



## The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the NH Department of Environmental Services

April 2015

*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](#)

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### **Criminal Background Checks Now Required for Youth Skill Program Staff**

New Hampshire now requires Youth Skill Programs to conduct criminal background checks for any staff (owners, employees, and/or volunteers) that may be alone with any child or children. The requirement applies to all "youth skill camps" ("non-profit or for profit programs teaching a skill to children under 18 years of age") and covers any program designed to impart a specific skill over a period of 3 or more consecutive days. More information and a list of currently certified camps is available online at: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/youth-skills/index.htm> If you have any questions, please contact Chip Mackey of the NH Youth Recreation Camp Licensing Program at 603-271-0655 or [chip.mackey@des.nh.gov](mailto:chip.mackey@des.nh.gov).

### **Rebates for Public Electric Vehicle Charging Stations**

NHDES is offering rebates to anyone who installs an electric vehicle charging station and makes it available to the general public. Rebates of up to \$5,000 for a Level II charging station and up to \$12,000 for a Level III charging station will be provided to any municipality, business or organization that provides the location and site preparation for installation. More information and an application are available at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/air/drive-electric/index.htm> or by contacting Paul Lockwood at 271-5552.

### **FREE NetDMR Training for NPDES Permit Holders – Tuesday, May 5**

If you are already using NetDMR, fantastic! If you are not using NetDMR, why not? Eventually all NH NPDES permit holders will have to report their monthly discharge monitoring report (DMR) data using NetDMR. Get on board, attend the free training, and move into the future!

The next NetDMR training class for NPDES permittees will be held at NH DES offices in Concord on Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup> from 9:00am to 12:30pm. NH Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators can earn 0.5 CEUs for attending the training. Please note that anyone interested in attending the class should register directly with EPA. To register for the upcoming May 5<sup>th</sup> training, please send an email with your name, facility name, facility NPDES Permit Number, facility address, and facility telephone number to [R1.NetDMR@epa.gov](mailto:R1.NetDMR@epa.gov)

### **NHDES Drinking Water Source Protection Conference in Concord, NH – Wednesday, May 6 (Filling up but space is still available!)**

Register to attend the 2015 NHDES Drinking Water Source Protection Conference on May 6 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. Sessions include a roundtable discussion about private well water, guidance for land conservation, an overview of NHDES' on-going work to address MtBE, a summary of lessons learned from a 2014 West Virginia spill, studies about contaminants of emerging concern, and sessions that discuss local groundwater and surface water source protection measures. To view the full agenda and register, visit the American Ground Water Trust website at [www.agwt.org](http://www.agwt.org) (click on the "Events" tab at the top of the page). For more information, contact Win Saltmarsh ([wsaltmarsh@agwt.org](mailto:wsaltmarsh@agwt.org), 603-228-5444) at the American Ground Water Trust or Pierce Rigrod ([pierce.rigrod@des.nh.gov](mailto:pierce.rigrod@des.nh.gov) 603-271-0688) at NHDES.

### **Training Opportunities for Solid Waste Facility Operators**

NHDES and the Northeast Waste Management Officials' Association (NEWMOA) will be conducting a workshop on June 25, 2015 from 1:00-4:00PM to learn about and discuss pay-as-you-throw (PAYT) strategies for trash management. This workshop may be used to renew solid waste facility operator certification and accumulate continuing professional development hours. Municipal officials are encouraged to attend. For more information, please go to

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/swrtas/workshop.htm> and click on "Pay-As-You-Throw: Benefits & Challenges."

NHDES is offering Basic Training on Friday, August 14, 2015 from 8:30AM-2:30PM, with the exam following the training. If you want to attend Basic Training, please complete the Initial Application for Solid Waste Facility Operator Certification available at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/swrtas/opcert.htm#newoperators> and submit it to NHDES along with the required \$50 fee. If you have any questions, please call (603) 271-2925.

### **Mercury Thermostat Recycling Program**

The Thermostat Recycling Program (TRC) is a manufacturer-funded program that provides recycling bins to municipalities and others for the collection and management of mercury-containing thermostats. There is a one-time \$25 fee for each bin. When full, bins are shipped to TRC, free-of-charge, using the included pre-paid label. Help keep mercury out of the waste stream by ordering your bin today at <http://www.thermostat-recycle.org/> Please note, only intact mercury-containing thermostats should be placed in the bins. All other items, including vials / jars of liquid of mercury, other mercury products, batteries, etc. are strictly prohibited and shipping these items is a violation of law and will jeopardize the program. For more information, contact the TRC or Stephanie D'Agostino, DES Pollution Prevention Section at [stephanie.dagostino@des.nh.gov](mailto:stephanie.dagostino@des.nh.gov) or 271-6398.

### **Climate Resilient Water and Wastewater Systems**

Impacts of New Hampshire's changing climate have caused service interruptions and raised municipal costs by affecting water quality and quantity, causing extended power outages and damaging water and wastewater infrastructure. Fortunately, there are many opportunities to prepare for and recover from the impacts of climate change. Municipalities can also take steps to reduce the causes of climate change by increasing the energy efficiency of their systems. Improved energy efficiency will reduce the consumption of fossil fuels, the primary cause of climate change, as well as reduce the cost to deliver drinking water and treat wastewater. Visit our [Climate Resilience for Water and Drinking Water](#) webpage for information on expected impacts and adaptation strategies.

### **News about Wetlands and Shoreland Permitting**

Attention NH City and Town Clerks! A new [guidance document](#) was developed for City and Town Clerks to assist with the processing of all NHDES Wetlands and Shoreland Permit Application forms. This document is available on the NHDES [Shoreland](#) and [Wetlands](#) web pages.

### **New Online Mapping Tool – New Hampshire Coastal Viewer**

NHDES, in collaboration with the University of New Hampshire's GRANIT System and other project partners, have launched the [New Hampshire Coastal Viewer](#) an online mapping tool that gives anyone with an Internet connection the ability to access more than 150 spatial data sets and to make and share their own customized maps. For the first time, the Coastal Viewer brings both new and existing coastal resources and hazards-related spatial data sets in the 42 communities of N.H.'s coastal watershed together in one place. For more information and to go to the Viewer, visit: <http://www.granit.unh.edu/nhcoastalviewer/>

### **NHDES Dam numbers have changed**

Dam owners will be noticing a change in your dam number in future correspondence. As development has expanded over the years, the number of dams in certain towns has grown significantly. Some towns are nearing 100 dams, and our historic numbering system was not compatible with that. In addition, the old system made it difficult for some computer applications to manipulate and sort the data. Example: Old dam# 014.08, New dam# D014008. If you have any questions, you can contact us at [damsafety@des.nh.gov](mailto:damsafety@des.nh.gov)

### **Subsurface Systems Program Electronic Permitting (ePermtting)**

The NHDES Subsurface Systems Program ePermitting system, an on-line system for processing all subsurface applications, is now available. NHDES has sent all municipalities a letter that discusses how to manage the process to require prior local approval in accordance with RSA-A:32, II. For further information, please contact Robert Tardif at (603) 271-2904 or [robert.tardif@des.nh.gov](mailto:robert.tardif@des.nh.gov)

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