



# NH Water Works Association Newsletter

Issue 117

Fall 2018

## NHWWA

## Membership Elects Charlie Roberts as President

Charles (Charlie) Roberts was elected president of NH Water Works Association on November 1, 2018 during the NHWWA Annual Meeting. Charlie is currently Water Supply Plant Supervisor for the City of Concord. He has been at Concord's treatment plant since Christmas of 1996. Charlie holds a Water Treatment Grade IV certification and Grade II certification in Distribution.

After studying biology at Georgetown College, in 1984 Charlie enlisted in the U.S. Navy.

Upon graduation from the Naval Nuclear Power School in Orlando, Florida, he served two tours onboard nuclear submarines. His first tour of duty was on the USS Sea Devil (SSN-664) as an Engineering Laboratory Technician and Mechanical Operator (ELT/MO). His second tour was on the USS Gato (SSN-615), again as an ELT/MO also serving as ship Maintenance Program Supervisor and Engineering Plant

Supervisor. Between those two tours of duty, Charlie was selected as a Staff Training Instructor and Reactor Laboratory Division Supervisor at NPTU (Nuclear Power Training Unit) in Windsor Locks, Connecticut.

While stationed in Connecticut he met his wife Mary (Puliafico), and there they started a family. After leaving the military, in 1996, they moved north to New Hampshire and raised two wonderful children. Sarah, their daughter, is working at Dartmouth Hitchcock



*Charlie Roberts talks about Concord Water Department's new generator during the 2013 Construction Field Day.*

Medical Center in Lebanon while completing her Masters in Nursing, and their son Tony is a Firefighter/EMT in Franklin NH.

To fill his personal time, Charlie now spends his summer and fall as a coach for the Bow Youth Football program, and winter and springtime as an assistant coach with Bow High School Wrestling. Weather and free time permitting, Charlie can be found riding his Harley-Davidson around our beautiful state with his wonderful wife.

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## NHWWA Welcomes Kathy Rodgers as New Executive Director

The Board of Directors of NH Water Works Association is pleased to announce the appointment of Kathy Rodgers as the next executive director of NHWWA. Kathy will be replacing outgoing executive director Charity Ross who left in late November. Kathy will assume her duties February 4, 2019.

Kathy has worked in a myriad of roles in the water industry. Members may know Kathy from the work she has done for RCAP Solutions over the past few years. Kathy served as their NH State Lead & Northeast Private Well Program Coordinator. In that position, she helped community leaders plan and implement generational projects for their communities. Kathy facilitated networking opportunities for funders, communities, contractors and stakeholders to demystify the process. Prior to that, Kathy was introduced to NH public water systems while filling the short-term/temporary sanitary surveyor position with the NH Department of Environmental Services Drinking Water Bureau.

Kathy moved to New Hampshire from Illinois where she provided technical assistance as a public water system consultant for the Illinois State Water Survey at the University of Illinois and as the USEPA source water specialist with Illinois Rural Water Association. Kathy has several years of experience developing

and delivering trainings for private well owners, sanitarians, governing boards, and operators in the water works industry. She has also been involved in government advocacy on behalf of the water and wastewater industries.



*In March of 2018, Kathy Rodgers was at the Hart Senate Building in Washington DC educating legislators on issues facing small communities and discussing the opportunities water infrastructure can bring to those communities.*

After earning a Bachelor of Science in Chemistry, she began a career in the water industry as part of the operation's crew in one of the largest distribution systems in North Carolina. Kathy handled water quality complaints and worked to resolve issues. She then moved into research and development work at an environmental engineering firm. After working for several years,

Kathy continued her education and earned her Master of Business Administration degree from Southern Illinois University. She holds Water Operator Licenses in Grade I Treatment & Grade I Distribution in New Hampshire and Rhode Island.

Kathy takes every opportunity to be at water and wastewater conferences to learn about exciting new technologies and to keep up with the latest industry trends.

Kathy has been an active member of the NH Drinking Water Coalition. The coalition plans and organizes the New Hampshire 4<sup>th</sup> Grade State Water Science Fair and Drinking Water Festival each spring in various locations throughout the state.

Kathy lives in Bradford with her husband Tim (who is also an operator), and their two children Ethan and Gwen. When not running around the state advocating for public water systems, Kathy is leading a Girl Scout troop in her community. After the success of the latest camping trips, her goal is to take the entire troop to Washington DC in the next couple years. Kathy also enjoys volunteering at her children's elementary school with reading groups and winter activities.

