



## The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the NH Department of Environmental Services

October 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](#)

---

### Drought Information

As the current drought continues to persist, perhaps through the winter, NHDES will continue to post information and resources 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/>

### Volkswagen Settlement/DERA

In response to a draft settlement agreement with Volkswagen and its related companies regarding tampering with emissions controls, a stakeholder meeting to present the details of the settlement, discuss its impact on New Hampshire and receive public input on a draft plan for use of the funds is scheduled for Tuesday, November 29 at 1PM at NHDES. A draft plan for use of the funds will be posted at

[www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov) no later than November 14. NHDES is starting a new round of Diesel Emission Reduction Act (DERA) grants to support projects designed to achieve significant reductions in diesel emissions. More information is available at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/air/tsb/tps/msp/diesel-vehicles/index.htm>

### 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.

### Municipal Asset Management Workshop

NHDES is hosting its 3rd annual Asset Management Workshop—"Bridging the Gap" on December 1, 2016 at 29 Hazen Drive, Concord. This training will provide Water, Stormwater and Wastewater operators & managers with means and methods on how to leverage your asset management programs to maximize interactions within the entire organization. There will be ample opportunity to discuss your ideas and network during the breakout sessions throughout the day. Registrations must be completed and submitted

to NHDES by November 18, 2016. Forms and information are at

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/asset-managment/categories/training.htm>

### **New Subdivision and Individual Sewage Disposal System Design Rules**

NHDES Subsurface Systems Bureau recently re-adopted administrative rules Env-Wq 1000 - effective October 1, 2016. Previous rule, Env-Wq 1003.12, required that approved septic system designs only need to be constructed when the application was submitted to replace a system in failure (e.g., systems were not required to be constructed for those scenarios where the design was submitted to increase flows to systems not in failure). The amended rule (now Env-Wq 1004.21) requires that the replacement system be constructed if the system being replaced is in failure or has not received construction approval and approval to operate under these rules or predecessor rules in Env-Wq 1000 (i.e., never received state approval). For questions about this change, please contact Robert Tardif, P.E., Administrator of the NHDES Subsurface Bureau at (603) 271-2904.

### **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>

### **Solid Waste Operator Training and Certification Program**

The NHDES Solid Waste Operator Training (SWOT) and Certification Program has listed all current Certified SW Operators online including their certification expiration dates. This is an easy guide for municipal officials to use when determining compliance with the operator portion of their SW permit. Also, the next workshop with available seats is *Universal Waste: Part II* on November 15 from 9 AM – 12 PM in Littleton. For all information regarding the SWOT Program including classes and the list of currently certified operators, go to <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/swrtas/index.htm> or contact Tara Mae Albert at [tara.albert@des.nh.gov](mailto:tara.albert@des.nh.gov)

### **NHDES MtBE Remediation Bureau Annual Report**

The NHDES MtBE Remediation Bureau's annual report is available at the following link:

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/publications/documents/r-wmd-16-1.pdf> The programs discussed in the annual report are funded using money obtained from the state's MtBE litigation. These funds are restricted to use on MtBE cleanup activities by the court ordered settlements. Funds obtained in June 2016 from the MtBE jury trial have been set aside by the State of New Hampshire in a Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund (Trust Fund). The Trust Fund will be managed under the provisions of RSA 485-F. The Trust Fund money will be used for drinking water infrastructure and contamination cleanup. Ecolink will provide progress updates to municipalities next year on the establishment of programs related to the new Trust Fund.

### **Water Use and Registration Rules**

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>

### **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](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](mailto: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](mailto:Sharon.Rivard@des.nh.gov) and Barbara McMillan (stormwater) at [Barbara.McMillan@des.nh.gov](mailto:Barbara.McMillan@des.nh.gov)

\*This CWSRF initiative compliments 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-management/documents/nhdes-w-03-021.docx> or contact Luis Adorno at (603) 271-2472 or [Luis.Adorno@des.nh.gov](mailto:Luis.Adorno@des.nh.gov).

---

Please send your comments for the editor to [editor@des.nh.gov](mailto:editor@des.nh.gov) To receive press releases and other publications of the NH Department of Environmental Services via email, please sign up at [www.des.nh.gov/media/enews/index.htm](http://www.des.nh.gov/media/enews/index.htm)