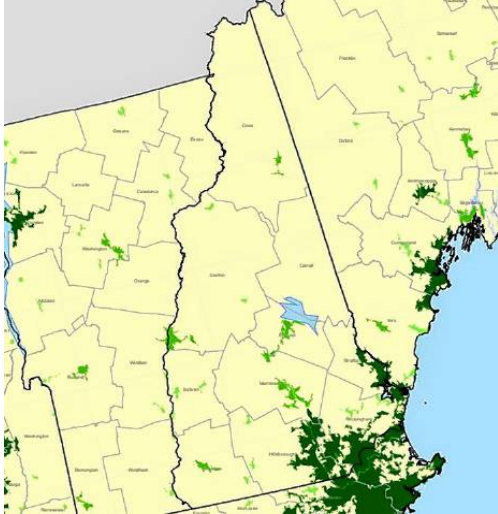




## Rural roads in bad shape

### Report says about a fifth of state's rural roadways listed in worst classification

By DAVID BROOKS, Monitor staff



Yellow hews rural areas as defined by Census Bureau Urban Areas. Courtesy—Econ. Research Service

Hampshire's rural pavement is rated as being in the worst category.

That percentage is worse than the national average of 15% and also worse than in Massachusetts (16%) or Vermont (17%), although it's slightly better than Maine's figure of 22%. New Hampshire has the 10th highest percentage of poor rural roads of any state, according to the report.

The report, titled "Rural Connections," argues that the system of federal funding for rural roads and bridges needs to be changed because of their importance as the main, or even sole, link to many disparate communities.

RANK	STATE	Percent Rural Poor/Structurally Deficient	Percent Rural Bridges Rated Fair	Percent Rural Bridges Rated Good
1	RHODE ISLAND	23%	58%	19%
2	IOWA	21%	42%	37%
3	WEST VIRGINIA	20%	52%	28%
4	PENNSYLVANIA	18%	50%	32%
5	SOUTH DAKOTA	18%	51%	32%
6	LOUISIANA	15%	36%	50%
7	MAINE	14%	55%	31%
8	NEW YORK	12%	49%	39%
9	NORTH CAROLINA	12%	49%	39%
10	OKLAHOMA	12%	44%	44%
11	MICHIGAN	12%	47%	41%
12	NORTH DAKOTA	11%	36%	53%
13	MISSISSIPPI	10%	27%	63%
14	ALASKA	10%	45%	44%
15	NEBRASKA	9%	39%	51%
16	MISSOURI	9%	47%	44%
17	NEW HAMPSHIRE	9%	41%	50%
18	MASSACHUSETTS	9%	56%	35%
19	NEW JERSEY	9%	61%	30%
20	CALIFORNIA	9%	39%	52%
21	SOUTH CAROLINA	9%	48%	43%
22	HAWAII	9%	55%	36%
23	WYOMING	8%	62%	30%
24	WISCONSIN	8%	40%	52%
25	ILLINOIS	8%	40%	53%

From "RURAL CONNECTIONS: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN AMERICA'S HEARTLAND" by TRIP, a non-profit that studies surface transportation issues in the U.S. Courtesy—TRIP

Rural roads in New Hampshire, which means roads in most of the state, are in worse shape than roads in similar areas elsewhere in the county, with one in five of them judged to be "in poor condition."

That's the conclusion of a report by TRIP, a non-profit that studies surface transportation issues. The report says Federal Highway Administration data shows that 21% of New

virtually all of New Hampshire, which isn't unusual: By this definition, 97 percent of America's land area is rural.

By contrast, this rural area holds just 19 percent of the nation's population, the report said. That is a significant number – approximately 60 million people – but the population is spread out over a vast area, making it more difficult to keep them connected and to collect revenue to pay for their infrastructure.

The report's recommendations include building more roads, including building "30,000 lane miles of limited access

## A TIME TO REMEMBER

Memorial Day photos. A3 and concordmonitor.com



SPORTS: B1  
**BILL BUCKNER DIES AT AGE 69**

Former Red Sox player best known for grace in swearing 1986 error



# CONCORD MONITOR

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## First a roundabout, then a tribute

Traffic circle stands as a symbol of role Barbara Annis played in her community

By NICK STOKO

Barbara Annis knew a traffic circle was brewing in the area of Exit 9 off Interstate 93 in Warner several years ago. Local businesses were

sprawling up, surrounding the Market Basket supermarket that opened there in the mid-2000s and drawing more eyes off the interstate.

With buses in town for half a decade of community volunteering and service on various boards and committees, Annis started to chafe at the issue. She had been a contractor at a town meeting to set aside money for a future traffic study of the area. After the study was completed, she led the effort to stage away more funds to build the roundabout that is there today.

Annis, who first moved to Warner with her husband, Bill, in 1966, died in August at the age of 67 after a year-long battle with metastatic pancreatic cancer. When town officials decided they wanted to honor her life with a memorial, they looked to the roundabout – a visible place in town that exemplified her efforts.

Bill just seemed like the natural thing to do, said Clyde Carson, a resident in Warner who also serves as a representative in the Legislature.

Carson and Rep. David Kariakoff, also of Warner, decided to officially name the roundabout in Annis's memory. Gov. Chris Sununu signed the bill earlier this month and

They grew up in households where recycling was the norm, but today's youth are among those who realize that environmental change requires difficult sacrifice



Concord High School senior Jaden Phillips fills her water container from the new dispenser in the second floor hallway. Using water containers saves on having to recycle plastic bottles.

## Generation Recycle



DAVID BROOKS

Concord High School's Ecology Corps club, remembering her days from South Carolina. Now, South her family look a weekly trip to the transfer station and separated out their plastic, paper, metal and glass for reuse. In New Hampshire, cities you take them all in a single bucket that gets whisked away.



DAVID BROOKS

Concord High School students Alice Richards (left), Jenna Meyer and Julia Terrell discuss recycling at the school library last week.



DAVID BROOKS

"We always had a place in our house for recycling. I grew up with that."



DAVID BROOKS

Leading us give an economic boost to rural parts of New England, one place by recycling more. Libraries for help.

### INSIDE

#### OUTDOORS

##### THE LONGEST DAYS DESERVE MORE TIME

An early morning hike, bike ride or paddle is the perfect way to greet the morning and put yourself in a good frame of mind for whatever you have in store. Here are five tips, which offer up some tips. Page B1

#### HISTORY

##### STATE TO HONOR LAFAYETTE'S VISITS

Locations across the state visited by the French general between 1824 and 1825 are receive markers as part of newly expanded Lafayette Trail. Page A3

#### WEATHER

##### AFTERNOON RAIN

High 56, low 44. Scattered showers, 12 to 16 inches. Shows the day. Page B8

Classified: B4 Shows B8

Games: B7 International A5

Obituaries: B7 Obituaries A4

Kenos: B6 Sports B1

Local & State A3 TV B5

Barcode: 4 15579 00001 5

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