



The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the NH Department of Environmental Services

July 2017

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](#)

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR:

- **CLEAN WATER STATE REVOLVING LOAN FUND PROGRAM**
- **DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING LOAN FUND PROGRAM**

NHDES will hold a public hearing on the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund Program's Project Priority List for Fiscal Year 2017 and the Fiscal Year 2017 Draft Intended Use Plan. **The hearings will be held in Room 110 of the Department of Environmental Services Building, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, New Hampshire on Thursday, August 3, 2017.** The hearings will open at 9:00 a.m. and remain in session until all attendees have been given an opportunity to provide comments. The Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund hearing will be held first, followed immediately by the Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund hearing. Copies of the draft Project Priority Lists and Intended Use Plans will be posted soon on NHDES' website at www.des.nh.gov, A to Z list, "Grants/Loans," Clean Water SRF and Drinking Water SRF prior to the public hearing date. For more information, please contact the Clean Water Program at (603) 271-3908 or the Drinking Water program at (603) 271-2513 or dwgbinfo@des.nh.gov

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 12, 2017. Eligible systems include Community Water Systems serving a population of 200 or greater. An information packet and application are available on the DWGB website <https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/asset-managment/documents/nhdes-w-03-021.docx> Feel free to contact Luis Adorno at (603) 271-2472 or luis.adorno@des.nh.gov if you have any questions or would like to discuss your proposal.

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 100% 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 2017. Applications are accepted throughout the year. 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

PFC Sampling at New Hampshire Waste Sites

The NHDES Waste Division is requiring that certain contaminated sites include per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), also referred to as perfluorinated chemicals (PFCs), in upcoming groundwater sampling

efforts. Affected sites include those managed by the Hazardous Waste Remediation Bureau and landfills (lined, unlined, active, and/or closed) that are subject to groundwater monitoring. Sites impacted with only petroleum-related constituents managed by the NHDES Oil Remediation and Compliance Bureau (ORCB) are not required to sample at this time, unless otherwise instructed by the ORCB Project Manager. Additional information can be found in NHDES' May 18, 2017 letter to Responsible Parties, Site Owners, and Permittees: <https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/documents/pfas-sampling-ltr-20170518.pdf>

Information on Class B Firefighting Foam and Potential PFAS

Many types of Class B foams, which are typically used on flammable liquid fires and spills, may contain per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), also referred to as perfluorinated chemicals (PFCs), that can contaminate groundwater if released to the environment. NHDES has been working with local and state emergency response personnel to address and better understand the use and environmental concerns associated with Class B foams. NHDES sent a letter to Municipal Officials, Fire Departments, and Health Officers requesting information about where these foams may have been used in the past and when they are used in the future: <https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/documents/pfas-classb-foam-20170509.pdf>

In addition, two surveys are available on our website <https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pfas.htm>: a “**Class B Firefighting Foam Use**” survey that requests information about where Class B Foam may have been used historically, and a “**Stock of Class B Firefighting Foam For Disposal**” survey to collect information for use in evaluating the feasibility of offering a program to collect older formulations of foam stock for disposal. We encourage applicable parties to fill out both surveys. For more information, please contact Amy Doherty at (603) 271-1169 or amy.doherty@des.nh.gov

State Clean Diesel Program

The Air Resources Division has limited funding through the State Clean Diesel Program under the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) funding for local/state governments and businesses with vehicles and equipment operating in New Hampshire. We will be accepting project proposals between October 1 and October 15, 2017. A draft request for proposal and additional information is available under Forms/Applications on our Diesel Vehicle page.

<http://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/air/tsb/tps/msp/diesel-vehicles/index.htm>

Temporary Closure of Residential Solar and Wind Rebate Program

The Public Utilities Commission recently announced the temporary closure of the Residential Solar and Wind Rebate program and the Commercial and Industrial (C&I) Solar Rebate program due to fiscal year 2018 budget constraints and the large number of waitlisted applications. Funding for these rebate programs comes from the Renewable Energy Fund, or REF. For more information please see the press release from the Public Utilities Commission. Renewable Energy Fund docket DE 10-024 can be accessed here: <https://www.puc.nh.gov/Regulatory/Docketbk/2010/10-024.html>

Used Oil Grant Funds Available for FY 2018

NHDES is accepting applications for Used Oil Grants for State Fiscal Year 2018. This will be your only opportunity to obtain a grant this coming fiscal year. Grant application packages will be available on the NHDES website until all funding has been expended:

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/orcb/fms/uomp/categories/grants.htm>

Download the Used Oil Grant Brochure to learn which costs are eligible for reimbursement:

<http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/orcb/fms/uomp/documents/used-oil-brochure.pdf>

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Dean Robinson at 271-2047, or by email at UsedOilGrants@des.state.nh.us

News on Rules

The JLCAR approved or conditionally approved the hazardous waste rules (Env-Hw 100-1200) at its meeting on July 20. NHDES will be responding to the conditional approvals and then adopting the rules. Once adopted, the rules will be available in the Recently Adopted Hazardous Waste section of our rulemaking page, <http://www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/legal/rulemaking/index.htm#ahazard>

The JLCAR conditionally approved the Alteration of Terrain rules (Env-Wq 1500) at its meeting on July 20. We will be responding to the conditional approvals and then adopting the rules. Once adopted, the rules will be available in the Recently Adopted Water Quality/Quantity section of our rulemaking page, <http://www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/legal/rulemaking/index.htm#aquality>

Survey of Municipality Communication Preferences

NHDES would appreciate your feedback on how best to communicate with our city and town officials. Please take just a few minutes of your time to fill out our survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DZV2DXV> to help us to better deliver the information you need.

Please send your comments for the editor to editor@des.nh.gov

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