

## Praxair Surface Technologies

Since management of the Karner blue butterfly project transferred to N.H. Fish and Game in 2000, partnerships with many organizations and businesses have contributed to the restoration effort. One of our local business partners, Praxair Surface Technologies/TAFA Inc., located in Concord, has teamed up with Fish and Game to take a proactive role in restoring the Karner population on its property. Praxair/TAFA employees have cleared brush and helped plant over 1,400 wild lupine and native nectar plants, which serve as food sources for the butterflies.

Karner blue butterflies have very particular habitat needs: sandy acidic soil, nitrogen-rich soil to promote the growth of nectar sources, and wild blue lupine. Pine barrens are the only habitat where wild blue lupine grows. This native plant is essential to the Karner blue butterfly because it is the singular food source for Karner blue caterpillars.

Praxair's Global Giving Program has provided funding to Fish and Game to purchase supplies for wild lupine plants grown by Concord schoolchildren taking part in the Kids for Karners program, as well as for a timber harvest. They also generously provided funding to Fish and

Game for the purchase of an insect bio-chamber that is being used by the Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Program to captive-rear Karner blue butterfly eggs.

As the Karner blue restoration

effort continues, the support of local businesses and community members is helping to restore the butterflies' natural habitat and increase the population of this state and federally endangered species.

Learn more about the Karner blue butterfly and the Concord Pine Barrens at [wildnh.com/wildlife/profiles/karner-blue-butterfly.html](http://wildnh.com/wildlife/profiles/karner-blue-butterfly.html).

— Rebecca Segelhurst,  
Nongame Biological Aide



*Praxair employees plant wild blue lupine plants.*