



# NEWSLETTER

NH WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION



## Wrapping Up 2024 and Looking Ahead to 2025

by Sam Currier, President & CEO

Many thoughts come to mind as we end another successful year. As we reflect on 2024, the ideas and outcomes from this past year have felt good. I want them to be great though. Looking through the water operator certification test scores from 2024, the data shows that we have done some amazing work with building the next generation of operators in NH. Add in the newer training for the established water workers in NH, and we are reaching, teaching, and connecting with almost every member of our Association. Our mission and vision stay the same, **“Our Mission: To improve public water supply service in the**

**State of New Hampshire. Our Vision: Safe and sustainable public drinking water for New Hampshire communities.”** This mission and vision guides what we do, and although simple, it is the most important thing to understand in our industry. Our goal is to help serve all of NH drinking water communities. NHWWA’s plan to meet our mission/vision is to provide the best possible training, technical sessions and network of skilled operators in all of NH. We have made great strides in this over the past years, and I plan on making sure that when everyone thinks of drinking water, they think of our Association first. With this

in mind, we have some fun and exciting things coming up in 2025.

### Spring Technical Session

Our Spring Tech Session has been dedicated to diversity, equity, and inclusion. Understanding others is an important skill to have in your everyday life, let alone in your facility. Parts of this tech session include hearing peoples’ stories, and you get to learn new and exciting ways to improve your facility. You will leave with tools to better yourself, your staff, co-workers, and everyone you come in contact with.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## 2025 Water Managers School -Application Deadline December 31, 2024

The NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES), the NH Water Pollution Control Association (NHWPCA) and the NH Water Works Association (NHWWA) are pleased to announce the next session of the NH Drinking Water & Wastewater Managers School, for 2025. Application to the program is open to drinking water and to wastewater professionals preparing for future management or supervisory positions, as well as current managers and supervisors who wish to improve their management skills. Course topics include municipal and utilities legal concepts, budgeting, personnel management/human resources, communication skills, education and outreach, public information and messaging, and instruction by current NH water and wastewater utility managers. All applicants must complete the 2 forms, [FORM A](#), [FORM B](#) and have them returned to the DES by December 31, 2024 for consideration. Each applicant will be notified of individual selection results by January 31, 2025.



*Water Managers School Class of 2023.*

*(Continued on page 8)*



Inside Dover's Pudding Hill Treatment Plant, Construction Day 2024.

### Construction Day

Traditionally held on the first Wednesday in August, Construction Day is one of the best events we get to host annually (in my opinion). We get to take roughly 50 people on a bus ride through NH to see current or recently finished construction projects. This day has grown in popularity to the point that not only do we sell out, but we have people following in their personal vehicles. We also had representatives from the NH State House attend this year.

### Leadership Summit

This year we hosted our first Leadership Summit at Pat's Peak. To be

honest, I was extremely nervous about this day, being the first time NHHWA has ever hosted an event like this. I didn't need to worry, it went really well. So much so, that we plan to hold our second annual Leadership Summit on Thursday the 28th of August, 2025. Anyone who is in a leadership role will be able to spend the day getting federal and state legislative/regulatory updates, an extremely good lunch, and an opportunity to enjoy presentations that are geared towards improving aspects of being a leader in the water works industry.

### NHHWA Expo

After another successful 2024 Expo, we can't be more excited about our 2025 show. There is a lot that goes into this event, and we are always striving to make it better. This October 23, 2025, we will offer the opportunity to earn 5 TCH's, a sold-out Expo Hall, a happy hour and networking event, and again a really nice lunch. We are always looking at ways to improve this Expo. As a result we have created a NHHWA Expo Planning Committee. If interested in being a part of NHHWA committees, please reach out [scurrier@nhwwa.org](mailto:scurrier@nhwwa.org)!

2024 was an amazing year for NHHWA and I am beyond excited to see what 2025 will bring.

*Sam Currier*

President and CEO, NHHWA

## Remembering John Forrestall

With sadness, we learned of the death of John Forrestall who passed away on August 31. John was the former Director of General Services for the City of Concord, and a career-long member of the Association 1989 – 1990.

John lived in Concord his entire life, with the exception of his time serving in the US Army. He received a Bachelor of Science in civil engineering from the University of NH, Class of 1967. In 1983 he received a Master of Business Administration from Rivier College.

In 1972 John began a thirty-year career with the City of Concord, holding the positions of Highway Superintendent, Assistant Director of Water Works, Director of Water Works, and finally Director of General Services.

Prior to serving as President of NHHWA, John held the positions of Secretary-Treasurer and Vice-President. He was also a founding member of the Association's Legislative Action Committee, where he served from the inception of the Committee in 1990 until his retirement from the City of Concord. During his career, John was a thoughtful, effective, and sometimes forceful (but always kind) voice in the advocacy of sound and common-sense public drinking water policy.

John loved the outdoors, whether it was hunting, fishing, or working in the yard, he always found contentment in nature. More than anything he enjoyed spending time with his family.

