



The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the NH Department of Environmental Services

November/December 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](#)

Sampling for PFCs at Contaminated Sites

Recently, the NHDES Hazardous Waste Remediation Bureau sent a letter to stakeholders requesting sampling for perfluorinated chemicals (PFCs) as part of groundwater management permits and the investigation of certain contaminated sites. Sampling is to occur in 2017, or at the latest in 2018. The letter can be reviewed at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/hwrb/documents/pfc-stakeholder-notification-20161122.pdf>

Low-interest Loans for Wastewater, Stormwater Asset Management and Wastewater Facility Energy Audits

The NH Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) is offering a new opportunity to submit pre-applications for low interest loans with principal forgiveness for wastewater and stormwater asset management programs and wastewater facility energy audits. The CWSRF will add new project proposals to the 2016 Project Priority List and Intended Use Plan and accept full loan applications through June 30, 2017.

Communities now have another chance to receive loans with up to \$30,000 in principal forgiveness for wastewater and stormwater asset management programs, and up to \$20,000 in principal forgiveness for wastewater facility energy audits.

NHDES is accepting these new pre-applications through Friday December 16, 2016. The CWSRF pre-application is available on the NHDES website at:

http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wweb/documents/srf_preapp.doc Please submit new pre-applications to Dan Fenno at Daniel.Fenno@des.nh.gov or call (603) 271-3448 for information about CWSRF loans.

For more information about the minimum requirements to qualify for principal forgiveness for asset management and energy audits, visit "Incentive Programs" here:

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wweb/grants.htm> Asset management questions may also be directed to Sharon Rivard (wastewater) at Sharon.Rivard@des.nh.gov and Barbara McMillan (stormwater) at Barbara.McMillan@des.nh.gov

*This CWSRF initiative complements the Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau's recent call for grant applications for asset management. For more information, visit the Drinking Water Asset Management web page at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/asset-managment/documents/nhdes-w-03-021.docx> or contact Luis Adorno at (603) 271-2472 or Luis.Adorno@des.nh.gov.

Forest Laws for Municipal Officials

This workshop will be held on Wednesday, December 14, 2016, 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. at the Salisbury Town Hall in Salisbury, NH. Register at <https://extension.unh.edu/2016-forest-laws> This workshop is appropriate for town selectmen, town clerks, tax collectors, assessors, code enforcement officers, conservation commissioners, road agents, forestry committee members, police officers, and other town employees and volunteers can play a vital role in the enforcement of forest laws. Foresters attending will receive CFE's for licensing.

Solid Waste Operator Training and Certification Program

The next SWOT Workshop *Landfills: What You Never Knew You Needed to Know*, is on December 20, 2016. This workshop will cover the early history of solid waste landfills in NH, including the evolution of landfills, closures of those unlined landfills and how landfills are monitored for the protection of human health and the environment. Attendees will learn how groundwater movement can affect these facilities and how it can be affected by man-made contaminants. In addition, **ALL** SWOT paperwork is sent to the home address of each operator rather than to the facility at which they work because this is a personal license much like a driver's license. It is owned by the individual not the permitted facility at which he or she is employed. The responsibility to submit application paperwork including the fee and proof of continuing professional development (CPD) is solely the responsibility of the operator. In addition, it is the operator's responsibility to attend Basic Training and 2.5 hours of CPD per year. The permitted facility is required to employ certified operators and to post the certificates for each employee in a prominent location at the facility. If anyone has any questions regarding this matter, please contact Tara Mae Albert at tara.albert@des.nh.gov

Drought Information

Problematic drought conditions will continue for New Hampshire residents throughout the winter. NHDES will continue to have information and resources available on the NHDES Drought Management Program webpage: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dam/drought/index.htm>

