



Bidding Farewell to 2025 and Looking Ahead to 2026

by Sam Currier, NHWWA President and CEO

As 2025 draws to a close, I am reminded of how swiftly time passes. Although this year seems to have ended quickly, our association has achieved remarkable success in meeting the goals we set for the year. While I am always eager to look ahead, it is important to reflect on our accomplishments over the past year.

One of our key achievements has been the outstanding performance on this year’s water operator certification exams. We developed a comprehensive grade level 2 exam preparation course for both treatment and distribution, which not only covers all requirements for level 2 certification but has also supported many grade 3 candidates in achieving passing scores. These courses are thoughtfully designed to address every aspect needed for the certification tests.

Our success is made possible by dedicated instructors who bring real-world experience to their teaching, guiding new operators through in-class presentations, exam practice questions, and—thanks to the collaboration with Manchester Water Works—hands-on learning opportunities outside the classroom.

Our mission remains steadfast; the Young Professionals’ mission statement aptly encapsulates the direction our association intends to pursue—**Reaching. Teaching. Connecting.**



Members of the NHWWA YP Student Outreach Committee talk with students at the NH Construction Career Days, an event held for high schoolers each fall.

We are committed to expanding our **reach**—engaging with sister associations, academic institutions, and schools to welcome water works operators, students, and future water professionals into our community.

Education is a cornerstone of our growth. As licensed operators and professionals, we continuously pursue ongoing education to adapt to the evolving water industry and advancements in technology. Nevertheless, foundational principles and institutional knowledge, imparted

by experienced professionals through New Hampshire Water Works Association (NHWWA), remain invaluable when **teaching** and presenting across NHWWA events and courses.

Facilitating **connections** is central to our purpose. NHWWA is dedicated to supporting individuals in achieving professional success within New Hampshire. Through numerous networking events, mentoring and internship opportunities, and collaborative initiatives with other associations, we provide multiple avenues for individuals to identify and connect with the right resources to advance their careers in the industry.

We had some very successful courses in 2025, but we have even more exciting offerings to come in 2026:

CONSTRUCTION DAY

Traditionally held on the first Wednesday in August, this annual event is being rescheduled to the month of June. Construction Day is a signature event hosted by our organization, during which approximately 50 participants embark on a guided bus tour throughout New Hampshire to observe current or recently completed construction projects. The event’s popularity has grown substantially, resulting in sold-

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A Preview of the 2026 NH Legislative Session

The 2026 Legislative Session is under way, as we had a relaxed session last year with Legislative Service Requests (LSR's) we were very busy watching the NH budget. However, this year they seem to be making up for time missed and there were over 3000 initial LSR's between the NH House and Senate. Knowing this, we thumb through them all and we have come up with 44 "titles only" LSR's to follow that are water, clean water, lab and municipal related requests. Out of the 44 we feel that there are only 21 that need to be followed extremely closely. At this point in the session with no actual text to these soon-to-be bills, it's really a guessing game. We predict many will be pulled or even blended if they are related enough to do so. NHWWA will continue to track 21 Bills for now and possibly more as we get closer to January as new legislation and its text come in!

Some key LSRs that we are following this session:

- ◆ 2026-2185, SB, Title: relative to the establishment of a remediation pathway for water systems required to undergo frequent testing.
 - Prime Sponsor: Keith Murphy
- ◆ 2026-2984, HB, Title: relative to the allocation of public utility costs to ratepayers.
 - Prime Sponsor: Wendy Thomas
- ◆ 2026-2934, HB, Title: permitting third-party payment for point-of-entry treatment system and water line installation to expand access to clean drinking water.
 - Prime Sponsor: Ron Dunn

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) pay 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.

A Message to our Valued Members

Some membership rates will be modestly increased for 2026 to help meet our goals for the new year.

- ◆ Utility Member rates will increase by \$50 at each level.
- ◆ Business Member rates will also increase by \$50 at each level.
- ◆ Individual, Retired and Legislative Membership rates will not change.

Invoices will be mailed in early January.

Thank you for investing in our mission by being an active and generous member of NH Water Works Association!



Another Great Expo & Trade Show Held in October

Thank you to everyone who made the 2025 NH Drinking Water Expo & Trade Show a Great Success! Great presenters, wonderful volunteers and our generous sponsors and exhibitors all come together to provide a tremendous show for NH water operators.

