



The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the NH Department of Environmental Services

April 2019

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](#)

NHDES Wetland Rules Update

NHDES filed final proposed wetland rules. The rulemaking notices, proposed rules, and updated BMPs are found here: <https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wetlands/process-improvement.htm> NHDES expects these rules to be on the agenda for the May 3, 2019, JLCAR meeting.

2019 Drinking Water Source Protection Conference on Thursday, May 16

NHDES will hold its 2019 Drinking Water Source Protection Conference on Thursday, May 16, at the Grappone Conference Center in Concord, NH. This is the largest drinking water source protection event in New England! This year's conference will feature presentations on:

- The statewide private well sampling initiative.
- Long-term water source planning.
- Updates to NH's drinking water source protection strategy.
- Drinking water source protection priorities at the national, regional and state level.
- Projects related to lake management, land conservation and public health.

The conference fee is \$65 and includes lunch and refreshments. Qualifies for 5.0 Technical Credit Hours toward the NH Water Works Operator Certification Program. REGISTER at the American Ground Water Trust website:

<https://agwt.org/civcrm/event/info%3Fid%3D286%26reset%3D1>

Registration questions? Contact Andrew Stone at AGWT: astone@agwt.org or (603) 228-5444.

Other questions? Contact Pierce Rigrod at NHDES: pierce.rigrod@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-0688.

NHDES Subsurface e-Permitting Now Accepts eChecks

In May, registered users of the Subsurface e-Permitting system will see a new option for payment by electronic check (eCheck) and a redesigned payment page. The eCheck option has no service fee. When using the credit card payment option, application fees over \$1200 will incur an additional 2.49% service fee. For the largest subdivision applications, the payment options will be limited to paper check, money order or voucher. If you have questions after using the new payment page, please contact the Subsurface System Bureau at (603) 271-3501.

Pre-applications for Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Projects

NHDES is soliciting pre-applications for drinking water improvement projects through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) program. The SRF program is a low-interest loan program that assists community public water systems with the planning, design and construction of eligible drinking water infrastructure improvement projects. Information on the DWSRF Pre-Application is available at:

<https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/capacity/documents/2019-dwsrf-preapp.pdf>

All Pre-Applications are due by Friday, June 14, 2019. For more information on DWSRF, contact Johnna McKenna at 271-7017 or johnna.mckenna@des.nh.gov

Asbestos Inspection and Abatement – Notice to Town when issuing a Building Renovation and Demolition Permit

A reminder to all towns and municipalities of the necessity for building owners and their contractors to have an asbestos inspection prior to any renovation/demolition. With the spring construction season here, homeowners and contractors will be applying for building permits. Please direct them to NHDES for guidance on their projects. For information on asbestos requirements contact NHDES at (603) 271-1373, or visit the Asbestos Program webpage at <https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/air/cb/ceps/ams/index.htm>

Emergency Generators - NHDES Approvals and Installation Requirements

Any facility installing an emergency electrical generator with an aboveground petroleum storage tank (AST) having a capacity of more than 660 gallons must submit an AST application to the Waste Management Division of NHDES for construction approval a minimum of 45 days prior to installation. This is true whether the AST forms an integral part of

the generator enclosure or is free standing. It is unlawful to install and to operate such an emergency generator or AST without prior NHDES approval. NHDES is stepping up enforcement of the AST laws and will seek to impose fines against those who illegally install and operate an emergency generator having an AST capacity of more than 660 gallons, in accordance with the NHDES Compliance Assurance Response Policy. For more information on the AST application and approval process, please contact Charles Corliss at (603) 271-6058 or visit the "Aboveground Storage Tank" program on the NHDES website at

<https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/waste/orcb/ocs/astp/index.htm>

NHDES Facebook Page

NHDES has an 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

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