New Mapping Can Help Your Community Prioritize Water Resources

Mapping that is focused on land important for water resources, specifically drinking water protection, flood risk mitigation and pollution attenuation, has been developed by The Nature Conservancy with NHDES Coastal Program funding. The map layers are now available on the [New Hampshire Coastal Viewer](#), an online tool that gives anyone with an Internet connection the ability to access more than 150 spatial data sets in the 42 communities in New Hampshire's Coastal Watershed and to make and share their own customized maps. The viewer is intended for a wide variety of users for planning and education purposes, including municipal staff and volunteers. In addition to the new water resources layers, you'll find data such as conservation and public lands, aerial imagery, FEMA floodplains, and storm surge and sea-level rise information. The NHDES Coastal Program in collaboration with the University of New Hampshire's GRANIT System and other project partners developed the New Hampshire Coastal Viewer in 2015 with a grant from NOAA's Office for Coastal Management. The viewer can be found at: <http://www.granit.unh.edu/nhcoastalviewer/>

Asbestos in Schools

NHDES would like to remind schools and school districts in New Hampshire that there are both federal and state laws requiring them to identify and monitor asbestos-containing materials in their facilities, and to maintain and make available for review all records related to the monitoring, repair and removal of asbestos containing materials. For more information, visit the EPA website at <https://www.epa.gov/asbestos/asbestos-and-school-buildings#resources> or contact Steve Cullinane at NHDES at 603-271-1373.

NHDES is Stepping Up its Enforcement of Open Burning Rules

To protect public health and the environment from the illegal burning of household trash and construction and demolition debris, NHDES is stepping up enforcement efforts and will issue fines to those burning illegally, in accordance with the NHDES Compliance Assurance Response Policy. There are restrictions on the types of material that can be burned in outside fires. It is unlawful to burn any trash, debris, or painted or treated wood. Burning these materials releases toxic air pollutants and created hazardous ash. These restrictions are effective all year regardless of rain or snow cover.

To download brochures and pamphlets for distribution at your offices, you can contact the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services at 271-5629, or visit DES.NH.GOV and click on "Open Burning" under the A to Z topics list.

New Emission Regulations for Wood Stoves

As of January 1, 2016, only USEPA-Certified hydronic heaters, wood stoves and pellet stoves that meet the new requirements can be legally sold in the United States. NHDES would like to partner with municipal officials to educate residents on the rule and the installation of USEPA-Certified wood stoves. For more information visit: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/air/cb/ceps/wba/index.htm>

News About Rules

1. NHDES is proposing to readopt with amendment the Water Use and Registration Rules, Env-Wq 2102. The Initial Proposal and the Rulemaking Notice for the rules are available at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/legal/rulemaking/index.htm#pwaterq>
2. Env-Wq 1400 re: Shoreland Protection and amendments to Env-A 1400 re: Regulated Toxic Air Pollutants are expected to be reviewed by the JLCAR on Thursday, December 15, 2016. The final proposed rules are available at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/legal/rulemaking/index.htm>
3. The proposed readoption with amendment of Env-Wq 1800 re: Rivers Management and Protection Program is at the public comment stage. The public hearing is scheduled for Friday, January 13, 2017 at 3:30 PM in Room 112 of the DES Offices at 29 Hazen Drive, Concord. The deadline for written comments is 4:00 on Friday, January 20, 2017. Participation at the public meeting is not required to submit written comments. Contact Tracie Sales (Tracie.Sales@des.nh.gov), WD WMB Environmental Program Manager, for more information. The initial proposal is on-line at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/legal/rulemaking/index.htm>
4. Env-Wq 1700 was recently readopted, effective December 1, 2016; the new rules are available at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/legal/rulemaking/index.htm#aquality>
5. Amendments to the Solid Waste Operator Training and Certification requirements were adopted effective November 18, 2016. The amendments are available at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/legal/rulemaking/index.htm#asolid> they must be read in conjunction with the rest of the rules, which are available at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/legal/rules/index.htm#solid>

SPECIAL NOTE: THE NEXT ISSUE OF ECOLINK WILL BE ISSUED IN EARLY JANUARY 2017.

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