



## The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the NH Department of Environmental Services

October 2018

*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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### Instream Flow Program Rulemaking Notice

The Env-Wq 1900 Instream Flow Rules Initial Proposal and Rulemaking Notice were filed with the Office of Legislative Services Thursday, October 18. The rule making notice will be in the *Rulemaking Register* published on Thursday, October 25. The notice and initial proposal are available online at:

<https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/legal/rulemaking/index.htm#pwaterq> A public hearing on the Initial Proposal of the Env-Wq 1900 Instream Flow Rules will be held November 15, 2018, at 9:00 am in room 208 at the offices of NHDES, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH. Contact Wayne Ives, Instream Flow Specialist at [Wayne.Ives@des.nh.gov](mailto:Wayne.Ives@des.nh.gov) or (603) 271-3548.

### Local Energy Solutions (LES) Conference – November 16, 2018

NH's premier conference dedicated to achieving clean energy success in the Granite State - whether you're an energy committee member, local leader, engaged citizen, legislator, industry representative, or curious to learn more about clean energy technologies, practices, or policies, you do not want to miss this conference. Visit <https://www.nhenergy.org/les-conference.html> to find out more and register to attend.

### Asset Management Planning Grant Program

The NHDES Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau has announced 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 1, 2018. 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-management/documents/nhdes-w-03-021.docx> 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.

### Low-interest Loans for Wastewater and Stormwater Asset Management Plans

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. The CWSRF will add new project proposals to the 2018 Project Priority List and Intended Use Plan. **NHDES is accepting these new pre-applications through Monday December 3, 2018.** 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)

Guidance on asset management principal forgiveness can be found at:

<https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/asset-management/documents/cwsrf-am-guide.pdf>

### Public Pool and Spa Design and Construction Approvals – Notice to Town Officials when issuing a Pool or Spa Building Permit

A reminder to all towns and municipalities that the NHDES Public Bathing Facility Program requires owners, general contractors, pool builders and agents to submit an application to the department for design review and approval prior to initiating any construction. Please direct them to NHDES for guidance on their projects. For information on the public pool and spa program, contact NHDES at (603) 271-7108, or visit [des.nh.gov](http://des.nh.gov) and click on "Public Bathing Facility Program" under the A to Z topics list.

### Fact Sheet on Class B Firefighting Foam

The Interstate Technology Regulatory Council (ITRC) recently published a Fact Sheet about Class B firefighting foam. The purpose of this Fact Sheet is to outline how to properly identify, handle, store, capture, collect, manage, and dispose of Class B firefighting foam. Link to the ITRC fact sheet:

[https://pfas-1.itrcweb.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/pfas\\_fact\\_sheet\\_aff\\_10\\_3\\_18.pdf](https://pfas-1.itrcweb.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/pfas_fact_sheet_aff_10_3_18.pdf)

### **Get Green About the White Stuff - NHDES Salt Applicator Certification Program**

As of 2014, 46 water bodies in New Hampshire are polluted with chloride with more than 50% of the salt coming from private roads and parking lots. If you are concerned about winter maintenance practices on private parking lots polluting local waterbodies with road salt this winter, contact Kate Politano, NHDES Salt Reduction Coordinator, at [kate.politano@des.nh.gov](mailto:kate.politano@des.nh.gov) or (603) 271-5329, to learn more about the NH Certified Green SnowPro Program and how to encourage salt reduction practices to help ensure clean water for future generations.

### **Funding Announcement: USDA Increases Funding for Rural Waste, Water, Stormwater, and Wastewater Infrastructure- \$4 Billion Available**

USDA is providing increased funding to rural communities through the [Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant](#) program. USDA is [encouraging](#) states to share the available financial support. Eligible rural communities can apply online for funding for clean and reliable drinking water systems, sanitary sewage disposal, sanitary solid waste disposal, and storm water drainage to households and businesses in eligible rural areas.. They can visit the interactive [RD Apply](#) tool, or they can apply through one of USDA Rural Development's [state or field offices](#). For more information on the grants and to apply, please go to <https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/water-waste-disposal-loan-grant-program>.

### **NH Lead Bill SB247**

On February 8, 2018, Governor Sununu signed Senate Bill 247 Prevention of Childhood Lead Poisoning. This law requires, among other actions, that all schools and licensed child care facilities test for lead in drinking water at all locations where water is available for consumption by children. The first round of testing is required to be completed by July 1, 2019. To view the letter sent to all NH schools and licensed child care centers regarding the drinking water testing go to: <https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/documents/leadbill-ltr-schools-childcare.pdf> . To review SB247 in its entirety, visit: [http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/bill\\_status/billText.aspx?sy=2017&id=978&txtFormat=html](http://www.gencourt.state.nh.us/bill_status/billText.aspx?sy=2017&id=978&txtFormat=html)

### **Got Lead in Your Pipes?**

NHDES has partnered with the USEPA to create a web-based guidance document targeted at homeowners to help them determine if they have lead pipes and show them how they can reduce lead in their drinking water. The guide is in pilot testing and almost ready to be released to the public. While the initial intent was to have plumbers assist with distribution, other means of offering the guide are being explored. If you are interested in being a platform for the guide, please contact Amy Rousseau at [amy.rousseau@des.nh.gov](mailto:amy.rousseau@des.nh.gov) or (603) 271-0893.

### **Urbanized Shoreland Exemption Area Interactive Mapping Tool**

The Shoreland Program recently published an interactive mapping tool to help the public, contractors and municipalities understand the Shoreland Urbanized Exemption Areas. It uses parcel and stream data to highlight areas that are exempt from the Shoreland Protection Act. The web map can be accessed here: <http://nhdes.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=6d576ab97a7a49ceb5ea427243b95761> or go to [www.des.nh.gov](http://www.des.nh.gov) , click on the "A to Z list" and find "GIS at NHDES."

### **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-management/index.htm> or contact Luis Adorno at (603) 271-2472 or [luis.adorno@des.nh.gov](mailto:luis.adorno@des.nh.gov) .

### **Water System Webinars**

Water system staff and managers, and associated operators have access to free webinars that will help them run a fiscally sound, well-managed, sustainable water system. Upcoming seminars can be found here: [Free Educational Opportunities](#).

### **NHDES Facebook Page**

NHDES launched its official [Facebook Page](#) . The page will be used to post information about NHDES events, trainings, workshops, publications, and more. Please take the time to check out the new page and "Like" us to stay updated on

new content. You can also find us on Twitter (@NHDES) and YouTube. If you have any questions or suggestions for content, please contact us at [socialmedia@des.nh.gov](mailto:socialmedia@des.nh.gov)

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