



The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the NH Department of Environmental Services

January 2014

The Municipal EcoLink is a monthly e-bulletin designed to inform you of the latest environmental ideas, trends, grants, rules and more from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES). We respectfully request that the following is electronically distributed or otherwise made available to your municipal committees, councils and boards. Please feel free to post it on your municipal website as well. You may read past issues at [The Municipal EcoLink](#)

Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund Announces 2013 Awards

The recipients of the 2013 Aquatic Resource Mitigation Awards were recently announced. The ARM Fund Site Selection Committee provided its report and recommendations to the Wetland Council on November 12, 2013, and the Council approved the funding of 9 projects across the state. The projects range from acquisition of conservation easements for wildlife habitat protection, floodplain restoration on the Ammonoosuc River, and dam removals for improving habitat for a documented population of naturally reproducing Eastern Brook Trout. A total of \$695,000 was released to the projects located in Conway, Hebron, Center Harbor, Farmington, Barrington, Manchester, Stoddard, Lisbon and Lyme. For details of the ARM Fund program contact Lori Sommer at 271-4059 or find the full report at: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wetlands/wmp/documents/arm-fund-awards.pdf>

Continuing Education Workshops for Certified Solid Waste Operators

NHDES has scheduled free monthly workshops for solid waste operators for 2014. In addition to the popular Best Management Practices for Transfer Station Operators Workshop, *new* workshops will be available for continuing professional development hours, with topics such as Asbestos, Groundwater, Recycling and Scrap Metal and Storm Water Management. For a complete list, go to <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/swrtas/workshop.htm>
To register for a workshop, contact Nelson Ordway at 271-2925 or nelson.ordway@des.nh.gov

Revised Rules Regulating Aboveground Storage Tanks (ASTs) Become Effective February 7

NHDES has readopted rules governing aboveground petroleum storage facilities with the amended rules becoming effective on February 7, 2014. The readopted rules, now known as Env-Or 300, supersede Env-Wm 1402. They have been reorganized to increase clarity and reduce redundancy. New provisions in the adopted rules include a requirement for all dispensing areas where oil is transferred from an AST system to the fuel tank of a motor vehicle be constructed of a concrete pad or other impermeable surface. The deadline to comply with this requirement is February 7, 2016. Although strongly recommended, regulated municipally owned facilities are exempt from this requirement unless the local legislative body votes to fund compliance. To view the readopted rules visit: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/legal/rulemaking/documents/env-or300-adptd-pstd.pdf>
For questions concerning the readopted rules, contact the Oil Compliance Section at (603) 271-3899 or direct e-mail to orcb.wmd@des.nh.gov

Update to the Official List of Public Waters

NHDES is required to maintain the Official List of Public Waters on its website - <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/publications/wd/documents/olpw.pdf>
The OLPW includes a brief discussion of how ownership is determined for water resources in New Hampshire. The OLPW provides a status, based on the best available data, under the definition of public water in New Hampshire laws for known water bodies that are over 10 acres. Ownership may also impact public access to certain water bodies. If anyone has questions or would like to discuss revisions to the OLPW they can contact me at Kent.Finemore@des.nh.gov or 271-0566.

Coming Soon - Draft Final Proposal for adopting and amending the Solid Waste Rules

A Draft Final Proposal for adopting and amending the Solid Waste Rules will be available for public review and comment in early February. The Draft Final Proposal will be posted on the Department's Proposed and Recently Adopted Rules web page at the following link: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/legal/rulemaking/index.htm>

Readership Survey

NHDES respects the fact that everyone's time is precious. We want to ensure that we are providing municipal employees and officials with important and timely information from our agency. To help us ensure that we are delivering a value-added product, please help us by taking this quick 3-minute survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CHJBM9X>

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