



The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the NH Department of Environmental Services

June 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](#)

Survey of Municipality Communication Preferences

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services 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.

Municipal Technical Assistance Program: A Pilot for New Hampshire Municipalities

USEPA Region 1 is piloting a new approach to providing free technical assistance to municipalities in New Hampshire in support of environmental and public health improvements in priority program areas. USEPA would like to match this assistance with local needs and interest. Technical assistance varies by program and is available under the following themes:

- BROWNFIELDS CLEANUPS
- CITIZEN SCIENCE
- CLEAN INDOOR AIR
- COMMUNITY RESILIENCE
- DRINKING WATER RESOURCE PLANNING
- EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS
- ENERGY AND WATER EFFICIENCY
- FEDERAL FACILITIES GREEN CHALLENGE
- GRANT PROPOSAL TRAINING
- OCEAN AND COASTAL WATERS
- POLLUTION PREVENTION
- SCHOOLS CHEMICAL INVENTORY, CLEANOUT, OR STUDENT TRAINING
- STORMWATER MANAGEMENT
- WASTE WISE/FOOD WASTE CHALLENGE

The deadline for expressing interest is **June 30, 2017**. Technical assistance activities are expected to be complete by September 30, 2017. If a municipality is interested in any of the technical assistance opportunities listed above, please click [here](#) (link to <https://www3.epa.gov/region1/eco/uep/mtap.html>) to learn more about these offerings and the simple electronic submission process. If you have any questions regarding this program, please contact Jennifer Brady at brady.jenniferl@epa.gov or 617-918-1698.

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 PFCs

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

Diesel Emission Reduction Program Funds Available

The USEPA has announced \$11 million in Diesel Emission Reduction Program (DERA) funds available to support projects aimed at reducing emissions from the nation's existing fleet of older diesel engines. Under this competition, between 20 and 80 awards are anticipated to be made to eligible applicants.

Eligible applicants include regional, state, local or tribal agencies, or port authorities, with jurisdiction over transportation or air quality. Nonprofit organizations may apply if they provide pollution reduction or educational services to diesel fleet owners or have, as their principal purpose, the promotion of transportation or air quality. Proposal packages must be submitted electronically to USEPA through Grants.gov in order to be considered for funding. The deadline for submitting proposals has been extended to Wednesday, July 5, 2017. For more information including informational webinars and to access the RFP, see the EPA Clean Diesel National Grants website NHDES is available to assist applicants in developing their application. Please contact Timothy White at Timothy.White@des.nh.gov or 603-271-5552.

Pre-applications for State Revolving Fund Projects

NHDES is soliciting pre-applications for drinking water, wastewater, stormwater and nonpoint source projects through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) program and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program. The SRF program is a low-interest loan program that assists communities with the planning, design and construction of eligible water pollution control infrastructure projects, and public water systems with the cost of improving drinking water infrastructure.

The CWSRF Pre-application is available at:

http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wweb/documents/srf_preapp.doc

The DWSRF Pre-Application is available at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2017DWSRF>

All Pre-Applications are due by Friday, June 30. For more information on CWSRF, contact Beth Malcolm at 271-2978 or beth.malcolm@des.nh.gov and for DWSRF, contact Johnna McKenna at 271-7017 or johnna.mckenna@des.nh.gov

Solid Waste Operator Training (SWOT) Program

The SWOT Program has added a Basic Training date to the calendar due to the increased number of applicants. The **NEW** date is July 26, 2017, in Concord with an available 40 seats. Please remember that all Solid Waste Operators must apply for certification within 30 days of hire. Continuing Professional Development summer workshops are also filling up quickly. Please contact Tara Mae Albert to register for the classes at Tara.Albert@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-3713. For more information on the SWOT Program, please go to <https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/swmb/index.htm>

Community Water System Leak Detection Survey Grants NOW AVAILABLE

The NHDES Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau is now accepting applications for the Community Water System Leak Detection Survey Grant. This grant is open to all community water systems in New Hampshire, and selected applicants will receive a **free** leak detection survey by a professional leak detection specialist during the 2018 field season. Through a competitive bid process, a professional leak detection specialist will be retained by NHDES to identify difficult-to-find leaks using mechanical and electronic listening equipment to detect leakage sounds and pinpoint leaks. These surveys are an important way of discovering leaks on a system's water mains, service lines, hydrants, and valves. The application is available at http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/water_conservation/index.htm under 'Hot Topics.' Applications are due by July 15, 2017. Please contact Stacey Herbold, stacey.herbold@des.nh.gov or 603-271-6685, if you have any questions.

Used Oil Grant Funds Available for FY 2018

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services 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 Department of Environmental Services web-site 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

Planning a School Renovation Project this Summer?

During the summer months, many schools will conduct maintenance and renovation work within school buildings. Schools that have asbestos containing building materials (ACBM) should have an Asbestos Management Plan on file at the school. Refer to [Asbestos In Schools: What Schools Need To Know](#) for additional information regarding necessary requirements. Be sure to refer to your school's Asbestos Management Plan when considering whether planned work will require disturbing areas containing ACBM, and consult an asbestos professional to ensure that the work does not result in a release of asbestos fibers that can present a risk to students, staff, and the public. Find [Certified Asbestos Abatement Consultants](#) here. Schools should provide advance notice and information regarding renovation projects to parents/guardians, staff, and students.

New NH Coastal Adaptation Workgroup Website

The New Hampshire Coastal Adaptation Workgroup (NHCAW) is excited to launch its new website, where municipal officials and volunteers, citizens, educators and others can quickly connect to information about how to reduce the risk of damage from coastal hazards like flooding from storms and sea-level rise and get involved with coastal adaptation projects in New Hampshire. Visitors will find links to upcoming workshops, events, and resources specific to enhancing resilience in our local coastal area. Additionally, the website showcases stories and photos from right here in N.H. to help others learn and build on what's already being done. To visit the NHCAW website, go to: www.nhcaw.org.

NHCAW is a collaboration of 24 organizations, including NHDES, working directly with coastal watershed communities to ensure they are resourceful, ready and resilient to the impacts of extreme weather and long-term climate change.

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

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