



The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the NH Department of Environmental Services

March 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](#)

NHDES Wetland Program Rulemaking and Process Improvement Effort

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) Wetland Bureau has initiated a significant, multi-year effort to improve the technical standards as well as the operating and decision-making processes used the Bureau. For more information on this effort as well as an up-to-date schedule of listening sessions taking place around the state, visit:

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wetlands/process-improvement.htm>

Spring flows and spillway debris is not a good mix!

Keep the spring flows inside the dam spillways by keeping your spillway clear of debris. Now is a good time to make sure there is no debris blocking the flow of your spillway, as obstructions could lead to higher water levels that could cause potential dam overtopping and flooding issues. In addition, we urge you to review, and update as necessary, your Operation and Maintenance Plan as well as your Emergency Action Plan. For more information please visit the Dam Bureau's website at

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dam/index.htm> or contact us at 603-271-3406 or by email at damsafety@des.nh.gov.

Solid Waste Operator Workshops held on the second Friday of each month.

These workshops satisfy the requirement for continuing education to renew certification. For a complete list, go to: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/swrtas/workshop.htm>.

The Annual Solid Waste Facility Report for all solid waste facilities, including Transfer Stations, is due March 31.

Please check to see if your town's report has been submitted.

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/swmb/categories/hot.htm#facility-reports>

Prevent pollution, accidental poisonings and drug abuse.

Discard your unneeded household medicine a local law enforcement office on April 26th from 10:00AM-2:00PM. See http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/index.html for more information and collection locations throughout New Hampshire.

NHDES Drinking Water Source Protection Conference in Concord, NH – April 30

Register to attend the 2014 NHDES Drinking Water Source Protection Conference on April 30th from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm at the Grappone Conference Center, Concord, NH. This event will feature scientists, state and federal officials, and water supply managers, who will present their work and views on a range of topics. These topics include a summary of NHDES's plans to use \$81 million in settlement funds to address MtBE, climate change risks to water systems, developing watershed water quality monitoring plans, information about the new EPA MS4 stormwater permit, research concerning the quality of NH's groundwater, guidance for potable water standards in municipal codes, and case studies of successful source water protection projects. To register, visit the American Ground Water Trust website at www.agwt.org (click on the "Events" tab at the top of the page). For more information, contact Garret Graaskamp (garret@agwt.org) at the American Ground Water Trust (603-228-5444) or Pierce Rigrod (pierce.rigrod@des.nh.gov) at NHDES (603-271-0688).

Clean Diesel Project Grants NOW AVAILABLE

NHDES announces the availability of federal Diesel Emission Reduction Grant (DERA) funds through the Air Resources Division. This is a continuation of the popular federal grant program that began in 2008. To date, NHDES has awarded over \$900,000 for projects ranging from idle reduction equipment retrofits to new vehicle purchases. For more information, click [here](#), or contact Felice.Janelle@des.nh.gov.

Registration Opens for Free Fleet Manager Workshop.

The third biennial Green Your Fleet! is scheduled for June 6 at Lakes Region Community College, Laconia. This free all-day workshop features the latest in petroleum reduction strategies including alternative fuels, vehicles, idle reduction and reducing miles traveled. Fleet managers from throughout the region will discuss their experiences with petroleum reduction, providing tips and best practices. The event offers a large vehicle display, vendor tables, lunch and workshop breakout sessions. Register today!

<http://www.granitestatecleancities.nh.gov/calendar/2014/documents/green-your-fleet.pdf>

Annual Local Energy Solutions Conference – April 12

The sixth annual Local Energy Solutions Conference will be held on April 12th at Winnisquam Regional High School in Tilton, NH, organized by the NH Local Energy Work Group. This day long event is New Hampshire's premier conference dedicated to achieving local and municipal energy successes. Learn more and register at: NHenergy.org

HEAL-NH has Launched 'Active Transportation Program'

Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) NH is offering free training sessions focused on teaching participants how to improve pedestrian and bicycling safety and accessibility in NH communities. Ideal participants are community volunteers and staff members, particularly Public Works officials, Town Administrators/Managers, schoolteachers and administrators, police, fire, and health officers among others. Sessions will be offered in Concord beginning in April through the fall of this year. Learn more about the program by visiting [HEAL-NH](http://HEAL-NH.org) to Launch 'Active Transportation Program'

To view the program flyer visit:

<http://www.healthynh.com/images/PDFfiles/WhatsNew/AT%20Program%20Flyer%20032514.pdf>

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