



## The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the NH Department of Environmental Services

September 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](#)

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### **Historic Drought: NHDES to Municipalities – Implement Mandatory Lawn Watering Bans**

NHDES is urging the public to discontinue non-essential outdoor water use and to take efficiency measures indoors. NHDES is also recommending that municipalities implement mandatory lawn watering bans. To assist municipalities, guidance language for implementing a lawn watering ban may be found on the NHDES Drought Management Program webpage:

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dam/drought/index.htm>

### **Proposed Re-adoption of the Subdivision and Individual Sewage Disposal System Design Rules**

The proposed re-adoption of the Subdivision and Individual Sewage Disposal System Design Rules (Env-Wq 1000) was approved by Joint Legislative Committee on Administrative Rules on Thursday, September 15, 2016. The new rules will be effective as of October 1, 2016. For more information visit:

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/legal/rulemaking/index.htm>

### **NHDES and NH Saves are working with Municipal Wastewater Treatment Facilities on Energy Efficiency**

Did you know that your wastewater treatment facility is likely the largest energy user in your community? We want to help save on those energy costs! Energy Efficiency workshops are being held in Concord on October 12, Keene on October 26 and Greenland on November 3. Wastewater and drinking water system operators, municipal leadership and local energy committee members are encouraged to attend. Thanks to a grant from US Dept of Energy and NH Saves, these workshops are free AND we will feed you BOTH breakfast and lunch! For more information or to register go to:

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wweb/optraining.htm> For questions, contact Sharon Rivard at [sharon.rivard@des.nh.gov](mailto:sharon.rivard@des.nh.gov) or (603) 271-2508.

### **Instream Flow Rules (Env-Wq 1900) Rulemaking Information Meeting**

NHDES intends to hold a public information meeting to discuss the two sections of the new Instream Flow Rules (Env-Wq 1900). The meeting will be held Wednesday, October 19, 2016 from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM in Room 208C of the NHDES offices at 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH. This meeting date and venue are subject to change—please see the link below for updates. Prior to the meeting, you will be able to find the discussion documents covering the these sections of the rules, links to RSA 483 and the 2015 Pilot Study Report posted on the ISF Rulemaking 2016-2017 page of the Rivers Management Advisory Committee website at [http://xml2.des.state.nh.us/blogs/rmac/?page\\_id=2510](http://xml2.des.state.nh.us/blogs/rmac/?page_id=2510) For more information contact, Wayne Ives, NHDES Instream Flow Specialist at [wayne.ives@des.nh.gov](mailto:wayne.ives@des.nh.gov) or (603) 271-3548.

### **Requesting Pre-proposals for Watershed Assistance Grants**

The NHDES Watershed Assistance Section is now accepting pre-applications for 2017 Watershed Assistance Grants to support local initiatives to restore impaired waters or protect high quality waters. Projects must address nonpoint source (NPS) pollution through the development and implementation of watershed-based plans in priority watersheds. Pre-proposals are due October 21, 2016. Grant funds are appropriated through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. More information at: <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wmb/was/categories/grants.htm#warg>

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

The NHDES Solid Waste Operator Training (SWOT) and Certification Program updated the CPD Workshop and Basic Training calendar for 2017. To see the classes that are being offered for operators, please go to <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/swrtas/workshop.htm> The next workshop with available seats is *Facility Managers: What ELSE You Need to Know* on October 27 from 9 AM – 12 PM and again at 1 PM – 4 PM in Littleton. For all information regarding the SWOT Program, 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)

### **Solid Waste Operator Training and Certification Rules Update**

NHDES is proposing to amend certain rules relative to Solid Waste Operator Training and Certification. Several amendments are being proposed, including but not limited to allowing the owner/operator of a collection center for select recyclables to train workers in lieu of requiring all workers to obtain certification and establishing that a certification number will expire if not renewed within the statutory 90-day period, and a new certification number will be issued if the individual becomes recertified. The Initial Proposal and Rulemaking Notice, including information on the time and place of the public hearing scheduled for October 18, 2016 and the deadline for submitting written comments (October 28, 2016), are available at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/legal/rulemaking/index.htm#psolidw>

### **Volkswagen Settlement**

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 Thursday, October 27 at 1 PM at NHDES. A draft plan will be posted at <http://des.nh.gov/> no later than October 21, 2016. For more information on the VW settlement, go to: <http://doj.nh.gov/media-center/press-releases/2016/20160628-vw-must-pay.htm>

### **2017 Local Source Water Protection Grants – Applications due November 1**

Project funding is available from NHDES to develop and implement programs to protect existing sources of public drinking water. The grants are available to water suppliers, municipalities, regional planning agencies, non-profit organizations, educational institutions, conservation districts and state agencies. Applicants can receive up to \$20,000 for projects to protect drinking water sources, including watershed planning, delineation of protection areas, assessment of threats to water supply sources, implementation and source security. Applications are available at:

[http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/dwspp/lswp\\_grants.htm](http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/dwspp/lswp_grants.htm) Please contact Pierce Rigrod at (603) 271-0688 or [pierce.rigrod@des.nh.gov](mailto:pierce.rigrod@des.nh.gov) or Amy Hudnor at (603) 271-2950 or [amy.hudnor@des.nh.gov](mailto:amy.hudnor@des.nh.gov) if you have any questions or would like to discuss your proposal. Applications are due November 1, 2016.

