



NEWSLETTER

NH WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION



Welcome Chris Berg! 2024 Chair of NHWWA's Board of Directors



Chris Berg assumed the leadership of the NHWWA Board of Directors on January 1, 2024. Chris has been a member of the Board since 2018, recently serving as Secretary and heading the Nominating and Governance Committee.

Chris has worked as an engineer for Wright-Pierce since 2004, starting as a Project Engineer and progressing to his current position as New Hampshire Group Leader in charge of the drinking water business line for Wright Pierce. He is a licensed professional engineer in both New Hampshire and Massachusetts.

After graduating from Rowan University in New Jersey in 2000 with a civil engineering degree,

Chris attended the University of New Hampshire where he earned his MS in Civil Engineering.

Chris calls Dover home, where he lives with his wife, two sons and one dog. In his down time, Chris likes to ski, hike, play disc golf and read. He has also been active in his community helping with Boy Scout troop 180, the Dover High School Ski Team Boosters, the Dover Parents Music Club and the Great Bay Rowing fundraising committee.

We look forward to Chris' leadership as we progress through 2024!



Outgoing Chair Chris Albert (center) passes the gavel to incoming Chair Chris Berg as NHWWA PCEO Sam Currier looks on, at the NEWWA/NHWWA Joint Meeting in Portsmouth in January.

NH Water Works Association, Inc. Annual Meeting

March 14, 2024 from 8:30 – 9:00 AM, Virtual

The Association's Annual Meeting will include a summary report of 2023 and introduction to priorities for 2024, 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 [Meeting ID: 831 6020 7504 Passcode: 660724].

[JOIN THE ANNUAL MEETING](#)

News from Sam



Let's go 2024! I couldn't be more excited about what is coming up this year.

There is so much energy from the all the members of the Board of Directors to see 2024 become a record-breaking year. How will it be record breaking? Simple, we will be on pace to have the most training credits presented this year than any year in the post pandemic era.

Among our added trainings will be a new, **one-day exam refresher** that will be focused on key criteria in the ABC exams. We will offer this class prior to NHDES's summer exam date.

Leadership Roundtables are back! This project fit NHWWA's goal of having industry leaders in one room focused on topics that elevate everyone in the

room to a next level water works leader. I found these extremely informative as an operator. Being able to come to a roundtable discussion as a superintendent of a system gave me the ability to express my insight on an administrative issue but, as a Grade 2 operator, also listen and learn about different techniques from Grade 3 and 4 operators.

I am also starting to work with NHDES on the 2025 **Water Manager's School**. My predecessor, Boyd Smith, and I both graduated from the NHDES Water Manager's School. I highly recommend this course for any upcoming industry leaders. This course helps all personality types find their best way to communicate, present, and lead, while understanding the differences between servant and transactional leadership. Another plus, with the help of the young professional committee, we select one applicant to go for free! Application information can be found on our [website](#).

On a similar topic, the Student Outreach Committee, part of the NHWWA YPs, is looking for applicants for the **NHWWA YP Operator Certification Award**. This program is something I can't wait to see take off! We can take a new operator, or someone who is ready to get their Grade 1 license (Treatment or Distribution), and work with them through various NHWWA courses. We then pay for them to take the Grade 1

exam and help them with continued education in preparation for their Grade 2. This program is a \$2,000 value and one of the many tools in our mission to encourage future water operators in NH.

We have so many exciting things planned and an energized Board to make things happen. This year the Board and I will be diving into our strategic plan and our by-laws, as it has already been three years since we implemented them. All these working documents can be found on our [website](#). Our **Annual Meeting** is going to be virtual again this year on March 14th, 8:30 AM. We hope to see you there. We will be giving a more detailed look into our upcoming year, along with an opportunity to hear from Board members. [Log in to the Annual Meeting Here!](#) [Passcode: 660724]

I am unbelievably grateful to be in this position and am still learning every day what it takes to operate this association to its full potential. There is no doubt in my mind that with Sue, the Board of Directors, and every member of our association, we will continue to grow and achieve our goals for 2024. Thank you for all that you do for our association and everything you do for water works in NH!

