



The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the NH Department of Environmental Services

February 2016

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](#)

News - Subdivision and Individual Sewage Disposal Rules, Env-Wq 1000

NHDES is proposing to readopt with amendment the Subdivision and Individual Sewage Disposal Rules, Env-Wq 1000. The Initial Proposal and the Rulemaking Notice for the rules are available at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/legal/rulemaking/index.htm#pwaterg>

New Wetlands Mitigation Rules

Effective February 1, 2016, the NHDES Wetlands Bureau has adopted new mitigation rules. See notice on new Rules: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wetlands/process-improvement.htm> Before submission of a wetlands application that requires compensatory mitigation, an applicant has to meet with NHDES in a pre-application meeting. A NHDES Wetlands Bureau pre-application webpage has been created: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wetlands/pre-app.htm> Where mitigation is required, applicants will have to review a list of local mitigation options from a municipality if one has been prepared. Other significant changes include clarifying “enhancement”, stream mitigation requirements, and the state-federal coordination process.

Small Storage Tank Inspection

The NHDES Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau is pleased to announce the Small Community Public Water System Tank Inspection Grant program. Atmospheric and hydropneumatic tanks are vital components of a small water system and need to be properly maintained. To evaluate the condition of a tank and its remaining life expectancy, it needs to be inspected internally, and if accessible, externally too. NHDES offers small water systems a 50 percent matching grant of up to \$4,000 per tank of 20,000 gallons or less to perform tank inspections. NHDES will award a maximum of \$10,000 for each water system (enough for three tanks) to perform those long-neglected inspections in 2016. NHDES will accept applications until Friday, March 4, 2016.

For more information or to obtain an application, please visit <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/asset-managment/index.htm> or contact Luis Adorno at (603) 271-2472 or luis.adorno@des.nh.gov.

2015 AFR Forms for Solid Waste Facilities Available Online

Each year, permitted solid waste facilities are required to report their regulated activities to DES. The 2015 Annual Facility Report (AFR) forms for all facilities, including Transfer Stations and Scrap Metal Facilities, are online at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/swmb/css/categories/forms.htm> Reports are due March 31, 2016 and can be submitted in the mail, by fax (271-2456) or electronically, either as a pdf or email attachment to: solidwasteinfo@des.nh.gov Send questions to solidwasteinfo@des.nh.gov or call 271-2925. Staff will also be available to answer questions in person on March 22, from 9:00 to 3:00.

Please send your comments for the editor to editor@des.nh.gov To receive press releases and other publications of the NH Department of Environmental Services via e-mail, please sign up at www.des.nh.gov/media/enews/index.htm