



The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the NH Department of Environmental Services

May 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 Welcomes New Water Division Director

Tom O'Donovan of Bow was recently confirmed by the Governor and Executive Council to serve as the NHDES Water Division Director. Tom brings a wealth of experience to NHDES, with over 33 years of public service, in positions of increasing responsibility. Tom has served as a commissioned officer in the US Army Corps of Engineers, a senior manager within the Department of Energy and as a Project Director in the construction industry. Most recently, he helped with Hurricane Maria recovery in Puerto Rico. His career highlights include leadership of the largest hydropower, and most advanced regulatory Districts in the Corps, responsible for major strategic changes at the Bonneville Power Administration, and delivery of a \$4 billion construction project. His credentials include a Master's in Civil Engineering, registration as a Professional Engineer and certification as a Project Management Professional.

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

Propane/CNG School Bus Replacement Program

The New Hampshire Office of Strategic Initiatives (OSI), Lead Agency for the Volkswagen Environmental (VW) Mitigation Trust, in association with the Department of Environmental Services, is requesting proposals for a Propane/CNG School Bus Replacement Program (Program). The purpose of the Program is to alleviate excess nitrogen oxide emissions caused by the VW violations through implementation of cost-effective projects and to address the additional goals of the State of New Hampshire Beneficiary Mitigation Plan. The Program, which will replace diesel school buses with propane or compressed natural gas school buses, is utilizing approximately \$750,000 of VW Environmental Mitigation Trust funding. Proposals will be accepted until Friday July 12th, 2019 at 4:00 PM. Additional information as well as a draft application is available on the VW page of the OSI website

<https://www.nh.gov/osi/energy/programs/vw-trust-funding.htm>. Any questions can be directed to Tim White at Timothy.White@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-5552. An informational webinar about the Program and the application process will be held on Friday June 7th, 2019 at 1 PM. Interested parties may register in advance for the webinar at the following link <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/934406062330775809>

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.

Free Bi-State Electric Vehicle (EV) Connector Event, September 27

The Granite State & Vermont Clean Cities Coalitions are co-hosting the Bi-State EV Connector on Friday, September 27, 2019, from 9 am – 3 pm, at Hypertherm, 71 Heater Road in Lebanon, NH. Fleet Managers, Municipalities and Workplaces interested in electrification are invited to this FREE event showcasing electric vehicle ride-and-drives, technology displays, equipment demonstrations, speaker panels and more. Space is limited. Register today at:

<https://www.granitestatecleancities.nh.gov/documents/save-the-date.pdf>

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

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

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