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**Gov. Rell Recognizes Seven Climate Change Leaders in
5th Annual Awards Program of Governor's Steering Committee**
Recipients to be honored today at ceremony at Wesleyan University

Governor M. Jodi Rell announced today that seven individuals and organizations are being honored with the 2010 Connecticut Climate Change Leadership Award for their innovative efforts to address global climate change.

Recipients of the 2010 Climate Change Leadership Award will be honored today at 2:30 p.m. at a ceremony at Wesleyan University (directions below).

"We continue to focus on improving our energy efficiency and developing our renewable energy sources," Governor Rell said. "It is a strategy will help us to reduce greenhouse gases that cause climate change. The individuals and organizations being honored today are showing us the way and putting this approach into practice."

Those being honored include:

- **Bernard Brennan, Hamden**
- **Bruce Hampson, Wilton**
- **City of Bridgeport and Bridgeport Regional Business Council**
- **Connecticut Department of Correction**
- **Jonathan Gorham, Woodbridge**
- **Royal Bank of Scotland Americas, Stamford**
- **Wesleyan University, Middletown**

Amey Marrella, Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and Chair of the Governor's Steering Committee on Climate Change, said, "The true solutions to the challenge of climate change require the continued commitment of the types of individuals, businesses and organizations we are honoring today. The Governor's Steering Committee on Climate Change is pleased to honor this impressive slate of award winners."

Wesleyan University, which will host the ceremony, will receive an award for many actions the university has taken to reduce its carbon footprint. These actions include extensive energy efficiency improvements throughout campus and the installation of a natural gas co-generation system that supplies both electricity and steam that can be used to heat and cool buildings.

Background on the Governor's Steering Committee and the Leadership Award

The Connecticut Climate Change Leadership Awards Program was developed by the Governor's Steering Committee on Climate Change to: recognize individuals and organizations that have taken exemplary action in the past year to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change, increase awareness of climate change solutions and Connecticut action on climate change, and recognize individuals who make a significant impact by engaging a larger group to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The awards were first presented in 2006. This year's award recipients were chosen from 23 nominations received statewide.

The Governor's Steering Committee, established in 2003, includes the Commissioners of the Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Transportation, Department of Administrative Services, and the Department of Public Utility Control, the Under Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, and the Chairman of the Board of the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund. This committee is charged with leading a collaborative effort to develop and implement the *Connecticut Climate Change Action Plan* and the *Connecticut Global Warming Solutions Act*.

The Climate Change Leadership Awards Program is an annual program. For more information and to submit a nomination for next year, see www.ctclimatechange.com. This site highlights other Connecticut climate change heroes and provides a climate action pledge tool with tips on what individuals and households can do to address climate change. For further information, contact Lynn Stoddard, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, 860-424-3236 or c4info@ctclimatechange.com

Directions to 2:30 P.M. Event

- Directions to Wesleyan University and a campus map can be found at <http://www.wesleyan.edu/about/traveltowes.html>. The Shanklin Building is labeled as building #75 on Church Street. The main entrance is on the East side of the building, facing the courtyard. Room 107 is on the right after you enter the building.

Details of the accomplishments of the 2010 Climate Change Leadership Award recipients can be found on the following pages.

**Details of accomplishments:
2010 Climate Change Leadership Award Recipients**

**Bernard Brennan
Hamden**

Bernard Brennan has been active in the leadership of numerous initiatives that strive to respond to climate change by creating resilient re-localized communities. His accomplishments include:

