FALL 2022 — ISSUE 129





2022 - A Very Good Year!

With barely a month left in 2022, it's safe to say this has been a great year for our Association, and one heck of year for all. While you have been working harder than ever keeping the wheels turning while responding to your system needs and taking advantage of the flood of federal funding dollars, we have been improving our training and educational offerings, increasing water user awareness and support, building worker recruitment and retention capacity, and strengthening organizational leadership.

Here are some of our 2022 accomplishments that we are most proud of. We sincerely hope they were of value to you, our supporters and partners:

- Delivered focused educational and exam preparation training for Grade C1A and 1 Operators, with a 3-part series of classes offered over a 6-week period in the Spring and Fall. Taught by Marco Philippon (Concord), Ian Rohrbacher (Rochester), and Don Bunker (NEWWA), we averaged the ~50 Operators / year required to meet succession needs of our workforce.
- Presented our first "Advancing Diversity on the Water Workforce" technical meeting. Created to recognize the power of an open-door recruitment and advancement philosophy for water workers, this meeting included technical presentations

(Continued on page 2)

First Grade 2 Treatment Exam Prep Course Held

Seventeen water operators attended our first Grade 2 Treatment (G2T) Exam Prep Course, held at Manchester Water Works this fall. The success of this course is due to the commitment of the talented water operators and engineers who volunteered to share their knowledge through this course. A special thanks to NHWWA Director Abby Fopiano, Jason Smith, NHDES, and New England Water Works Association.

We plan to offer our first Grade 2 Distribution Exam Prep Course in March-April of 2023 and the Grade 2 Treatment Course again next fall.

Thank you to our G2T instructors!

Day 1 - *Intro & Exam Overview:* Dave Miller, PE, Manchester Water Works; Ben Crawford, Laconia Water Dept.

- Day 2 Source Water: Abby Fopiano, PG, Edgewater Strategies; Jamie Stevens, City of Dover
- Day 3 Filtration: Marco Philippon, City of Concord; Al Pratt, City of Portsmouth
- Day 4 *Chlorine Disinfection:* Ian Rohrbacher, Rochester Water Dept.; Mike Metcalf, PE, Underwood Engineers
- Day 5 *Treatment & Instrumentation:* Chris Countie, Pennichuck Water; Zeke Lapierre, Rochester Water Dept.
- Day 6 Water Quality Testing: Sophie Ricard, City of Concord; Cynthia Klevens, PE, NHDES



Fall 2022



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- and insights from young professionals and female water workers about what drew them to, and keeps them in, the drinking water sector. We are already planning a follow-up advancing diversity technical meeting for May 2023.
- ♦ Revised, improved, and delivered our annual Trade Show and Exposition. With relevant topics, excellent presenters, more comfortable rooms and better food, our October 2022 conference was a solid success. We plan to follow a similar approach to our October 19, 2023 Exposition. Save the date!
- ♦ In partnership with the NH Municipal Association, we authored and published bi-weekly electronic "infoblurbs" and bi-monthly detailed articles about the value of water, how it is delivered to your tap, and how to help sustain this vital resource. Our goal was to raise awareness and interest in the public water sector, and we think we moved the needle.
- With the leadership of former NHDES Water Division Director Tom O'Donovan, the Four Associations of NHWWA, NH Water Pollution Control Association, NH Municipal Association, and Granite State Rural Water Association have become a team focused on pro-active legislative advocacy. Joining together for common cause, we are building relationships with leading legislators to advocate for and assist sound, science-based public water policy.
- ◆ Developed and delivered our first Grade 2 Treatment exam prep class. Building on New England Water Works Association's curriculum, we recruited six teams of two or more of New Hampshire's most respected Operators and Instructors to prepare students for the famously difficult Grade 2 Treatment exam. Our goals were to raise the examination pass rate (currently 30% nationwide), deepen our pool of Instructors, and build stronger working relationships between senior leaders and the rising water workforce.
- ♦ Thanks to your generous support and sponsorship, and the many hours of volunteer time contributed by our Board and speakers, our financial position in 2022 remains strong with upside potential. We are looking to add part-time staff to meet the growing needs of our sector and will be in touch about value-added ways that you can be part of this exciting growth.