Sam Currier
President/CEO
NH Water Works Association

**Electrical
Instrumentation
Controls**

info@BarrettElectricNH.com

Serving New England PO Box 2338
NH, VT, ME, MA 34 Locke Road, Unit 2
(603) 223-5004 Concord, NH 03302-2338

www.BarrettElectricNH.com

civil & environmental engineering

**UNDERWOOD**
engineers

25 Vaughan Mall Portsmouth, NH ph 603.436.6192
99 North State Street Concord, NH ph 603.230.9898
www.underwoodengineers.com

Tighe&Bond

**WATER
RESOURCES
ENGINEERING**

- Asset Management
- Energy & Sustainability
- Funding & Rates
- Hydraulic Modeling
- Pumping & Distribution
- Storage
- Supply Treatment

177 Corporate Drive
Portsmouth, NH
603.433.8818

www.tighebond.com

Congratulations Chris Countie, Trish Kelliher and Boyd Smith!

The following awards were presented at the NEWWA/NHWWA Joint Meeting held in Portsmouth on January 18, 2024.



Chris Countie (center) was awarded the 2023 **NHWWA Meritorious Achievement Award**. With Chris are NHWWA Chair Chris Berg (left) and NHWWA President and CEO Sam Currier (right).



Sarah Jakositz (right), current Chair of the NHWWA YP Committee, presented the **NHWWA Young Professional of the Year Award** to former Chair Trish Kelliher (left).



Boyd Smith, President and CEO of NHWWA from 2020-2023, was presented with New England Water Works Association's **Water Works State Leadership Award** in recognition of his contributions to the water industry. Pictured with Boyd is Demetri Vidalis, P.E., NEWWA President-Elect. Below, all the awardees!



ATTENTION Water Operators

NHDES is offering in-person exams on three dates this year:

April 23

July 18

October 29

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

Est. 1936
Smith Pump

- Water Pump Sales & Service
- Water Well Drilling
- Water Conditioning Systems

Steve Smith

48 Londonderry Turnpike 603-669-9119
P.O. Box 16358 (In NH) 1-800-660-2992
Hooksett, NH 03106 Fax 603-627-6944

STATEWIDE
AQUASTORE, Inc.
Premium Water & Wastewater Storage Tanks

www.statewideaquastore.com
info@statewideaquastore.com

315.433.2782

**Your entire
project lifecycle.**

We have all the expertise and experience needed for your success.



Supporting Your Sustainability, Resiliency, & Strategic Goals.

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
March 19, 21, 26 & 28, 2024	Grade 1 Exam Prep Course	National Guard Training Complex, Pembroke	12
March 20, 22, 27 & 29, 2024	Basic Water Works Math Course	Concord Water Treatment Plant	12
March 21, 2024	NHWWA YP Treat & Meet	Locke Lake, Barnstead	1
April 2, 9, 11, 16 & 18, 2024	Grade 2 Distribution Exam Prep Course	Manchester Water Works	30
April 23, 2024	NHDES In-Person Exams	TBA	
April 30, 2024	Spring Technical Meeting	Bank of NH Stage, Concord	5
May 10, 2024	Clerk of the Works Training	National Guard Training Complex, Pembroke	5
May 21, 2024	Small System Roundtable Training for 1A Operators	Littleton Community Center	2.5
May 23, 2024	Small System Roundtable Training for 1A Operators	Virtual	2.5
July 18, 2024	NHDES In-Person Exams	NHDES Offices, Concord	
TBA	Construction Day	Rochester & Dover	5
August 20, 2024	Small System Roundtable Training for 1A Operators	Wolfeboro Public Library	2.5
August 22, 2024	Small System Roundtable Training for 1A Operators	Virtual	2.5
August 27, 29 and Sept. 3 & 5, 2024	Grade 1A Operator Course	NHDES Offices	10
September 18, 20, 25 & 27, 2024	Basic Water Works Math Course	Concord Water Treatment Plant	12
October 16, 18, 23 & 25, 2024	Grade 1 Exam Prep Course	NHDES Offices	12
October 9, 10, 16, 17 & 23, 2024	Grade 2 Treatment Exam Prep Course	Manchester Water Treatment Plant	30
October 24, 2024	NH Drinking Water Expo & Trade Show	Grappone Center, Concord	5
October 29, 2024	NHDES In-Person Exams	NHDES Offices, Concord	
November 14, 2024	Fall Technical Meeting	TBA	2