- Founding member of Transition Greater New Haven, which has become the 30th official transition initiative in the US and the first in Connecticut. Transition Greater New Haven fosters local sustainability and resilience through community conversations and practical projects, including recent skill-sharing events and nut tree plantings.
<http://www.TransitionNewHaven.org/>
- Founding coordinator of SHARE Haven Time Bank, a local currency in which members exchange time and services, while stitching communities together.
<http://www.ShareHaven.org/>
- Steering Committee member of the New Haven Bioregional Group which connects Greater New Haveners to their "life-place." Activities include guided excursions, community gardening, and public presentations with critical discussions.
<http://NewHavenBioregionalGroup.org/>
- Member of the Hamden Energy Use and Climate Change Commission. Bernard has initiated a clean energy sign-up campaign that included compact fluorescent lightbulb give-aways.
- Founding member of the board of directors of the Turtle Ridge Cooperative. This is the first cooperative in Connecticut to administer a Community Supported Agriculture farm.
- Board member CT Northeast Organic Farming Association, which promotes ecologically sound farming and gardening practices and works to strengthen local sustainable agriculture. <http://www.ctnofa.org/>
- Board member for Green America, an organization working to harness economic strategies to create a socially just and environmentally sustainable society. <http://www.greenamerica.org/>
- Team captain for Climate Ride, raising money and awareness to support climate and energy solutions through a 300-mile climate conference on wheels. <http://www.climateride.org/>

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**City of Bridgeport and Bridgeport Regional Business Council
Bridgeport**

Mayor Finch has shown exceptional leadership on sustainability. The Mayor's Executive Order on Sustainability led to the creation of a participatory public-private partnership between the City of Bridgeport and the Bridgeport Regional Business Council to develop a comprehensive sustainability plan, BGreen 2020. This robust effort serves as a model for other cities and included:

- An 18-month planning process with a Community Advisory Committee and five technical subcommittees.

- Over 200 participants of city, state, and federal government, business community, and civic and neighborhood groups.
- A comprehensive plan to improve the quality of life, social equity, and economic competitiveness while reducing greenhouse gas emissions and increasing the community resilience to the impacts of climate change.
- Plan recommendations that address land use, transportation, energy generation, building efficiency, green jobs, green purchasing, open space, recycling, water resources, and education.
- Identification of initial priorities, such as creating an Energy Improvement District to support energy efficiency and production, adopting a "Transit First" policy, developing a plan for open space use and maintenance, expanding recycling, and protecting the region's waterways through enhanced stormwater management. A Green Collar Institute will train workers and act as an incubator for developing green industries.
- The BGreen 2020 plan can be viewed at <http://www.rpa.org/2010/03/bgreen-2020-a-sustainability-plan-for-bridgeport-connecticut.html>

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**Bruce Hampson
Wilton**

As a founding member of the all-volunteer Wilton Energy Commission, Bruce played an active part in promoting clean energy and energy efficiency in Wilton.

Significant accomplishments include:

- Served as Co-Chair of the major renovation of the Wilton High School and spearheaded energy use reductions and “state of the art” Building Automation. The renovations included the following energy- saving features.
 - Highly efficient Variable Air Volume, Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning system that includes a “Demand Ventilation” system that provides optimal levels of fresh air by measuring CO2 levels in each class room.
 - A Building Automation System that measures and limits peak electrical demand by automatically shedding electrical load.
 - Use of sustainable building materials.
 - Installation of Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs) on all outside and certain inside lights, motion sensors in all classrooms and the most efficient light fixtures.
 - A central computer monitoring system that shuts off computers not in active use.
 - Significant CL&P rebates for energy efficiency measures.
- Implemented an EPA Energy Star benchmarking of all municipal and school buildings, which led to a combined electrical use reduction of 12.2% from 2007 – 2009. This reduced emissions by 587 tons of CO2 and a cost savings of approximately \$150,000.
- Promoting clean energy, including creative campaigns to increase signups for the CT Clean Energy Options program that earned Wilton a free solar photovoltaic system under the Clean Energy Communities program.

- Leading a seminar at the Wilton Library relating to Climate Change, energy and green building issues.

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Department of Correction Statewide

The Connecticut Department of Correction over the course of the past decade, has committed itself and dedicated staff to reducing energy and resource consumption, as a means of conserving the environment while maintaining fiscal responsibility to the state's taxpayers. The Facilities Management & Engineering Unit has successfully achieved this goal through energy efficient design and implementing innovative solutions.