John is survived by his beloved wife Ann, 5 children and 11 grandchildren. NHHWA appreciates all that John did for the Association, and the NH Public Drinking Water Industry at large. John will be very much missed by all of us in the NH drinking water community who had the great fortune of knowing him.



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# 2024 NH Drinking Water Expo & Trade Show

## A great day for Drinking Water in New Hampshire!

Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's event a great success! We couldn't put on this event without our Sponsors, Exhibitors, Speakers and Volunteers!

Of the ten presentations we offered, those on workforce development and LCRR/I regulations were among the most well attended. Let us know what topics you would like covered at next year's Expo, [info@nhwwa.org](mailto:info@nhwwa.org).

We also had 40 exhibitors set up between the main hall and ballroom. They were ready to talk with operators about their products and services. They had lots of cool swag too!

Be sure to mark your calendars for next year's show. We hope to see you there!

### NH Drinking Water Expo and Trade Show

October 23, 2025

Grapone Conference Center, Concord, NH



Lunch time was a great opportunity to catch up with fellow water works folks.



New England Water Works had one of the 40 booths at the Expo.

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Thank you to the NH Department of Environmental Services for their generous support of this event!



## ATTENTION Water Operators

NHDES is offering in-person exams on:

**April 29, 2025**

**July 22, 2025**

**October 28, 2025**

For more information and to apply to take the exams, go to: [Water Works Operator Certification | NH Department of Environmental Services](#)

Applications must be received 30 days prior to the exams.

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## NHWWA Calendar

For more information and to register, use links on this page or visit our [TRAINING SCHEDULE & REGISTRATION](#) page. Stay current on trainings and events by signing up for our weekly emails [HERE](#).

When	What	Where	TCHs
December 10, 2024	<a href="#">Operator Training</a>	NHDES, Concord	5
January 16, 2025	<a href="#">NEWWA/NHWWA Joint Meeting</a>	Bedford, NH	2
March 21, 27 & 28, 2025	<a href="#">Basic Water Works Math</a>	Concord Treatment Plant	12
March 25, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 2025	<a href="#">Grade 2 Distribution Exam Prep Course</a>	Manchester Treatment Plant	30
April 1, 8, 15, 22, 2025	<a href="#">Grade 1A Small Water System Operator Introduction Course</a>	NHDES, Concord	10
April 7, 14, 21, 28, 2025	<a href="#">Grade 1 Exam Prep Course</a>	NHDES, Concord	12
TBA	Spring Technical Meeting	TBA	
April 29, 2025	In-person Water Operator Exams Application deadline March 30	NHDES	
TBA	Spring Small System Roundtables— one in-person and one virtual	TBA	2.5/ each
July, 10, 15, 17, 2025	Three 1-Day Exam Prep Refreshers - Sampling, Pumps, Math	Manchester Treatment Plant	5/ each
July 22, 2025	In-person Water Operator Exams Application Deadline June 23	NHDES	
August 6, 2025	Construction Day	TBA	5
August 28, 2025	Leadership Summit	TBA	5
Fall 2025	Basic Water Works Math	Concord Treatment Plant	
Fall 2025	Grade 2 Treatment Exam Prep Course	Manchester Treatment Plant	
Fall 2025	Grade 1A Small Water System Operator Introduction Course	NHDES, Concord	
Fall 2025	Grade 1 Exam Prep Course	TBA	
October 23, 2025	NH Drinking Water Expo & Trade Show	Concord, NH	5
October 28, 2025	In-person Water Operator Exams Application Deadline September 29	NHDES	
November 2025	Fall Technical Meeting	TBA	2-3
December 2025	Operator Training	Concord, NH	5



## Legislative Preview

The 2025 Legislative Session is under way and not nearly as busy as it was in 2024. These odd-year legislative sessions are historically quiet, with it being an election year (so a lot of new faces) and during a State budget year. However, there are constantly bills that are being submitted, and we need to watch a little closer as things can move a lot faster. Knowing this, we are currently watching 12 new Legislative Service Requests (LSR's). These have only a title and no text yet. Some of the key ones we are following are:

- ◆ **LSR 2025 - 0049**
  - \* allowing subdivision regulations concerning water supply.
  - \* Sponsor: (Prime) Kat McGhee (Hillsborough District 35)
- ◆ **LSR 2025 – 0182**
  - \* increasing penalties for violations of the shoreland and water quality protection act.
  - \* Sponsor: (Prime) Rosemarie Rung (Merrimack, Hillsboro District 12)
- ◆ **LSR 2025 - 0001**
  - \* Relative to the transfer of state-owned real property to municipalities.
  - \* Sponsor: (Prime) Nancy Murphy (Merrimack. Hillsboro District 12)

Things to note so far— NHWWA started tracking only 12 LSR's with title only in November. Historically, there are always a low number of LSR's submitted in a "Budget Year". Along with the new LSR's, NHWWA and the legislative committee will still be following 6 House and 3 Senate pieces of legislation from 2024 that are back on the table for 2025. NHWWA will continue to track 21 Bills for now and probably more as we get closer to January as new legislation comes in!