2024 Legislative Update

By Sam Currier

The 2024 Legislative Session is not over yet! My first run at this has been exciting to say the least. I hope you got to see one of the many presentations I had the joy of putting on at NHWWA Events. The State House is starting to really fire on all cylinders. Multiple committees are moving past the “Hearing” stage and on to “Executive Sessions”. This doesn’t mean it is over by any means, NHWWA is still following 20 different bills that remain in legislative limbo. If you are a part of our legislative advocacy community in NHWWA, you

receive emails of all the bills we are following. If you are not a part of our legislation advocacy group, I recommend doing so as you will be ahead of the rest in knowing what is in our future for water legislation.

- ◆ Municipal and Private membership, \$0.15 per service connection (ex. Concord 12,000 services, \$1,800 per year).
- ◆ Support memberships, \$300 per year (vendors, professional firms).
- ◆ Small Community Water Systems \$100.

NHWWA has attended several hearings this session. Hearings give us the opportunity to hear the prime sponsors explain their piece of legislation in detail, followed by a portion of time where people can speak for, or against the bill. I think it is important to know too that this time of the year it’s a numbers game. What most legislative committees look at is the number of people for a bill and compare it to the number opposed. These numbers mainly come from associations like ours that submit on behalf of NHWWA representing all of you.

[House Bill 1143](#) is one of the bills that I was able to sit in on and submit a letter of concern. This bill requires the NH Department of Environmental Services to provide remedial actions for cyanobacteria blooms under the New Hampshire clean lakes program. It amends RSA 487:17 to include the monitoring, management, and reduction of the risk of cyanobacteria blooms as part of the program’s functions. The bill also directs the department to reduce, control, and prevent the nutrient inputs that cause cyanobacteria blooms, and provides criteria for chemical or physical in-lake treatments to control the prevalence of cyanobacteria blooms.

NHWWA collaborated with NH Water Pollution Control Association, Granite State Rural Water Association and the NH Municipal Association as part of our initiative for “One Water” and the four-association water coalition. With their help, we formed multiple letters, either in support of or opposition to bills. For example, we submitted a letter in support of [House Bill 1649](#). House Rep. Karen Ebel (Merrimack District 7) is the primary sponsor for this targeted bill looking at restricting the production of items with known PFAS in them.

We also wrote many letters on our own like one addressing this highly controversial bill [House Bill 1479](#), relative to prohibiting the use of federal, state, or local funds for lobbying activities. We shared this letter with our entire NHWWA Advocacy Community as a form document in the hopes of filling the Legislation

(Continued on page 8)

PROVEN SOLUTIONS
PFAS AND EMERGING
CONTAMINANT REMOVAL

evoqua WATER TECHNOLOGIES evoqua.com/PFAS
(833) 939-0314

TATA & HOWARD

The Water Experts

100% employee-owned engineering
firm focused solely on all things water.

www.tataandhoward.com

EDGEWATER STRATEGIES
CLEAR SOLUTIONS

GROUNDWATER • DRINKING WATER
PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS • WATERFRONT PERMITS

603.630.1971 • abby@edgewater-nh.com
EDGEWATER-NH.COM

TEAM EJP

WATER • WASTEWATER • STORMWATER
SOLUTIONS

1-800-EJP-24HR | EJPRESMOTT.COM

Certified Public Water Experts
We know water so you don't have to

SECONDWIND WATER SYSTEMS OFFERS:
DESIGN & APPROVAL SERVICES
SYSTEM OPERATOR & ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
TREATMENT INSTALLATION & MAINTENANCE SERVICES

- Certified
- Government Relations
- Lifecycle Info, Protection
- 24/7 Emergency Service
- 30+ Years in Business
- Systems Info, Protection

