



The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the NH Department of Environmental Services

June 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](#)

Got Stormwater and Nonpoint Source Projects?

NHDES Watershed Assistance Section is soliciting pre-applications from municipalities for stormwater and nonpoint source (NPS) projects under the **Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)**. Please submit your simple pre-applications for *stormwater* and *nonpoint source projects* by **June 27, 2015** to be put on the list for funding. There is an additional bonus for using SRF funds for stormwater. Not only do you receive low-interest loans, but we anticipate providing 20% principal forgiveness for most stormwater and NPS projects. <http://xml2.des.state.nh.us/blogs/watershed/?p=2796>

Sludge Management Rules

DES is proposing to readopt with amendments the rules identified as Env-Wq 800, Sludge Management. The Initial Proposal (annotated text and fixed text) and Rulemaking Notice (including the Fiscal Impact Statement) for the rules are available at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/legal/rulemaking/index.htm#pwaterq>.

Env-Wq 800 implements RSA 485-A:4, XVI-b by establishing standards, criteria, and procedures for a permit system to manage the removal, transportation, and disposal of sludge. The existing rules expired on May 23, 2015, and so are proposed to be readopted to continue the Sludge Management program. The existing rules will continue in effect pursuant to RSA 541-A:14-a, I, subject to the conditions specified therein.

The public hearing is scheduled for Tuesday, **June 30, 2015**, at 6:00 p.m. in the Auditorium at DES's Offices at 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH. The deadline for submission of written comments is 4:00 p.m. on Friday, July 10, 2015. For more information contact Mike Rainey at (603) 271-2818 or Michael.Rainey@des.nh.gov.

Leak Detection Survey Grants NOW AVAILABLE

The NHDES Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau is now accepting applications for the Community Water System Leak Detection Survey Grant. This grant is open to all community water systems in New Hampshire, and selected applicants will receive a **free** leak detection survey by a professional leak detection specialist during the 2016 field season. These surveys are an important way of discovering leaks on a system's water mains, service lines, hydrants, and valves. The application is available at http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/water_conservation/index.htm under 'Hot Topics.' Applications are due by July 17, 2015. Please contact Kelsey Vaughn (kelsey.vaughn@des.nh.gov, 603-271-0659) if you have any questions.

Get Watershed Assistance Grants

The NHDES Watershed Assistance Section is requesting pre-proposals for 2016 Watershed Assistance Grants to support local initiatives to restore impaired waters or protect high quality waters. Pre-applications are due July 17, 2015. <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/was/categories/grants.htm>

Soak Up the Rain Projects Needed

New this year! The NHDES Watershed Assistance Section is seeking proposals from watershed organizations and municipalities interested in developing a local **Soak Up the Rain NH (SOAK) program**. The SOAK program was created by NHDES to train and empower local organizations to install lot-scale stormwater management practices throughout their watersheds. Full proposal deadline is July 17. <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/was/categories/grants.htm#soak>

Federal Stormwater Permit News

The Federal stormwater permit for discharges of stormwater associated with industrial activity, called the Multi-Sector General Permit (MSGP), was reissued by EPA and noticed in the Federal Register on June 16,

2015 (see <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-06-16/pdf/2015-14792.pdf>). Information on applying or reapplying for and complying with this Federal permit, which is required for certain municipal operations such as transfer stations that do recycling, can be found at EPA's MSGP website at <http://water.epa.gov/polwaste/npdes/stormwater/EPA-Multi-Sector-General-Permit-MSGP.cfm>. The website also discusses EPA webinars about the permit to be held on July 1st and July 8th.

Motor Vehicle Recycling Facility (MVRF) Local License Inventory Update

The NH Green Yards Program is updating its database with current facilities holding a motor vehicle recycling facility local license per RSA 236:111-129. Within the next few weeks, the program will be sending out questionnaires to each municipality via e-mail to gather information regarding the MVRFs in the state. This inventory will be used by the DES to provide information to active facilities regarding the environmental Best Management Practices and the NEW MtBE Bureau within the Department. It is essential that we have an updated list of licensed facilities. For questions, please contact Tara Mae Albert at Tara.Albert@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-2938.

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.

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.

General State Permit for Internal Combustion Engines

The General State Permit for Internal Combustion Engines – Emergency Generators or Fire Pump Engines (GSP) issued by NHDES, Air Resources was reestablished on April 30, 2015. All sources operating emergency engines under the previous GSP must register under the reestablished permit in order to be covered by the new GSP. The registration must be received at NHDES no later than **July 29, 2015**.

The registration forms and information concerning this permit can be found at http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/air/pehb/apps/permit_air_emissions_gsp_eg.htm Any questions with the online application process should be directed to Anne Bailey at (603) 271-6828 or anne.bailey@des.nh.gov

Training Opportunities for Solid Waste Facility Operators

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.

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