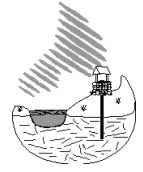




SUPPLY LINES WITH THE SOURCE



Newsletter of the NHDES Drinking Water & Groundwater Bureau
on the web at www.des.nh.gov

Summer 2022

Service Line Inventory

USEPA's new Lead and Copper Rule Revision (LCRR) requires each community water system (CWS) and non-transient, non-community (NTNC) water system to develop and submit an inventory of all service lines within the water system's distribution system by October 16, 2024. The inventory is intended to identify the location and material of all lead service lines (LSL) within public water systems. This applies to the service line from the water main to the structure, including portions that may be privately owned. The street address and material of each service line must be made publicly accessible. In certain instances where sampling data dictate, some systems will also be required to submit a plan for replacing the lead or galvanized lines.

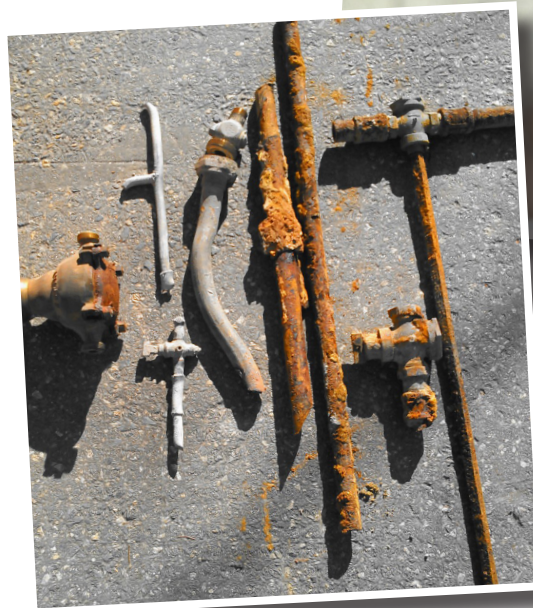
To manage these data, NHDES solicited proposals to develop a lead service line inventory reporting tool for all CWSs and NTNC systems to use when submitting their LSL inventory. The tool will be a web-based application that allows systems to input data, evaluate sample site locations, and provide a map-based inventory for their customers to reference.

NHDES is also developing a program to assist small systems in preparing their inventories. NHDES will contract with consultants to work with small CWSs and NTNC systems to review service line data, prepare inventories, and make recommendations for sampling and replacement plans.

Funding will also be available to assist large public water systems (PWSs) in developing their inventories. This may include hiring a consultant or using staff to conduct inspections inside buildings, digging test pits and reviewing all available data. More information on these programs will be available soon.

Steps you can take now:

- Organize all your existing data, such as service tie cards, building permits, record drawings, etc.
- Ask your water system staff and building inspector to document the service line material when doing work, such as meter replacements or plumbing inspections.
- Encourage residents and businesses to use the [Protect Your Tap 10-minute Lead Test](#) and report their results to the water system. (Also available in Spanish.)



Cross section and collection of lead pipes.

Credit: Victor St. Pierre, Director of Public Works (ret.), Claremont

Get the Lead Out of Drinking Water Campaign

A state law enacted in 2018 requires testing for lead in drinking water at schools and childcare facilities. Testing is required regardless of whether a facility gets its water from a well or a public water system. Every drinking fountain, kitchen sink, or faucet that children use must be tested. New legislation signed by the Governor on July 8, 2022, makes changes to the testing program, including lowering the standard from the current



15 parts per billion (ppb) to 5 ppb. Visit www.gettheleadoutnh.org for the most recent information about testing requirements.

NHDES is working with an outreach contractor to collect data from the first round of testing that was not previously submitted to NHDES, develop an outreach campaign, and develop training materials for the next round of testing, which is anticipated to begin this summer. Assistance with laboratory analytical costs is available for public schools and licensed childcare facilities for the next round of sampling, and remediation funding is available for public and nonpublic schools. For more information, visit www.gettheleadoutnh.org or contact info@gettheleadoutnh.org or (603) 506-6469. ♦



Supply Lines with The Source is Going Electronic!

Starting January 2023, Supply Lines with The Source will only be available as an e-newsletter.

Don't miss an issue! Sign up to receive it by email.