If you want to stay up to date as we follow this legislation, please join in our legislative membership ([download membership application here](#)). The cost of Legislative Membership is determined by the size of the utility. Municipal and private PWS membership is \$0.18 per service connection (ex. Concord has 12,000 services and pays \$2,160 per year). Support memberships (vendors and professional firms) pay \$300 per year. Small Community Water Systems (less than 1000 service connections) are only \$150. One of the best perks you get is that you will receive e-mails on legislation being tracked and updates as the session progresses.

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Plan to join us in January for the:

**NEWWA/NHWWA Annual Joint Meeting**

Thursday, January 16, 2025

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# NHWWA Young Professionals (YP) Committee Happenings



The NHWWA YP's were busy this past summer. On August 24<sup>th</sup>, the YPs hosted the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Green vs Blue Softball Game. Blue took an early lead but Green never backed down and was ahead by one in the bottom of the 9<sup>th</sup>. Blue was able to score two more runs and take home the trophy again this year. The final score of this absolute nail biter was Blue 20 to Green 19. Thank you to everyone who came out and supported our athletes.

On September 10<sup>th</sup>, the YPs visited the Merrimack Village District Wells 7 and 8, the pumphouse, and concluded with the treatment process. Merrimack explained their PFAS contamination response from design phase, construction, and treatment process. Afterward, the YPs went to the Thirsty Moose for some networking.

The YPs hosted a Bingo Luncheon at the annual NHWWA Expo and Trade Show on October 24. Despite the fierce Water Bingo competition, everyone was able to spend some time networking and mingling with other YPs from all over NH. Congratulations to our three gift card winners.

On November 7<sup>th</sup>, the YPs held a Treat and Meet at the Pudding Hill Water Treatment Facility in Dover. The YPs were dazzled by the presentations from Underwood Engineers and the crew from Dover. Pudding Hill is the most advanced ground water system in the state of NH. It boasts an Advanced Oxidation Process (AOP) using UV light and peroxide addition. The water then passes through three parallel trains of lead-lag GAC filters to remove PFAS and destroy residual peroxide.

If you want to join in on the fun, consider coming to one of our events in 2025. For the most current information check out our social media pages! You can also find us at <https://nhwwa.org/young-professionals/>



*YP's played Water Bingo during the YP Luncheon at the NH Drinking Water Expo & Trade Show in October.*

# Annual Fisher Cats Outing and Green vs Blue Softball Game held in August

The annual Green vs Blue Softball Game and Fisher Cats Outing were held on August 24<sup>th</sup>. A huge thank you to our generous sponsors who made these events possible! The weather was beautiful for both events. We had



fantastic seating, good food, and wonderful people to share it with. The New Hampshire Fisher Cats unfortunately lost to the Hartford Yard Goats 4-3. Despite the loss, NHWWA still had a great time enjoying the game and networking with colleagues.

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### Program Details

The course is expected to begin in March 2025. Training will be conducted one day per month, March through November, on the 3rd Tuesday of each month, with most classes in Concord, NH. In addition to this 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 involved with preparing presentations; and time outside of class performing outreach promoting water utility/ environmental concepts. Individuals who complete the course will be awarded 70 training contact hours (7.0 CEUs), approved for NH DW and WW operator certification continuing education credit.

### Program Cost

There is no cost to apply. For those accepted into the program, tuition is \$750 per person, with full payment due by February 28, 2025. Scholarships may be available through the NHWPCA and NHHWA, please contact NHHWA at [info@nhwwa.org](mailto:info@nhwwa.org) or visit [www.nhwpca.org](http://www.nhwpca.org) to learn more.

### To Apply

Candidates simply need to complete Form A and have their supervisor complete Form B, and ensure that both are submitted to: NHDES-WWEB, attention: Wade Pelham, PO BOX 95 Concord, NH 03302 or emailed to [wade.pelham@des.nh.gov](mailto:wade.pelham@des.nh.gov) by December 31, 2024. If you have any questions please contact Wade Pelham, NHDES at (603) 271-2818 or [wade.pelham@des.nh.gov](mailto:wade.pelham@des.nh.gov). We look forward to receiving your application.

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## Water Managers School Scholarships

NHHWA’s Young Professionals



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To apply for a scholarship, please send an email with the following information, and the words “Water Managers School Application” with your name in the email subject line, to NHHWA Young Professionals—[yp@nhwwa.org](mailto:yp@nhwwa.org):

- Name and age
- Water System
- Current position
- Where do you want to take your career (500 words max.)

Scholarship applications are due within one week (7 calendar days) from your acceptance to the Water Managers School. Half of the award will be made upon documentation that the candidate has been accepted, and half will be awarded upon documentation that the candidate has successfully completed the program.

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