] many of whom are NEMO [redacted] double agents, have decided to embed their national meeting within U 007. In short the opportunities for making intriguing connections with agents from other networks abounds! More than enough to sooth any seven year itch! For more details, check out the insert and visit the U 007 website (see below).

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Registration ends August 28th. Register today at <http://nemonet.uconn.edu/u7>.



Around the Network

► Nevada NEMO Creates an LID Plant Database

The NV NEMO program has added a searchable database of plants for use in low impact development projects. The list focuses on mostly native plants that are adapted to arid environments. You can filter the database based on a variety of categories (trees, grasses, etc.) and get a list of plants that link to images and characteristics. They also have a hardcopy of the printed list, if anyone is interested. It is a useful resource particularly for arid NEMO programs, but also a great approach for anyone to copy.



► Oregon NEMO's Rain Garden Guide

The OR NEMO team has developed a new 44 page publication, *Oregon Rain Garden Guide: Landscaping for Clean Water and Healthy Streams*. The guide is designed to help homeowners learn how to redesign home landscapes to help protect rivers and streams. While geared toward the Oregon climate and regulatory structure, its step-by-step approach teaches anyone how to determine where water flows across a homeowner's property; the best place to put a rain garden to manage water flow across impervious areas; and native perennials that can be used.

► Texas NEMO's Stormwater Wetland Publication

The TX NEMO program has released an excellent publication focused on stormwater wetlands, entitled *Stormwater Wetlands for the Texas Gulf Coast*. Stormwater wetlands are ideally suited to

retrofitting the stormwater detention and conveyance systems that are characteristic of the Texas coast. The publication explores the value of this approach and suggestions for implementing it.

TX NEMO has offered to share their files on the publication to others interested in adapting it for their state.

► North Carolina LID Guidebook & Training

The NC NEMO/WECO folks and their NC State University partners have put together a fantastic soup to nuts guide to LID. It covers everything from designing a practice to changing community plans and ordinances to integrating practices into a site design. It is a great resource and worth checking out. They have also launched an online LID training course to go along with the guidebook (see box below).

► Partner News: Coastal Services Center Revamps Digital Coast

Our comrades at the NOAA Coastal Services Center (CSC) have just revamped

and relaunched their Digital Coast web resource. For those who have not visited Digital Coast, it is a valuable resource for confronting timely coastal issues, including land use, coastal conservation, hazards, marine spatial planning, and climate change. Content is provided by CSC and a variety of partners.

Some of the improvements to the site include better graphics, search functionality, and updated filters for narrowing down content within pages. Additional examples of specific enhancements include:

- A video tour of the website and how to use it,
- Coastal socio-economic data,
- A "recent updates" archive section so users can see what's been updated,
- An improved ability to receive updates, via a listserv sign-up, and
- An "approaches" section that provides case studies of how communities are using Digital Coast elements to address specific challenges. ☀

Secret U7 Intel: A small contingent of CSC agents will be disguised as NEMOids at U7 and providing valuable secrets about Digital Coast and how it can benefit NEMO operatives.

Resources OnLine

Resources mentioned throughout this newsletter can be found online at:

- NEMO University 007 Website - <http://nemonet.uconn.edu/u7>
- National LID Atlas - <http://nemonet.uconn.edu/hub/initiatives.htm>
- Putting Maps & Data on the Web Workshop - <http://clear.uconn.edu/training/maps>
- NV NEMO LID Plant Database - <http://www.unce.unr.edu/programs/sites/nemo/lid/plantlist>
- OR NEMO Rain Garden Guide - <http://seagrant.oregonstate.edu/sgpubs/onlinepubs.html>
- TX NEMO Stormwater Wetland Pub - <http://www.urban-nature.org/publications/publications.htm>
- CSC Digital Coast - <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast>
- NC NEMO LID Guidebook & Training - <http://www.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/agecon/WECO/>
- CLEAR Website - <http://clear.uconn.edu>
- eXtension - <http://www.extension.org/geospatial%20technology>

New and Noteworthy

National Maps on the Web Training

The UConn Center for Land use Education and Research (CLEAR), institutional home of the NEMO Hub, has launched a new national geospatial training effort, **Putting Maps and Geographic Data on the Web**. The focus of the effort is on helping get researchers, educators, and outreach professionals started on sharing geospatial data over the web.

In just the last few years, the fusion of geospatial and web technologies have created unprecedented potential for the sharing of data, images, maps and information over the web, in a way that is easily accessible to all—including the non-GIS savvy. These technologies include open source



The most recent National training effort, Putting Maps and Geographic Data on the Web, took place in Hawaii July 2010.

Geographic Information System (GIS) methods and “mashup” technologies that allow the interplay of data with popular (and free!) web-mapping sites such as GoogleMaps and GoogleEarth.

CLEAR is providing training opportunities through a series of national and regional workshops, webinars, along with content and tutorials on the UConn CLEAR and eXtension websites (see Resources Online box, page 3).

The Putting Maps on the Web project is a collaborative effort of UConn CLEAR, the University of Rhode Island Coastal Institute, and the University of New Hampshire Geospatial Training Program. The project is funded by a four-year competitively-awarded grant from the USDA/NIFA National Integrated Water Quality Program. ☀

Changes at Headquarters

There have been big changes here at CT NEMO over the last year. **Sir John Rozum**, long-time CT NEMO Director and original National NEMO Network Coordinator left the mothership to pursue good coffee, foggy mornings, tasty pastries, and a great job in San Francisco with Natureserv and the NOAA Coastal Services Center. We miss him dearly, but are happy he landed in a friendly spot.

Jim Gibbons, the co-founder of NEMO and head of the land use planning program here at UConn decided to retire a little early. His knowledge of land use will be sorely missed not only here in Connecticut, but also throughout the Network.

In their place, we have hired two new hot shots to lead NEMO's water and land use education efforts in the state. Dr. **Michael Dietz** has returned to us after 4 years in Utah as the director of EcoHouse and an extension educator with Utah State University to take over the reins of CT



New NEMO members Mike Dietz, CT NEMO Director (above) and Bruce Hyde, Land Use Educator (below).

NEMO and contribute to CT Sea Grant's sustainable coastal community development (SCCD) program. You may recall Mike already completed a tour of duty at NEMO as our main low impact development (LID) expert from 2005 to 2007.

On the land use side of the NEMO coin, we are equally fortunate to have hired **Bruce Hyde**, an AICP certified planner, to take over the CT land use planning program and Land Use Academy. In his varied 30 year land use planning career to date he has served as a town planner, a regional planner, senior project manager for a development company, and executive director of the

New London Development Corporation. He knows land use and will be a tremendous resource not only here in Connecticut but to the Network at large. ☀

Secret U7 Intel: Special agents Mike, Bruce and Sir John will ALL be attending NEMO U7.

Secret U7 Intel: One of the three stellar training options available to you at U7 is a hands on training in using Google Maps to add interactive maps to your website.

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