Public water is a world of tight-knit professionals committed to providing this vital service continually and affordably. Our mission-driven focus deserves great respect and well-deserved pride. It is an honor to be part of this team. Please let us know what we are doing well, and what we can do to help you even more.

- Boyd Smith, President and CEO

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Member and Advertising Invoices will be Mailed in early January

NHWWA is looking for ways to sustainably fund additional staff, starting with current members taking advantage of our various services. A more detailed appeal and explanation will be provided by mid-December in advance of the 2023 invoices.

Thank you for your support of NHWWA!

2022 NH Drinking Water Expo & Trade Show - A Celebration of Drinking Water!

Thank you to everyone who made our annual Expo a great success, from the tremendous speakers, to the exhibitors, sponsors, volunteers and of course, all the water workers who attended! People enjoyed the larger rooms and less moving around between sessions. The breakfast pastries and hot buffet lunch were also a hit.

Mark your calendar for next year's Expo— Thursday, October 19, 2023.

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NHWWA Calendar 2023

For more information and to register use links on this page or visit our <u>TRAINING</u> <u>SCHEDULE & REGISTRATION</u> page. Stay current on trainings and events by signing up for our weekly emails HERE.

When	What	Where	TCHs
December 6, 2022	YP Treat & Meet	Portsmouth, NH	2
January 19, 2023	NEWWA/NHWWA Joint Meeting	Cisco Brewers, Portsmouth, NH	2
March 7, 9, 14 & 16, 2023	Grade 1A Operator Course (plus 1/2 day in Franklin demonstration facility)	Concord, NH and Franklin, NH	10
March 22, 24, 29 & 31, 2023	Basic Water Works Math Course	Concord, NH	12
April 12, 14, 19 & 21, 2023	Grade 1 Exam Prep Course	Concord, NH	12
Spring 2023	Small System Roundtables—4	TBA (live & Zoom)	2.5/each
Spring 2023	Grade 2 Distribution Exam Prep Course	ТВА	30-36
April 2023	Leadership Roundtable	ТВА	3
April 25, 2023	In-person NHDES Water Operator Examinations— Application deadline March 27	Concord, NH	
May 25, 2023	Advancing Diversity in the Water Workforce	Concord, NH	5
July/August 2023	Construction Day	ТВА	3
Fall 2023	Grade 1A Operator Course	ТВА	10
Fall 2023	Basic Water Works Math Course	ТВА	12
Fall 2023	Grade 1 Exam Prep Course	ТВА	12
Fall 2023	Small System Roundtables - 2	TBA (Live & Zoom)	2.5/each
October 19, 2023	NH Drinking Water Expo & Trade Show	Grappone Center, Concord, NH	5
October-November	Grade 2 Treatment Exam Prep Course	ТВА	30-36
November 2023	Fall Technical Meeting	ТВА	3
December 5, 2023	In-person NHDES Water Operator Examinations— Application deadline November 6	Concord, NH	
December 2023	Operator Training	Concord, NH	3-5

Fall 2022

Joint NEWWA/NHWWA Membership Meeting 8:30 AM-2:00 PM, January 19, 2023, Portsmouth

Plan to join us in January at Cisco Brewers at the Pease Tradeport in Portsmouth for morning presentations on current water industry issues and award presentations, followed by networking and lunch with colleagues.



Technical topics include: New Hampshire Drinking Water Legislation Update;
Merrimack River Becomes the Primary Source of Water Supply for Pennichuck



Water Works; PFAS Treatment in New England: A Regional Survey; and Customer Communications – Key to Community Support.

Registration is through NEWWA only. <u>CLICK</u> <u>HERE</u> for more information and to register.