Secondwind water systems, inc. **603-641-5767**
www.secondwindwater.com



Your Water Treatment Chemical Partner

Coyne Chemical Environmental Services
3015 State Road, Croydon, PA 19021
215 785-3000 | 800 523-1230 order entry
www.coyneenvironmental.com



Portsmouth, NH · Manchester, NH
1-800-SAMPSON
westonandsampson.com
offices along the east coast
an employee-owned company



Programs include:

- Certified Operator
- Revenue & Customer Operations
- Meter Maintenance
- Backflow Services

25 Walnut Street, P.O. Box 428, Nashua, NH 03061
603.882.5191 · 800.553.5191
www.pennichuck.com



The **fastest service** and **most knowledgeable experts** in the water and wastewater industry.

Serving New England since 1963.

info@tisales.com 800.225.4616
www.tisales.com 36 Hudson Rd
Sudbury, MA 01776

EXPERTISE. INSIGHT. INNOVATION.
We Deliver on Your Water Challenge.



www.kleinfelder.com

NH Drinking Water Festival and Science Fair coming to Plymouth in May

The annual Drinking Water Festival and Science Fair is presented each spring during Drinking Water Week. This year it is being held on May 8 at Fox Pond Park in Plymouth.

The festival is designed to educate school children, teachers, and the public in general, about the importance of clean drinking water by involving students in hands on water activities, educational displays & exhibits, and water themed entertainment.

The state finals of the 4th grade water science fair is also held during the festival. A statewide water poetry contest was added in 2018 to engage more children. Awards will be presented and the winning poems will be read.

This is a volunteer event provided free to students. The NH Drinking Water Coalition (made up of NHDES, NHWWA, GSRWA, RCAP, and municipalities) plans the event and relies on donations to cover expenses. Those expenses include tent rentals, sanitation, food and awards. To learn more about sponsoring this event [click here.](#)



WELCOME NEW SUPPORTERS!

Individual Supporters

Patricia Chesebrough

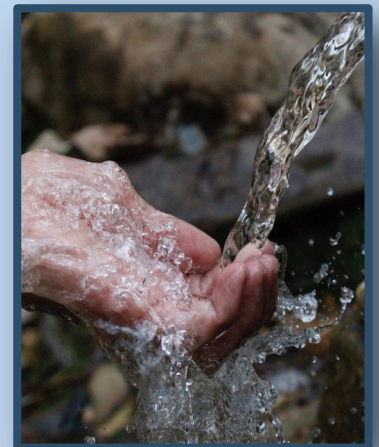
Bryan Sadowski, AECOM

Gregory Sereni, Weston & Sampson
Engineers, Inc.

Darline Tenney, Hazen and Sawyer

Utility Supporter

Sanbornville Water Department



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 [joining today](#). Help us to help you succeed!

NHWWA Young Professionals (YP) Committee Happenings

The past few months have been an exciting time of transition for the YPs! The beginning of 2024 brought with it the end of term for several founding board members of the YP Committee. Though bittersweet, it is gratifying to reflect on how far this Committee has come since its inception in the Summer of 2019. The board extends a special thank you to Trish Kelliher who has concluded her term as Chair. Trish tirelessly worked to build the YP Committee into what it is today, and we are so proud of where her vision has brought us! Thank you also to Sam Currier (past Student Outreach Chair), Alicia Surette (past Communications Chair), and Sophie Ricard (past Secretary, present Vice Chair) for your dedication to NHWWA and this YP Committee!

The new YP board is still full of familiar faces after a smooth transition and is keeping busy as always! In November, the YPs teamed up with Manchester Water Works (MWW) to host a Treat and Meet tour of their new Merrimack River Water Treatment Plant designed by CDM Smith. This was the YP's biggest Treat and Meet yet, and we thank MWW for their hospitality in hosting our large group! In January, several YPs enjoyed attending the Joint NHWWA/NEWWA meeting at Cisco Brewers in Portsmouth, where our very own Trish Kelliher was awarded 2023 YP of the Year – congratulations, Trish! In February, the YPs took over Dave and Busters in Manchester to network over food and games. Thank you to all who attended!