Visit www.des.nh.gov, click Resources > Media Center > and scroll to Newsletters and Announcements.

PROTECT YOUR TAP 10 minute lead test

EPA and NHDES created the Protect Your Tap: 10-minute Lead Test, an online guide that walks homeowners through a series of steps to see if they have lead pipes bringing water into their home, how to reduce their exposure to lead and how to get their water tested. Check out the [Protect Your Tap website](#). Also available in Spanish.



If you would like to share the guide with your community, please contact Cynthia Klevens at (603) 271-2948 or dwengineering@des.nh.gov for more information.

Supply Lines with The Source, the quarterly newsletter of the NHDES Drinking Water & Groundwater Bureau, is published by:



29 Hazen Drive
PO Box 95
Concord, NH
03302-0095

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DWGB Calendar of Events & Deadlines: August 2022 – January 2023

- August 2 & 16 Financial Sustainability for Mobile Home Park Co-operative BODs, two-part training at 5:30-8:30 p.m.; contact shelley.h.frost@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-2949.
- September 8 Trust Fund Source Water Protection grant program funding applications due; contact Molly Thunberg at WSLP@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-2862.
- September 28 Regulatory Compliance remote training from 9 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., presented by RCAP Solutions, AWWA and NHDES; contact shelley.h.frost@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-2949.
- October 14 DWGTF Annual Construction Projects Assistance Program funding applications due; contact Paige Relf at paige.n.relf@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-1355.
- November 1 Local Source Water Protection grant applications due; contact Melissa Macheras at melissa.e.macheras@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-2950.
- November 3 Asset Management conference: Demystifying Asset Management; contact Luis Adorno at luis.s.adorno@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-2472.
- November 6 Water Works Operator Certification exams: applications and fees due for December 6, 2022 exams; contact Jason Smith at jason.m.smith2@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-2410.
- December 6 Water Works Operator Certification exams; contact Jason Smith at jason.m.smith2@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-2410.
- Ongoing through December 31* Cybersecurity Implementation grant applications accepted; contact Stephanie Nistico at stephanie.nistico@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-0867. (*or until funds have been exhausted.)
- Anytime Computer-based Water Works Operator Certification exams Grades I-IV are now available at various locations throughout the state; contact Jason Smith at dwgbcertop@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-2410.
- Anytime Small Water System Consolidation Study Assistance Program grant applications accepted; contact Paige Relf at paige.n.relf@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-1355.
- Anytime PFAS Treatment and Design Services Reimbursement applications accepted; contact Amy Rousseau at amy.rousseau@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-1372.
- Anytime PFAS Remediation Loan Fund applications accepted; contact Amy Rousseau at amy.rousseau@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-1372.
- Anytime Cyanobacteria Monitoring and Training grant applications accepted; contact Liz Pelonzi at ann.pelonzi@des.nh.gov or (603) 271-3906.

To see event calendars for additional opportunities, please visit:

[Granite State Rural Water Association](#)
[New Hampshire Water Works Association](#)
[New England Water Works Association](#)

Climate Change Drinking Water Initiatives

Climate change is altering the water cycle, the global water distribution system we all rely on. These changes can adversely impact water quantity, quality and infrastructure.

The largest contributor to climate change is associated with energy consumption. Water and wastewater systems are large energy consumers. For this reason, DWGB has implemented numerous climate change assessment, resilience and mitigation initiatives.

DWGB is integrating climate change considerations across all its programs. Each program has identified how it can align and modify its internal and external processes, regulations and messaging to consider and address climate change. Below are some of the DWGB initiatives that will assist New Hampshire water systems in becoming more resilient:

- New pilot program to conduct comprehensive climate change vulnerability assessments at several water and wastewater utilities.
- Funding and assisting with the publication of the 2022 New Hampshire Climate Assessment report prepared by the University of New Hampshire.
- Funding a study in the coming year that will model water table rise due to sea level rise in New Hampshire's Coastal Zone and Portsmouth in order to support a vulnerability assessment.
- Administering contracts and grant programs to conduct energy audits for water systems and to fund the implementation of the audit findings.
- Administering grants and contracts for water audits and leak detection.
- Maintaining New Hampshire's Drought Management Plan.
- Administering emergency preparedness programs, which include responding to extreme weather.
- Assisting with developing and administering programs to fund private well mitigation in response to extreme weather for low-income households.

