

RENEWABLE NATURAL RESOURCES FOUNDATION

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NEWS RELEASE

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**UConn. Cooperative Extension's *Putting Communities in Charge*
Receives RNRF's Outstanding Achievement Award**

Bethesda, Maryland – Renewable Natural Resources Foundation (RNRF) is pleased to announce that *Putting Communities in Charge: A Progress Report on an Educational Support System for Local Land Use Decision Makers* has been selected to receive the RNRF 2006 Outstanding Achievement Award. The report was produced by the Nonpoint Education for Municipal Officials (NEMO) program of the University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension. The award, established in 1992, recognizes outstanding interdisciplinary achievements in the renewable natural resources field.

NEMO is a Land Grant/Sea Grant partnership formed in 1991 to educate local land use decision makers about the links between land use and water resource protection. *Putting Communities in Charge* represents the first time that NEMO has characterized and provided perspective on the range of local public policy impacts of its programs. The publication's primary goal is to encourage communities to take action by demonstrating the many positive achievements of their neighbors in balancing growth and natural resources protection.

Case studies are used to describe the achievements of selected towns in adopting and implementing NEMO's recommended practices involving natural resource-based community planning and design. The actions highlighted include parking utilization studies, open space conservation, zoning regulation changes, and on-the-ground stormwater management practices.

The publication is available at <http://nemo.uconn.edu/tools/publications.htm> or by contacting Connecticut NEMO at P.O. Box 70, Haddam, CT 06438; or 860-345-4511. The award will be presented at the annual meeting of the RNRF Board of Directors on November 1, 2006, in Potomac, Maryland.

RNRF is a nonprofit, operating foundation, founded in 1972. It is a consortium of scientific, professional and educational organization whose primary purpose is to advance science, the application of science, and public education in managing and conserving renewable natural resources. RNRF's member organizations recognize that sustaining the Earth's renewable resource base will require a collaborative approach to problem solving by all scientific and engineering disciplines.

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