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

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out attendance and additional participants following in personal vehicles. In previous years, representatives from the New Hampshire State House have attended. In 2025, attendees had the opportunity to visit an innovative new plant designed to share a single water supply between Peterborough and Jaffrey, despite each town maintaining distinct water treatment facilities.

LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

This year we hosted our second annual Leadership Summit along the shore of Winnepesaukee. Even though this was our second go at this event, I was extremely nervous about this day. As it turned out, this event went amazingly well. This year we focused on workforce retention. We had messages



2025 Leadership Summit at Church Landing in Meredith in June.

that are geared towards improving aspects of leadership in the water works industry.

NHWWA EXPO

After another successful 2025 Expo, be assured we are already working on what we can improve on for the 2026 Expo. One thing we were able to provide this year was drinking water and wastewater TCH's for every one of our presentations. Be ready on October 21, 2026 for a thrilling Wednesday of a sold-out Expo Hall, fascinating seminars and a happy hour and networking event.

2025 was such a thrilling year working with you all. I am beyond excited to see what 2026 will bring.

Exhibit hall, 2025 Expo



Construction Day in Peterborough, August, 2025.

from all of our federal delegates and our new Governor Kelly Ayotte. We are so grateful for their taking time and addressing our group on this day, essentially thanking all of you for all that you do for the future of the communities you serve. In 2026 we will move this event back to August. Be on the lookout for a 'Save the Date' email soon. Plan to join us to get federal and state legislative/regulatory updates, an extremely good lunch, and an opportunity to enjoy presentations

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NHWWA Young Professionals (YP) Committee Happenings



On August 23rd, the YPs hosted our Annual Blue vs Green Softball Friendly. Both teams fought hard but the Blue team came out on top for the 4th year in a row. The final score was Blue 37 to Green 33. This year's MVP's are Daniel Perry on the Blue team and "Little Leo" on the Green team for their excellent sportsmanship and hard work. A special thank you to everyone who came out and supported our athletes.

On October 23rd, the YPs hosted a Bingo Luncheon at the Annual NHWWA Expo and Tradeshow. Bingo was another fun event of networking, mingling, and fierce competition. Congratulations to this year's winners Caleb Schag, City of Rochester and Ian Chase, City of Concord.

On November 12th, the last event of the year was a Treat and Meet at the Rochester Water Treatment Plant. The YPs learned about Rochester's conventional surface water treatment and blended groundwater treatment. After, the YP's enjoyed some appetizers and networking at the Back Hill Beer company.

If you want to join in on the fun consider coming to one of our events in 2026. For the most current information check out our social media pages! You can also find us at <https://nhwwa.org/young-professionals/> If you have any recommendations for a future event we encourage you to send us an email at yp@nhwwa.org

Fisher Cats Outing 2026

The Annual Fisher Cats game was held on July 22nd with an incredible turnout of 80 attendees. Huge shout out to all our generous sponsors who made this event possible! From the ball game to the buffet, it was an evening full of great conversations, new connections, and summer fun with our amazing water industry community. The New Hampshire Fisher Cats unfortunately lost to the Hartford Yard Goats 4-2 but they will get them next year. We hope you can join us in 2026!



Thank you to our 2025 YP Sponsors!

AECOM, Aqueous Vets, CDM Smith, Clow Valve Company, CSA Environmental Consultants LLC, Dave Miller MWW, Edgewater Strategies, EJ Prescott, Endyne, Granite State Analytical, Hazen and Sawyer, Kleinfelder, Maher Corporation, Ti-SALES.



SAVE THE DATE

NEWWA/NHWWA Joint Membership Meeting

Mark your Calendars for the NEWWA/NHWWA Joint Membership Meeting on January 15, 2026 at the Carraige House at Murphy’s Taproom, in Bedford, NH.

[Download the Program Flyer](#)

[Register here!](#)



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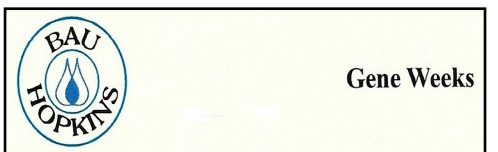
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