For more information, please contact [\(603\) 271-2513](tel:603-271-2513). 💧

Grant Program Enables Wide Variety of Local Source Water Protection Programs

Every year, the NHDES Local Source Water Protection Grant Program supports the development and implementation of projects to protect existing and proposed sources of public drinking water. This year, \$248,761 was awarded for thirteen projects to protect drinking water throughout the state. These projects include:

- Collecting and tracking sodium chloride data in aquifers that contribute to wells in Dover.
- Drainage analysis and hydrologic assessment to identify sediment and nutrient loading to Paugus Bay in Laconia.
- Updating the local groundwater protection ordinances for multiple New Hampshire communities.
- Developing materials for public education regarding improving local source protection.
- Three security enhancement projects to protect wells and sanitary protection areas from vandalism or potential contamination.

Projects like these, as well as the others that were funded in this grant round, can greatly affect many people. With climate change impacts such as flooding, sea level rise, and severe storms increasing in New Hampshire, it is more important than ever to take action to protect our sources of drinking water. 💧

NHDES Presents Awards at Source Water Protection Conference

NHDES Commissioner Bob Scott presented awards for outstanding work that improves the quality and sustainability of local drinking water resources at this year's Source Water Protection Conference, held on May 24. The Southeast Land Trust (SELT), a leader in conserving land that protects critical water supply lands, received the Source Water Protection Award. Since 2017, SELT has been behind eight of the 35 land conservation projects

(Awards, continued on pg 5)

(Awards, continued from pg 4)

(nearly one in four) funded by New Hampshire's Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund, more than any other grant recipient. Among the water systems whose sources will forever be protected by these projects are Manchester, Portsmouth, Rochester, Somersworth, Newmarket, UNH/Durham, Pennichuck, and Salem. SELT's work to protect so many of the state's water supplies serves as an important example for both land trusts and municipal water systems in New Hampshire.

Limiting leaks in water system infrastructure can make a significant difference to meet current and future water service demands. A great example of this is the recent work done by Emerald Lake Village District (ELVD) and Aquaman, LLC. They aggressively worked to fix 64 leaking water mains and implemented a zone metering program to improve leak detection, significantly lowering the system's water use. Both ELVD and Aquaman were presented NHDES' Source Water Sustainability Award to recognize their efforts to preserve the long-term availability of ELVD's source water.

Congratulations to this year's award winners! 💧

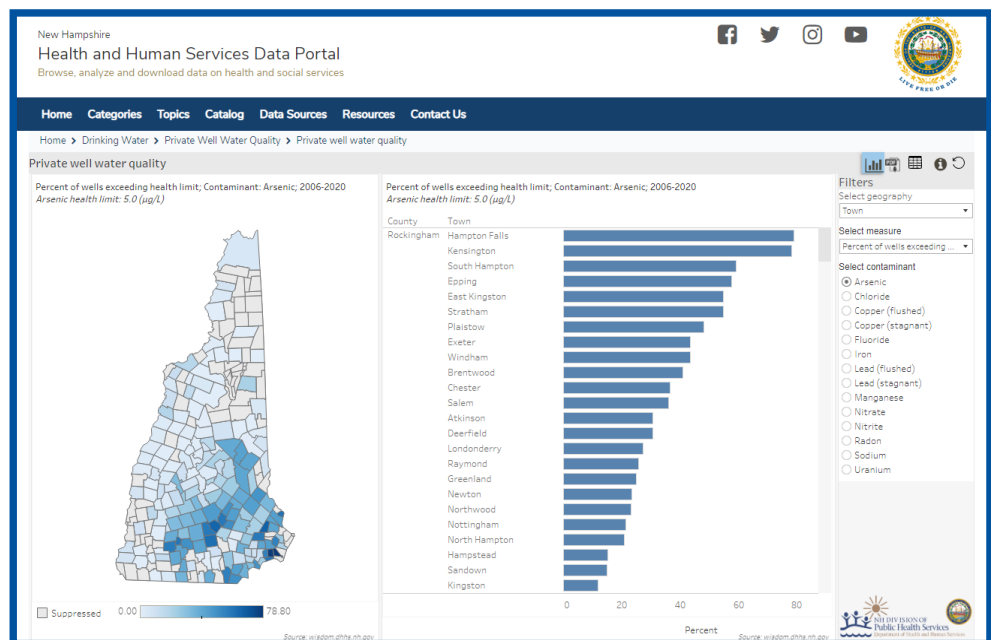
Private Well Water: Using Data to Increase Well Testing and Treatment

