



NEWSLETTER

NH WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION



Working for NH's Drinking Water Experts | Winter 2026 - Issue 139



Abby Thompson Fopiano Welcomed as New Chair of NHHWA Board

Abby Thompson Fopiano officially assumed the role of Chair of the New Hampshire Water Works Association Board in January, marked by the ceremonial passing of the gavel from former Chair Jamie Stevens at the joint meeting of NHHWA and the New England Water Works Association. [Find the complete article here.](#)

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Legislative Update from the NH State House

Check out the bills in the NH House and Senate that we have been keeping an eye on this session. [Read the article here.](#)



NH Water Works Association, Inc. Annual Meeting

March 12, 2026, from 9:00—9:30 AM, Virtual

The Association's Annual Meeting will include a summary report of 2025 and introduction to priorities for 2026, with time for discussion. Please join your colleagues for a high-level view of your Association and to share your ideas, questions and concerns for the coming year. Use the link below to join via Zoom. Passcode 888379.

[JOIN NHHWA ANNUAL MEETING](#)



NH Drinking Water Festival, Water Science Fair and Water Poetry Contest are Coming to Manchester on May 6

The NH Drinking Water Coalition is expecting a record 500 students at this year's Water Festival at the Manchester

Water Treatment Plant on May 6. We're very excited to bring our message of water quality, conservation and environmental education to so many young people!

[Read more about the festival and how you can help.](#)

Ian Rohrbacher, Water System Superintendent, Rochester, Receives NHWWA's 2025 Meritorious Achievement Award

Read more about Ian and why he deserved to be honored with this award. [See the full article here.](#)



Sarah Jakositz named NHWWA 2025 Young Professional of the Year

Learn more about Sarah and how she has positively impacted the drinking water industry and supported other young professionals.

[Read the article here.](#)


NHWWA 2026 Training and Events Calendar

Click above to see what we have coming up this year.



Brandon Kernen, Administrator, Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau, NHDES, presented with the NEWWA Jerome J. Healey Award

The Healey Award acknowledges the contributions of an individual or a group of individuals, who have promoted the drinking water profession by reaching out to other NEWWA members and the public and have enhanced the relationship between the regulated community with state and federal personnel to protect water supply and public health. Congratulations Brandon! *NEWWA President Elect Tom Garrity (r) presented the award to Brandon Kernen (l) at the NEWWA/NHWWA Joint Meeting on January 15.*



Gene Weeks

Tel: 800-733-1860
Fax: 508-699-9047
Cell: 207-245-8829
gweeks@bauhopkins.com
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NHWWA Young Professionals Committee News



The NHWWA YP Committee has a number of events planned for 2026, starting with at Treat and Meet in Manchester later this month. [Check it out here.](#)



Remembering Phil Bilodeau, former Deputy Director of Public Works for the City of Concord, and past NHWWA President

It is with sadness that we learned of the death of longtime member Philip H (Phil) Bilodeau who passed away on January 5, 2026 due to complications from emergency surgery. Phil's involvement with NHWWA, where he made numerous friends, spanned several decades. [Read the full obituary here.](#)

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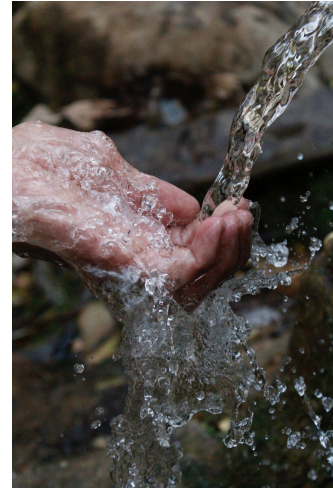
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Thank you to all our members and advertisers who have renewed this year!

Welcome two new members: **Katherine Dusking with Arcadis** and **Alexander Richards with Pace Corporation**.

Not a member yet? Please consider joining us. Receive discounts on industry-leading educational classes and programs, access to current and critical technical and regulatory information, and be part of an organization that effectively advocates for and represents New Hampshire's public drinking water sector. [Join today!](#)

Help us to help you succeed!



NH Water Works Association | 18 N. Main Street, Suite 308 | Concord, NH 03301 US

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