2023 Water Managers School

Application Deadline December 30, 2022

The Water Manager's School (WMS) is an intensive, nine-month training for supervisors and staff working in or advancing to supervisory positions. Even the best and most experienced operators confront a real challenge as supervisors. WMS students build communication, management and planning skills that enhance both business and personal relationships. WMS graduates earn 70 TCHs that may be applied to drinking water and wastewater certification.

Program Details

The course will begin March 2023. Training will be conducted one day per month, March through November, on the **3**rd **Tuesday of each month.** In addition to classroom time, there will also be: a utility exchange where candidates will spend a day with the manager of another water utility; time outside of class to prepare presentations; and time outside of class performing outreach promoting water utility/environmental concepts.

Program Cost

There is no cost to apply. For those accepted into the program, tuition is \$675 per person, with full payment due by February 1, 2023. Scholarships are available through the NHWPCA (wastewater) and NHWWA (drinking water), please contact Jeremy Bouvier, NHWPCA at jbouvier@manchesternh.gov or visit NHWWA's SCHOLARSHIP PAGE to learn more.

To Apply

Candidates need to complete the following *form A* and have their supervisor complete *form B*, and *ensure that* <u>both</u> are submitted by December 30 to: NHDES-WWEB, attention: Wade Pelham, PO BOX 95 Concord, NH 03302

or emailed to wade.pelham@des.nh.gov

2023 NH W&WW Managers School Form A - Applicant Information 2023 NH W&WW Managers School Form B - Employer Information









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NHDES Recognizes the Plymouth Village Water and Sewer District with the 2022 Asset Management Award

NHDES recently presented the 2022 Asset Management Awards, established to promote, and encourage communities to develop and implement Asset Management Programs (AMPs), to the Plymouth Village Water and Sewer District (PVWSD). AMPs are a holistic approach to managing total infrastructure systems over the life cycle of assets in the most cost-effective way. Congratulations to Superintendent Jason Randall and his crew at PVWSD!



Left to Right: Mat Deterling, NHDES; Eliza Styczynski, NHDES; Sharon Nall, NHDES; Jason Randall, PVWSD; Luis Adorno, NHDES: Ethan Widrick, NHDES

WELCOME NEW SUPPORTERS!

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Thank you to all our supporters! Supporters receive discounts on industry-leading educational classes and programs, access to current and critical technical and regulatory information, and are part of an organization that effectively advocates for and represents New Hampshire's public drinking water sector. If you are not yet a supporter, please consider <u>joining today</u>. Help us to help you succeed!



NHWWA Young Professionals (YP) Committee Happenings

The weather might be getting colder, but the YPs are not slowing down!

The YPs kicked off October with their 2nd Annual Concord Reservoir Clean Up. After a morning of community service picking up trash near the concord reservoir, the YPs enjoyed a picnic and games at the

Concord Water Treatment Facility. Thank you, Concord WTF, for hosting us for another fantastic year!



The annual YP Luncheon at the NH Drinking Water Expo and Trade Show included a game of Drinking Water Jeopardy!

On October 20 the YPs attended the annual NH Drinking Water Expo and Trade Show in Concord. The YP Committee hosted a booth that featured music and a cornhole toss and filled the room for their YP lunch, featuring an exciting game of Drinking Water Jeopardy! Thank you to all of the YPs who joined us and congratulations to the winning team!

Looking ahead, the YPs will be hosting a **Treat and Meet**

with the City of Portsmouth, Department of Public Works – Water Division. On Tuesday December 6th, we will tour both Portsmouth's surface water treatment facility in Madbury as well as the Pease PFAS treatment facility for a total of 2 TCHs! The tours will be followed by networking and cheers at Great Rhythm Brewery in Portsmouth. This event is free and open to all water professionals (YP

and experienced), but registration is required. <u>REGISTER HERE.</u> We hope you can join us!

Don't forget to follow us on social media to keep up-to-date with all that the YPs have planned!

Right: The YPs added cornhole toss to their booth at this year's Expo.









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