Nearly half of New Hampshire residents get their water supply from unregulated private wells, many of which have contaminants at levels that exceed state and federal health-based limits. Some of these contaminants, such as arsenic and radon, have been linked to cancer and other negative health outcomes.

To provide a better picture of which areas of the state may be at higher risk for well water contamination, and to encourage private well users to test their water, the New Hampshire Environmental Public Health Tracking (EPHT) Program has summarized private well water quality data for the most commonly occurring contaminants, both naturally occurring and from human sources. This work is funded by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

EPHT worked collaboratively with the New Hampshire Public Health Lab and NHDES to access and combine private well water quality data from more than 23,000 wells from 2006 to 2020, and to make the data available through interactive maps, graphs, and tables in a [Private Well Water Quality Dashboard](#).

The Dashboard is now available through the [NH DHHS Data Portal](#). It allows users to choose from 14 common contaminants and view multiple water quality statistics, such as the percentage of wells tested over a drinking water standard or median concentration of contaminants in well water in the area of interest. These water quality measures can be used to understand well water quality trends observed in tested private wells in and around the town or county of interest. The Dashboard also displays survey data regarding well testing practices and estimates of populations served by private wells in each county. 💧



Screenshot from the NH DHHS Data Portal showing statewide overview of a single contaminant in map and graph formats.

New Partnership to Protect Source Water on Private Land in New Hampshire


Lauren Zielinski, Merrimack River Watershed Council

All water in New Hampshire comes from somewhere, usually starting as rain. It enters ponds, lakes, and rivers on the surface, or is absorbed into the soil and stored as groundwater. The areas where these water sources are available for human use is referred to as “source water.” Protecting these source water resources is critical for human health, and for financial and ecological reasons. Humans require drinking water that is free from contaminants, such as bacteria, heavy metals, and toxic substances. Public drinking water systems take water from natural sources (such as rivers, streams, lakes, reservoirs, springs, and groundwater), treat it, and then pipe it to households and businesses. In rural areas, homeowners pump groundwater directly to their homes. The cleaner all of these water sources are, the less time, energy, and money it takes to treat it to meet drinking water standards. In addition, clean water also promotes a healthy ecosystem, which in turn can function to remove contaminants naturally and increase resilience to pollution events. By protecting our source water areas and their ecosystems, we are ensuring a sustainable future for our local communities and natural ecosystems.

NHDES currently supports source water protection efforts through small grants to help local suppliers, municipalities, and organizations delineate and protect source water protection areas, as well as larger grants to protect important lands in source water protection areas through the Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund (DW-GTF).

In 2021, NHDES joined the New Hampshire Source Water Protection Partnership, which provides funding and technical expertise for important conservation and restoration activities in source water areas on privately owned lands. The goal of this Partnership is to develop multi-benefit projects that will protect high-priority source water areas for drinking water, enhance climate resilience related to flooding and drought, and restore habitat for threatened fish and wildlife species. The \$6.8 million in funding provided by the United States Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service complements other local, state and federal funding sources, including the grant programs from NHDES, to bolster conservation and restoration activities in New Hampshire.

The Source Water Protection Partnership brings together nine New Hampshire-based organizations that specialize in land conservation and ecological restoration: Southeast Land Trust, Society for the Protection of NH Forests, Merrimack River Watershed Council, Trout Unlimited, Connecticut River Conservancy, The Nature Conservancy, NHDES, DWGTF, and Pennichuck Water Works.

If you are interested in learning more about opportunities under this Partnership, please contact Lauren Zielinski at lauren@merrimack.org. 