### **NH Drinking Water and Wastewater Managers School**

The NH Drinking Water and Wastewater Managers School is now accepting applications for the 2017 management course. The program is open to current managers and supervisors who wish to improve their management skills. This program is also for drinking water and wastewater operators preparing to become candidates for future management or supervisory positions. Applications are due by November 1, 2016. <http://www.nhwpc.org/nh-drinking-water-wastewater-managers-school/>

### **Asset Management Planning Grant Program**

The NHDES Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau is pleased to announce another round of the Asset Management Planning Grant program. This grant is intended to assist community water systems in developing an asset management plan. The program will provide community water systems a 100% matching grant up to \$20,000 to conduct asset management initiatives. Applications will be accepted until December 16, 2016. Eligible systems include Community Water Systems serving a population of 200 or greater. An information packet and application are available on the DWGB website at <http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/asset-managment/index.htm> under Grant/Loans. Feel free to contact Luis Adorno at (603) 271-2472 or [luis.adorno@des.nh.gov](mailto:luis.adorno@des.nh.gov) if you have any questions or would like to discuss your proposal.

### **NH Drinking Water Source Protection Videos**

Pennichuck Water Works just released a series of watershed videos focused on source water protection. Funded in part by the [NHDES Source Water Protection Grant Program](#), these videos show residents what they can do to help prevent water pollution and highlight key parts of Pennichuck's watershed protection efforts. The videos represent an alternative public outreach format with broader appeal to fit in with today's multimedia educational approach. The project includes video footage of the Pennichuck Brook Watershed and input from the five watershed communities: Nashua, Merrimack, Amherst, Hollis and Milford. These brief 2-3½ minute videos highlight potential threats to the Pennichuck Brook Watershed and water supply with a focus on stormwater, include examples of watershed improvement projects Pennichuck has completed through the years and provide information on what residents can do to help protect the Pennichuck Brook Watershed and water supply. Produced by Comprehensive Environmental Inc., a New England-based civil and environmental engineering firm, each of the four videos can be viewed at [http://www.pennichuck.com/watershed\\_videos.php](http://www.pennichuck.com/watershed_videos.php)

### **Quadrangles recently mapped by the New Hampshire Geologic Survey**

NHGS recently completed the surficial geologic mapping of gravels, sand, silts and clays deposited by glaciers and fluvial processes in the Mount Dartmouth, Squam Mountain and Melvin Village 1:24,000 scale quadrangles. Field work and mapping is currently underway for the Danbury, Jackson and Jefferson 1:24,000 scale maps. These will be available fall of 2016. Bedrock mapping of the crustal rocks under the soils has also been completed for the Mount Dartmouth and Hanover 1:24,000 scale quadrangles.

To see if these quadrangles cover part of or your entire town, use the index at:

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/gsu/gmp/documents/surf-geo-status.pdf> Detailed quadrangle coverage is available using the *map locator* at:

[http://store.usgs.gov/b2c\\_usgs/usgs/maplocator/\(xcm=r3standardpitrex\\_prd&layout=6\\_1\\_61\\_48\\_1&uiare a=2&ctype=catalogEntry&care=%24ROOT\)/.do](http://store.usgs.gov/b2c_usgs/usgs/maplocator/(xcm=r3standardpitrex_prd&layout=6_1_61_48_1&uiare a=2&ctype=catalogEntry&care=%24ROOT)/.do)

When ready for distribution, NHGS geologic maps are listed at:

[http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/publications/geologic/documents/geo\\_publ.pdf](http://des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/publications/geologic/documents/geo_publ.pdf)

For more information, contact NHGS at: [Geology@des.nh.gov](mailto:Geology@des.nh.gov)

### **Firefighter Training Activity Enforcement**

As a follow-up to last month's reminder about local fire departments planning to conduct training burns, NHDES wishes to remind those local fire departments that administrative fines of up to \$2,000 per violation, or civil penalties of up to \$25,000 per day of violation, may be assessed for failure to follow all of the requirements for this activity. Recently, NHDES assessed a fine of \$2,601 in a case where a local fire department failed to notify NHDES prior to a training burn and failed to properly remove asbestos-containing materials prior to the training burn. Historically, NHDES has assessed fines for improperly burning camping trailers and a boat, as well as for failing to have a state certified fire instructor or specialty instructor for the training burn. For assistance with firefighter training burn requirements, please contact Tom Guertin at (603) 271-0907 or Steve Cullinane at (603) 271-1373. You can also find additional information on firefighter training requirements, including lists of consultants, abatement contractors and notification forms at the following links:

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/air/cb/ceps/npsap/firefighter-training.htm>

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/air/cb/ceps/ams/index.htm>

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/air/cb/ceps/npsap/documents/open-burn-firefight-train.pdf>

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