- The Department has significantly reduced its energy profile and greenhouse gas emission footprint by implementing 14 energy conservation projects at 12 correctional facilities.
- In 2009, the Department completed six (6) energy efficient lighting upgrades replacing 5,174 lamps and ballasts, installing 1,867 new fixtures, 120 occupancy sensors and eliminating 460 incandescent bulbs. As well as, two (2) Heating, Ventilating, and Air Conditioning and one (1) kitchen hood demand controlled ventilation installation helping to improve indoor air quality and improve efficiency. Implementing these energy conservation projects has saved the agency \$299,514.00 annually and reduced carbon dioxide emissions by 884 metric tons annually.
- The remaining projects included the installation for low flow fixtures, time control regulators, ozone laundry system, insulated garage doors, and putting in place premium efficiency motors as replacements. Carrying out these simple energy conservation projects has saved the agency an additional \$29,867.00 annually and reduced carbon dioxide emissions by another 191 metric tons annually.
- The overall agencies 2009 savings were \$329,381.00 annually and a total reduced carbon dioxide emission of 1,075 metric tons annually.

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Jonathan Gorham Woodbridge

As Chairman of the Woodbridge Clean Energy Initiative Task Force, Jonathan Gorham has led many innovative efforts to promote clean energy and energy efficiency, including:

- Forging partnerships with the Clean Energy Task Forces of neighboring Bethany and Orange which resulted in the first Regional School District to be recognized as a "Clean Energy Community" under the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund's programs.
- Winning photovoltaic arrays for both the regional high school and the elementary school through achievements in the Clean Energy Community Program.
- Hosting regular workshops on a variety of issues relating to renewable energy and climate change.

- Spearheading efforts at Beecher Elementary School to become a high performance energy efficient school.
- Volunteering as a lecturer at numerous events and conferences throughout the state to share his successful experiences in promoting clean and efficient energy at the local level.
- Creating and implementing a tri-town campaign to sign up households for the Home Energy Solutions (HES) program which resulted in 250 HES signups, a 10-fold increase from previous year.
- Encouraging the town to purchase 25% of its municipal electricity from wind power and to undertake comprehensive energy audits of its buildings.
- Assisting in the set up of a new, fifty-seven acre organic farm and Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) project in town, by helping to raise over \$350,000 in the first year. See: www.massarofarm.org

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Royal Bank of Scotland Americas Stamford

The RBS Americas Headquarters in Stamford was built to meet the highest environmental standards for office buildings in the United States and has received a 'Gold' ranking by the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Rating System. The many notable environmentally-responsible features of the 1 million square-foot building include:

- 100 percent of the building power requirements for the first two years of operations have been purchased from renewable sources, including hydro and wind generation. By purchasing more than 15 million kilowatt-hours of clean energy which represents the largest purchase of its kind through the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund.
- The building's location near existing municipal and community facilities reduced the amount of new infrastructure construction associated with the project.
- Reducing local 'heat island' effect by placing 100% of parking below the building and by a combination of highly reflective roofing materials and vegetated roof gardens.
- Installing a storm water reclamation tank to capture rainwater that will be recycled for cooling tower makeup water, resulting in a substantial reduction in the use of potable water.
- Installing highly efficient plumbing fixtures in the building to reduce water consumption by more than 30%.
- Installing daylight controlled lighting dimming systems to reduce the use of electrical lighting when sufficient daylight is available.
- Installing occupancy sensors to control lighting throughout the building.
- Installing variable frequency drives on electric motors in the building's HVAC system to reduce energy consumption.

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Wesleyan University
Middletown

Since 2005, Wesleyan has shown great leadership in addressing climate change, including:

- Signing the American College & University Presidents' Climate Commitment, which calls for a greenhouse gas inventory and plan to achieve carbon neutrality;
- Building or renovating Fauver undergraduate housing, Usdan University Center and Albritton Center all to LEED standards;
- Installing a natural gas co-generation facility;
- Making energy efficiency improvements to lighting, motors, pumps, and chillers;
- Adopting comprehensive recycling and composting initiatives campuswide including annual participation in Recyclemania;
- Utilizing 4 electric vehicles and establishing of a ride board to facilitate carpooling and employee commuting;
- Developing a one-acre organic farm at Long Lane facilities; and
- Purchasing more than 1 million kilowatt-hours of clean energy to help host community Middletown become Connecticut's first Clean Energy Community.

Campus-wide greenhouse gas emissions have been reduced from approximately 38,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide in 2005 to 33,000 metric tons in 2009.

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