New Hampshire Water Works Association's Roadmap for The Future

Boyd Smith, President and CEO

New Hampshire's residents, businesses, organizations, and visitors rely upon safe, dependable, and affordable public water service. Water needs across the state continue to grow and water suppliers face an increasingly complex and challenging future meeting this demand. New Hampshire Water Works Association's core mission is to support New Hampshire's drinking water suppliers. To that end, our Board adopted a new [Strategic Plan on November 5, 2020](#). The goal is to position NHWWA to be the most knowledgeable, trusted and widely referenced source for training, ideas and information on water services and supportive policies and programs in New Hampshire.

Our top four strategic priorities are:

- People Powered—Recruiting, Retaining, Educating and Advancing the Water Workforce.
- Dollars for Water—Adequate and Assured Funding for Water Services.
- The Story of Water—Influential Communications, Public Engagement, and Legislative Advocacy.
- New Hampshire's Water Future—Always Prepared for Major, State-wide Forces of Change.

The first three priorities are outward focused to meet critical needs of our sector. The fourth priority builds and sustains NHWWA's capacity to achieve the first three.

[Visit us to learn more.](#) 💧



Staff News

Sandy Crystall retired from her position in the Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau last December. Sandy administered land conservation grant projects funded through the Drinking



Sandy Crystall

Water and Groundwater Trust Fund that conserve critical water supply lands. She also oversaw the Chemical Monitoring Waiver Program. Her enthusiasm and dedication to protecting the environment extend well beyond her work at NHDES, including her efforts to protect natural resources as a member of the Bow Planning Board and Conservation Commission. We wish Sandy the best in her new adventures!

Ben Giorgi joined the DWGB Information Management Section as a Planning/Data Analyst in October. He graduated Summa Cum Laude from Plymouth State University with a degree in Environmental Science in 2016.

Right after graduation, Ben started an internship at NHDES, and has now been at NHDES for six years. During his time at NHDES, Ben has gained extensive knowledge in Data Management. This knowledge will continue to serve him well as he manages data systems that support our mission.

The Bureau is happy to report that Kim (Bourgouin) Kelliher has come back to join DWGB in the Sustainability Section and will be assisting with drinking water infrastructure funding projects and environmental reviews. Kim previously worked in NHDES' MtBE Remediation Bureau, reviewing and evaluating compiled environmental sampling data, and had worked in the DWGB's Enforcement Section and Source Water Protection Program. Welcome back, Kim!

Melissa Macheras joined DWGB in February and is currently managing the Local Source Water Protection Grant Program and the Chemical Monitoring Waiver Program. Melissa holds a B.S. from Northeastern University and an M.S. in Environmental Science and Policy from Plymouth State University where she focused her studies on limnology. She previously worked with the Winnisquam Watershed Network assisting in the preparation of their watershed plan. In her free time, Melissa enjoys hiking, traveling, and reading a good book.



Ben Giorgi



Kim Kelliher



Melissa Macheras

(Staff, continued on pg 8)

(Staff, continued from pg 7)



Christina Rambo

Christina Rambo joined DWGB in January as the Data Specialist for the Water Use Registration and Reporting Program. Christina comes to us from the Maryland private sector where she was an environmental scientist doing groundwater remediation work. Prior to the private sector, she spent several years at the US Department of Energy (USDOE) assisting with climate change resiliency and adaptation planning. Christina has a Bachelor's degree from University of Maryland and a Master's degree from Towson University, and was a certified EMT. She is enthusiastic about her move north as it well suits her active lifestyle. She finds joy in running marathons, hiking and ice climbing.

Molly Thunberg is the new Program Coordinator for the Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund's Source Water Protection (land conservation) grant program. She has a Bachelor's in Oceanography and Political Science from UNH, and a Master's degree in International Relations from the University College of Dublin, where her thesis focused on global fisheries economics. Before coming to NHDES, she worked as a legal assistant specializing in New Hampshire water utility regulation. She has a passion for all things water and looks forward to growing the Trust Fund grant program.



Molly Thunberg



Jordan Vachon

Jordan Vachon joined the Enforcement Section as an Enforcement Specialist in December 2021. She comes to the Enforcement Section from DWGB's Monitoring Subsection, where she was the Program Assistant for Disinfection By-Products and Lead and Copper. Jordan graduated from New England College with a B.S. in Environmental Science. She joined NHDES fresh out of college as an intern for the Watershed Management Bureau, and she has been working in the agency's Water Division ever since. 💧



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