

UNH Sponsors April 18 Symposium with Sen. Bob Smith on Environment and Public Works Issues in New Hampshire

By [*Sharon Keeler*](#)
UNH News Bureau

DURHAM, N.H. -- The University of New Hampshire will sponsor "Environment and Public Works Issues in New Hampshire: A New Hampshire Conversation with Chairman Bob Smith and staff from the U.S. Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works." The symposium takes place Tuesday, April 18, in the Pavilion Room of the Wayfarer Inn in Bedford, N.H., from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

This event is co-hosted by the N.H. Department of Environmental Services and the N.H. Department of Transportation. Senator Smith is working with the university to cultivate greater dialogue with the people of New Hampshire. The committee has a wide jurisdiction encompassing such areas as air and water pollution; construction and maintenance of highways; environmental aspects of outer continental shelf lands; environmental effects of toxic substances; fisheries and wildlife; flood control and improvements of rivers and harbors; public works, bridges and dams; and solid waste disposal and recycling, as well as the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

"The symposium is an important public service event in New Hampshire," says Donald Sundberg, UNH vice president for research and public service. "We are proud to be sponsoring it, as part of our mission as the state's land grant university."

The symposium features panel discussions on five topics: air issues; water issues; transportation issues; Superfund, Brownfields and solid waste issues; and natural resources and wildlife issues. Each panel will include public policy experts from the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, as well as

representatives from UNH, the business community, environmental organizations and state agencies.

"This is a unique opportunity for people of the state to present their views to the chairman," says Jeffrey Rose, Smith's Seacoast director, noting that not since 1953 has New Hampshire had a chair of a major congressional committee.

UNH President Joan Leitzel and Sen. Smith will welcome participants, and Sundberg, will provide the conference overview. In addition to morning and afternoon sessions, Sen. Smith will make a lunchtime keynote address, to be followed by a press availability.

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