



For Immediate Release  
June 18, 2009

Contact: Jen Beltz, Front Burner PR  
Ph: 207.699.5502 [jen@frontburnerpr.com](mailto:jen@frontburnerpr.com)

## Maine's Cold River Vodka Racks Up Accolades from Spirits and Lifestyle Press

### Green-friendly company's potato vodka named to *Wine Enthusiast's* prestigious list of "Top 50 Spirits"

**Freeport, Maine** – Maine's super-premium, triple-distilled Cold River Vodka ([www.coldrivervodka.com](http://www.coldrivervodka.com)) continues to earn national press attention and rave reviews in 2009 from a variety of high-profile outlets, including *Wine Enthusiast*, *Boston Magazine*, *Fine Living*, *Foods Discovered*, *The Nibble*, London's *The Independent*, and *The Boston Herald*.

Since its launch in 2005, the super-premium, gluten-free vodka has earned a sterling reputation for its distinct nose and satin-smooth finish. Crafted by Maine Distilleries – which solely produces Cold River Vodka – the vodka is made using water from Maine's Cold River and farm-fresh Maine potatoes, and is batch-distilled in a custom-made copper potstill. The delicately balanced flavor of Cold River Blueberry Flavored Vodka, the newest addition to the company's product line, features Maine potatoes and wild Maine blueberries from family-owned Wyman's in downeast Maine.

In its current issue's "Next-Gen Flavored Vodkas" feature, *Wine Enthusiast* salutes Cold River Blueberry Flavored Vodka: "The soul-satisfying vodka has a voluminous bouquet and a finish like the holy chorus of blueberries," writes spirits expert Robert Plotkin, adding, "It's an 80-proof homage to nature." *Wine Enthusiast* earlier this year also named the Maine-made, all-natural vodka to its "Top 50 Spirits" list, where its original Classic vodka earned the top-rated vodka slot, as well as the magazine's only "Classic (96-100) / Highest Recommendation" rating for vodka.

In additional recent accolades, *Strategize* magazine, an upscale lifestyle magazine geared toward business executives, has named Cold River Vodka's Classic Vodka to its "Product Spotlight: Luxury Gift Ideas" list in its current issue, recommending it as "a super-premium, martini-quality, gluten-free vodka that is distinctive among the world's most sophisticated spirits." Named "The Best American Vodka" in F. Paul Pacult's "Kindred Spirits 2" (2008), Cold River Vodka's Classic Vodka has earned a Double Gold Medal at the World Spirits Competition held in San Francisco, and also the sought-after five-star "Highest Recommendation" rating from *Spirit Journal*.

Cold River Vodka, founded in 2005, continues to expand its market presence in all New England states, as well as in Colorado; Delaware; Florida; Indiana; Kentucky; Maryland; New Jersey; New York; South Carolina; Washington, DC; western Canada, and London.

The Maine company continues to implement Green processes and procedures at Maine Distilleries, its production facility, located in Freeport, Maine. In addition to recycling all of its returnables and the bulk of its point-of-sale materials, Cold River Vodka heats its entire building with recycled condensing water from its potstill which is run through the radiant heating system in the facility's floor. The vodka company also makes clever use of already-existing equipment pieces in the production of its vodka – such as a retrofitted hay conveyer, and an older food processor which is put to good use grinding Cold River's farm-fresh potatoes before distillation.

Cold River Vodka's Maine potatoes come from company partner Donnie Thibodeau's Green Thumb Farms in Fryeburg Maine, reflecting Thibodeau's longtime commitment to preserving Maine's open spaces. The farm, which provides all of the potatoes used in Cold River Vodka, uses Best Farming Practices and employs Integrated Pest Management Practices, defined by the USEPA as an effective and environmentally sensitive approach to pest management.

#### About Cold River Vodka

Founded in 2005, Cold River Vodka currently is available at major markets, restaurants, and fine spirits retailers in a growing number of states throughout the U.S., as well as in western Canada and London. Known for its distinct nose and satin-smooth finish, the gluten-free vodka is hand-crafted and batch-distilled in a copper potstill, using water from Maine's Cold River and Maine potatoes. Maine Distilleries, which produces solely Cold River Vodka, is the only "ground-to-glass" distillery in the nation, where the company controls every aspect of production from the planting of the potatoes to final bottling. [www.coldrivervodka.com](http://www.coldrivervodka.com)

For photo requests or additional information, or to schedule an interview with Cold River Vodka's Director of Sales and Marketing, Bob Harkins, contact Jen Beltz at (207) 699-5502 or [jen@frontburnerpr.com](mailto:jen@frontburnerpr.com).

# # #