



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Barbara C. Wagner  
*Chair*

M. Howard Beach

Janet P. Brooks

Liz Clark

Bruce R. Fernandez

Karyl Lee Hall

Richard Sherman

Norman VanCor

Karl J. Wagener  
*Executive Director*

NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Karl Wagener  
860-424-4000

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### **PUBLIC IS INVITED TO COMMENT ON RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION AT NOVEMBER 16 FORUM**

HARTFORD -- The Council on Environmental Quality is inviting everyone with an interest in environmental affairs to comment on potential environmental legislation at a forum on **Wednesday, November 16, 2010 at 9:30 AM** in Hearing Room 1C of the Legislative Office Building in Hartford.

Chair Barbara Wagner explained, "Each year, the Council makes recommendations for legislation aimed at 'remedying the deficiencies of existing programs and activities,' to quote the CEQ's statutory mandate (CGS Section 22a-12). Some proposals are major, some are minor. This year, the Council thinks it will be very useful to get input from interested and knowledgeable people before the recommendations are submitted to the Governor and General Assembly."

The forum will be in the style of a public hearing. The Council has published its draft list of legislative recommendations on its website, [www.ct.gov/ceq](http://www.ct.gov/ceq).

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Any individual or organization will be welcome to comment on those ideas and to offer additional suggestions.

Wagner said, “The forum will be relatively informal. People will speak in the order in which they sign up. Each person will have a few minutes to make their points, and is welcome to hand in written comments before or during the forum. Anyone who has any questions about the forum should call the Council’s staff at 860-424-4000.”

“We have a fairly long list of potential recommendations this year,” Wagner said, “ranging from open space conservation to training requirements for local wetlands commissions, illegal ATV use, outdoor wood furnaces, illegal tree cutting by trespassers, cell towers and preservation of state-owned farmland. We also are hopeful that people and organizations might have their own ideas to contribute.”

“This is an important way the Council fulfills its legislative responsibility to report to the Governor and the residents of Connecticut on the status of their environment, and make recommendations for new laws or improved programs where state environmental programs are found to be inadequate,” Wagner concluded.

Directions and more information can be found at the Council’s web site at [www.ct.gov/ceq](http://www.ct.gov/ceq). The forum will be preceded by the Council’s regularly scheduled monthly meeting (9:00 AM until 9:30 AM) which is open to the public.

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