



The Municipal EcoLink

An e-bulletin from the NH Department of Environmental Services

June 2022

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](#).

Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Project Pre-applications

NHDES is now accepting **pre-applications for the 2022 Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)** through **Wednesday, June 1, 2022, deadline**. CWSRF funding is available for: wastewater, stormwater, nonpoint source, watershed protection and restoration, and estuary management projects that contribute to the protection of public health and water quality. [CWSRF Pre-application](#). Send CWSRF pre-applications electronically to Kathie Bourret: Kathleen.Bourret@des.nh.gov.

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Project Pre-applications

NHDES is now accepting **pre-applications for the 2022 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)** through **Wednesday, June 1, 2022, deadline** (by midnight). DWSRF funding is available for community public water system/non-community and non-transient nonprofit public water system infrastructure projects. If you have any questions, please contact Johnna McKenna at Johnna.M.McKenna@des.nh.gov.

Electric Vehicle Expo in Exeter – June 4

Drive Electric New Hampshire and Unitil invite one and all to an Electric Vehicle (EV) Expo in Exeter on Saturday, **June 4 from 10 am to 4 pm**. The EV Expo is a great opportunity to take a look at the many new models of EVs available to the public, talk to the organizations supporting EVs in NH, and take a test drive! There will be an assortment of EVs from Seacoast Volkswagen, Porsche Stratham, Hampton Ford, BMW Stratham, Volvo Exeter, EZ Bikes and Scooters, as well as a group of EV owners bringing their personal cars to talk about what it is like to own an EV. Granite State Clean Cities Coalition will be there with one of NHDES' Plug-in Hybrid Electric Prius Primes, and a table full of EV info and resources. Come by the Unitil Exeter Facility, 30 Energy Way in Exeter to say "hi," and take an EV for a drive. Rain date is Sunday, June 5th. Hope to see you there.

Accepting Culvert Flood Risk Assistance Grant Applications

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services is accepting Culvert Flood Risk Assistance Grant applications to replace outdated, undersized, perched and/or degraded culverts highly susceptible to flooding. For instructions, evaluation criteria, and to access the application form, visit the [Culvert Flood Risk Assistance Grant Program webpage](#). Applications must be submitted using the online application form no later than 4:00 PM ET on Friday, **July 1, 2022**.

Cybersecurity Infrastructure Improvement Grants

Now accepting applications for Cybersecurity Implementation Grants through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) to support cybersecurity improvements to drinking water and/or wastewater systems. **Up to \$50,000 of grant funding** is available per drinking water or wastewater system. For more information and eligibility criteria, please visit [Cybersecurity Improvements Assistance – NHDES Infrastructure Funding](#).

Is your solid waste facility properly staffed and trained?

In NH, all permitted solid waste facilities shall be operated by certified individuals per [RSA 149-M:9,VI](#). According to [Env-Sw 1602.01](#), that applies anyone who directly operates the facility or handles and manages solid waste at the facility. Additionally, it includes anyone who directly supervises the person(s). As the permittee, the municipality needs to ensure compliance with these regulations. NHDES has found that the facilities that comply with this have a better grasp of the needs of the facility as

well. Information regarding the SWOT Program including the certification application, class schedule and additional requirements are all on the [SWOT Webpage](#).

NH Geological Survey updated geologic map library

The New Hampshire Geological Survey has made more geologic maps and bulletins available on NHDES' [publications library](#). It is now possible to search by town name as keyword to find maps of your area. Maps will be displayed as a PDF file. If you would like a paper copy of a map or require other assistance with geologic resources, please email Rebecca.M.LeCain@des.nh.gov or call [\(603\) 271-1976](tel:(603)271-1976).

Water Works Operator Certification Exams – December 6

Water Works Operator Certification Exams will be held on **December 6, 2022**, at NHDES, 29 Hazen Drive, Concord. Applications for the exam are due 30 days prior to the examination. There is also an option to take a computer-based exam for Grades I-IV at various locations throughout the state at any time. For more about Water Works Operator Certification, see the [Water Works Operator Certification | NH Department of Environmental Services](#)

New Hampshire Environmental Health Guide (NH-EHG)

The NH APPLETREE (the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry's Partnership to Promote Local Efforts to Reduce Environmental Exposures) Team invites you to explore the New Hampshire Environmental Health Guide (NH-EHG) and its accompanying training video! In November 2021 our project team met with town and legislative stakeholders to better understand their communities. We sought to help answer the question: "When your community has environmental health questions, where do you find the answers?" The [NH Environmental Health Guide](#) (NH-EHG) is a table of resources developed to help legislators, city and town health offices, municipal officials, administrators, and other stakeholders quickly and accurately find the right state resource to address environmental concerns raised by your community. This [training video](#) introduces the audience to partners available to assist them and reviews examples of how to use the NH-EHG. Please expect periodic updates as new resources become available, and please reach out to APPLETREE with questions or suggestions for improvements (Robert.Thistle@des.nh.gov).

New Compost Facility Rules

On **March 22, 2022**, amendments to the [NH Code of Admin Rules for composting facilities](#) became effective. The rule changes are intended to clarify and simplify requirements for operating composting facilities in New Hampshire. They provide more flexibility for permit-by-notification composting facilities, and also add some key permit exemptions for small-scale food waste composting efforts. For questions related to composting rules, please contact Michael Nork at Michael.A.Nork@des.nh.gov or [\(603\) 271-2906](tel:(603)271-2906).

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

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