Coming up next, the YPs are looking forward to their March Treat and Meet with Pennichuck Water Works at Locke Lake's water system in Barnstead, NH, followed by networking at Northwoods Brewing Co. In April, the YPs will be attending NHWWA's annual Diversity Equity and Inclusion event in Concord, and in May the YPs look forward to teaching 4th graders about drinking water at the Drinking Water Festival and Science Fair in Plymouth, NH.

Spring is also a busy time for NHWWA YP's Student Outreach Committee whose members will be bouncing between career fairs and opportunities to show students what a career in water could look like for them. If you have an event you'd like to see the Student Outreach Committee attend or if you'd like to get involved, be sure to reach out, studentoutreach@nhwwa.org or LJackson@endynelabs.com!



NHWWA YP Committee members (l to r) Casey Harding, NHWWA PCEO Sam Currier, Sarah Lescault, Sophie Ricard and Sarah Jakositz join NHWWA YP of the Year award winner Trish Kelliher (center).

Put our LAB
to the TEST

RELIABLE & RESPONSIVE

EXCEPTIONAL QUALITY

STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITY

Eastern Analytical, Inc.
professional laboratory and drilling services

(800) 287-0525
EasternAnalytical.com

NH Brown Law
Environmental Law • Utility Law

Marcia A. Brown
Attorney at Law

603-219-4911
mab@nhbrownlaw.com
www.nhbrownlaw.com

STILES CO
SMART WATER SOLUTIONS

Call Stiles Co. for all of your Waterworks needs.
922 Pleasant St, Norwood, MA
www.stilesco.com 800-426-6246

Gene Weeks

Tel: 800-733-1860
Fax: 508-699-9047
Cell: 207-245-8829
gweeks@bauhopkins.com
www.bauhopkins.com

BAU/HOPKINS
310 South Street
Plainville, MA 02762

Water & Pump Services
Water & Septic Pumps • Pump Control Systems
Water Filtration • Treatment • Conditioning • Chlorination
Iron, Manganese, Radon, Uranium, Arsenic Removal
Operating Community Water Systems • Certified NH & ME

FX Lyons
Route 16/302
Intervale, NH

LICENSED PUMP INSTALLER
Inc. www.fxlyons.com
24-Hour Service 603-356-6767

By Boyd Smith, former NHWWA PCEO

With Marco Philippon and his staff in Concord, NHWWA invited leaders from three educational programs at Concord High School (CHS) to learn about shared needs, opportunities, and resources. CHS team members included Kate Amrol, Program Coordinator, CRTC Industry Outreach and Marketing; Jessamyn Rockwell, Experiential Learning Coordinator, Running Start Coordinator; and Krystin Cooney, Adult Pathways coordinator. Among them, these three programs serve nearly 1,000 students, with a common goal of preparing them for the modern workforce.

- Water operators use many of the skills taught at CHS, including math, chemistry, mechanics, and management. Blending classroom with facility experience is a natural fit with practical value.
- NHDES's Operator Certification program allows students to earn Operator-in-Training status upon CHS program graduation. It is possible to be workforce-ready upon graduation.
- Marco's team offered on-site tours and in-class speakers, while NHWWA offered seats in entry-level classes, scholarship opportunities, career information, and guest speakers for a range of topics.
- CHS leaders will share information about public water careers and seek ways to fit new career resources into their established programs.

We encourage system managers to connect with their local school district to share knowledge, information, and excitement about careers in public water. NHWWA resources include a [brochure on working in the public water service](#), and additional [career path information](#) to help get you started.

2024 Legislative Update

Administration Committee with letters of non-support for this legislation as written. Feel free to look at this [letter](#) and use it in your own communities. Also, if you have any questions about any legislation feel free to reach out, any time!

Legislative advocacy has been an extremely exciting part of becoming the PCEO of NHWWA. I have had such a great time learning the ins and outs of the legislative process. Marco Philippon (Legislative Committee Chair) and the rest of the newly revamped Legislative Committee have helped me learn so much in a short period of time.

Thank you to our Legislative
Committee Members and our
Legislative Supporters for all you do!

