



NFWF

April 2, 2013

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) cordially invites you to attend an event celebrating and promoting an important fishing gear cleanup project. The event will be held at Covanta Haverhill, Inc., 100 Recovery Way, Haverhill, MA 01835 on April 19, 2013. The event will begin at 11:00AM and will be followed by a tour of the Covanta Energy Haverhill Facility (safety requirements attached).

NFWF's *Fishing for Energy* Program is partnering with both Covanta Energy Haverhill and various fishing communities in Massachusetts to provide a disposal mechanism for unusable commercial fishing gear that is free to the state's commercial fishermen. The most recent Massachusetts community to join the program is Martha's Vineyard. *Fishing for Energy* is a national partnership between NFWF, Covanta Energy Corporation, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Marine Debris Program, and Schnitzer Steel Industries, Inc. With the help of local fishermen and organizations, this unique partnership reduces the amount of unused fishing gear in the marine environment by providing a place for the fishing community to dispose of old or derelict fishing gear, at no cost to ports or fishermen. Since February 2008, the program has collected over 2 million pounds of gear in 41 communities across the country, providing alternative energy to those areas through Covanta's Energy-from-Waste facilities.

Massachusetts is of particular importance as a major hub of commercial fishing and this program provides a valuable benefit to the state's fishing communities. Martha's Vineyard is the twelfth location in Massachusetts to join the *Fishing for Energy* partnership; they are the fifth Massachusetts location to have gear processed specifically at Covanta's Haverhill facility, along with Rockport, Newburyport, Boston and Gloucester. We hope you or someone on your staff can join us for this event. If you would like to attend or have questions, please contact Mary Beth Charles, Manager, Fisheries Conservation, at (202) 595-2445 or marybeth.charles@nfwf.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Pico".

Michelle Pico
Program Director, Marine Programs
(262) 567-0601