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## 2019 Legislative Preview

by Marco Philippon,  
NHWWA Legislative Committee

The NHWWA Legislative Committee has begun monitoring the 2019 legislative session. As of Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> there were 746 proposed LSR's (Legislative Service Requests). We are currently tracking 16 of these:

### 2019 LSR's

- 017 *making appropriations for costs involved in controlling invasive aquatic species.*
- 133 *excluding municipal solid waste facilities from eligible renewable generation electrical facilities under RSA 362-H.*
- 168 *abolishing fluoridation in water.*
- 191 *relative to exemptions from the groundwater permit application fee.*
- 195 *relative to municipal valuation of utility properties regulated by the public utilities commission.*
- 214 *establishing a committee to review and update the penalties for contaminating drinking water and groundwater.*
- 215 *relative to settlement money from actions pertaining to the contamination of groundwater or drinking water.*
- 397 *relating to the protection of wetlands.*
- 398 *requiring the commissioner of the department of environmental services to revise rules relative to arsenic contamination in drinking water.*
- 460 *creating a revolving fund for dredging the seacoast.*
- 535 *establishing a commission on drinking water.*
- 713 *appropriating funds to the department of environmental services for the purpose of funding eligible wastewater projects under the state aid grant program.*
- 722 *relative to testing wells before issuing a certificate of occupancy.*
- 734 *relative to municipal watering restrictions.*
- 783 *establishing a water resources fund in the department of environmental services.*
- 784 *authorizing the department of environmental services to license, lease, or dispose of state-owned property.*

At this point in time the LSR's are title only so we do not have more detail to share.

January 18 is the last day to introduce House Bills. The Legislative Committee will continue to monitor the LSR's for descriptions of the proposed legislation and track hearings on the relevant bills. Legislative members will receive updates and hearing notices via email.

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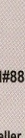
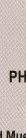
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## NHWWA Wraps Up Another Trade Show 2019 Expo & Trade Show Set For Thursday, October 24

A record number of technical credit hours were awarded at the 2018 trade show. Some of the best attended presentations were: *Pipe Replacement via Pipe Bursting*, *A Review of Valve Maintenance Programs*, *Geo-Locating and Inventory Databases*, and *The Current and Future Practice of PFAS Treatment in New England and Beyond*.

The show also included 50 exhibitors who supply products or services to the drinking water industry. Thank you to our many exhibitors for participating in the show!



The Expo & Trade Show would not have been possible without our sponsors, numerous volunteers, presenters, NH Department of Environmental Services and our Trade Show Coordinator, Patricia Beavers.

*Above: Dave Wheeler from Team EJ Prescott took his presentation on Distribution System Clamps and Couplings outside with visual aids.*

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# NHDES Recommends Lower Arsenic Level

New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) submitted a report to the Legislature recommending a more protective limit for the amount of arsenic in drinking water provided by public water systems regulated by the department. NHDES proposes a new limit of 5 parts per billion (ppb). NHDES has been enforcing a limit of 10 ppb, established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 2006. Before 2006 the limit was 50 ppb.

By law, lowering the drinking water standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), the ambient groundwater quality standard (AGQS) would also be lowered. The AGQS is used to require remedial action and the provision of alternative drinking water at a contaminated site. It also sets limits under which

treated and untreated wastewater may be discharged to groundwater.

In 2018 the Legislature directed NHDES to review the regulatory limits for arsenic in drinking water and groundwater and to document it's findings in a report by January 1, 2019. NHDES intends to work in consultation with the Legislature to lower the drinking water and groundwater standards for arsenic in 2019. In making its proposal, NHDES considered the prevalence of arsenic in New Hampshire water supplies, the adverse health impacts that could be avoided by lowering the limit, the cost of water treatment to remove arsenic, and other factors all of which are explained in the report. The report can be found at [www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/publications/documents/r-wd-18-20.pdf](http://www.des.nh.gov/organization/commissioner/pip/publications/documents/r-wd-18-20.pdf)



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## NHWWA Calendar of Events

January 9 - March 13, 2019	Basics Course - Session I Wednesday mornings	Concord Treatment Plant
January 10 - March 14, 2019	Basics Course - Session II Thursday mornings	Concord Treatment Plant
January 17, 2019	NHWWA-NEWWA Joint Meeting	Portsmouth
March 21, 28, April 4 & 11, 2019	Water Works Operator Certification Exam Preparatory Course	Concord Treatment Plant
March - April 2019 TBA	Basic Water Works Math	Concord Treatment Plant
May - TBA	Roundtables for Small System Operators	Peterborough, Littleton, Wolfeboro, Newfields

View upcoming meetings and events on our website - [www.nhwwa.org](http://www.nhwwa.org).

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## Charity Ross Leaves Her Mark on NHWWA

by John Lyons, Past-President, NHWWA Board of Directors

As we bid adieu to 2018, we must also bid a fond farewell to our Executive Director, Charity Ross. The Board of Directors would like to take this opportunity to thank Charity for her contributions to the association over the past two and half years. Charity accepted the position knowing she had big shoes to fill in Steve Del Deo, who had served as director for the prior 27 years.

During Charity's time as executive director she did an admirable job maintaining successful programs and implementing new ones. Charity has excellent communications skills and she demonstrated this in her legislative efforts, educational programs, and trade show and networking opportunities.

The 2018 legislative session was a particularly busy one with many bills proposed regarding PFAS and arsenic. Some of these made

more sense than others, and it was a significant challenge working with legislators to educate and encourage meaningful bills that were in line with NHWWA values.

She introduced a Fisher Cats night that became very popular, and generated sponsorship revenues to support the organization. A social hour was added to the annual trade show to encourage comradery amongst members and to give sponsors a chance to network with the membership on a more intimate basis.

She kept the board on track and engaged in long term planning as well as the routine goings on of the association. She represented us well at joint conferences and the AWWA Fly-In in Washington DC. We will miss her presence going forward but wish her all the best in her new career.

## New Board Voted in at Annual Meeting

The New Hampshire Water Works Association membership voted in the following Board of Directors at the Annual Meeting on November 1, 2018.

### NHWWA Board of Directors

November 1, 2018—October 31, 2019

#### OFFICERS

**President:** Charles Roberts, Concord Water Department (2014)

**Vice-President:** Carl McMorrان, Aquarion Water Company (2014)

**Treasurer:** Sarah Demos, Manchester Water Works (2018)

#### DIRECTORS

Rene Pelletier, NH Department of Environmental Services (1991)

Robyn Descoteau, NH Public Utilities Commission (2017)

Chris Countie, Pennichuck Water (2016)

Chris Albert, Jones & Beach Engineers, Inc. (2018)

Chris Vaughn, Secondwind Water Systems, Inc. (2018)

Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce (2018)

Jason Gagnon, North Conway Water Precinct (2018)

John Lyons, Granite State Analytical Services, LLC, Ex-Officio (2013)

# NHDES Announces Proposed PFAS Drinking Water Standards

On December 31, 2018, the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) initiated rulemaking to establish Maximum Contaminate Levels (MCLs) and Ambient Groundwater Quality Standards (AGQS) for four per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) - perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS), perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) and perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS) to ensure greater protection of public health related to the consumption of drinking water. Specifically, NHDES filed a request for a fiscal impact statement for the new MCLs with the New Hampshire Legislative Budget Assistant, meeting the January 1 deadline established in New Hampshire Chapter Laws 345 and 368 of 2018 (i.e. SB 309).

Using the most recent and best science available, NHDES is proposing the following drinking water standards that are protective of the most sensitive populations over a lifetime:

PFAS	Proposed MCL and AGQS
PFOA	38 parts per trillion (ppt)
PFOS	70 ppt
PFOA & PFOS (combined)	70 ppt
PFHxS	85 ppt
PFNA	23 ppt

Public hearings on the proposed MCLs will occur in southern NH, at Pease Tradeport, and at the NHDES offices in Concord in early March, which will provide the public more than a month to review the proposal and companion report. Depending on the comments received, it is anticipated that the final proposals will be filed by summer. The effective date of the new rules has yet to be determined.

For further information visit the NHDES PFAS webpage - <https://www4.des.state.nh.us/nh-pfas-investigation>.

## Welcome New Members

### Support Members

Ivan Gervais, Kleinfelder

Tracey Perkins-Bergstrom, Maine Rural Water Association

### Utility Member

Lochmere Village District, Lochmere, NH

Thank you to our contributors:

Marco Philippon  
John Lyons

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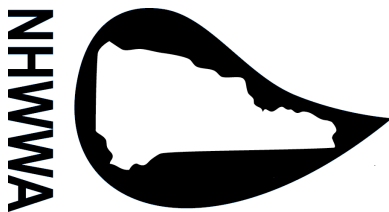


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**NHWWA**

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