

NHPWMEA Sessions

The New Hampshire Municipal Association held a meeting on November 13–14. This year the NHPWMEA held four, well attended sessions. The focus was wetlands and stormwater.

Kevin Nyhan from the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) provided details about the new wetlands notification system. The system was developed in conjunction with the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES). It allows for routine maintenance activities using a notification system in place of a wetlands permit. The notification process includes a form, maps and drawings of the affected area, but eliminates the waiting period involved with the traditional permit.

Deb Loiselle from NHDOT explained construction activities

under NPDES II. Deb provided guidelines regarding the definition of a construction activity. She said that she will share information developed by NHDOT regarding this issue.

Eric Williams from NHDES discussed the availability of grants for municipalities for non-point pollution prevention activities. He provided insight into sources of funding and ways to apply.

Rob Rosen from the University of New Hampshire (UNH) spoke about the history of the stormwater and environmental issues. He discussed various mitigation methods for non-point source pollution. He described the test facility under construction on the Durham campus. The facility will test various methods of stormwater treatment.

Message from Our President

As we get ready to start a new year, it is my pleasure to introduce the first issue of the NHPWMEA newsletter. It will come out quarterly and will help us communicate and work together better. The general format will include a member profile, a technical note from one of our members, legislative updates and concerns and a calendar of upcoming events.

This past year we held our first multi-session meeting at our annual meeting. We also continued to develop the scholarship fund and awarded two scholarships.

Building upon this, we plan to continue to increase our activities and membership involvement. Some upcoming events already in the works include additional technical sessions and NHPWMEA's participation in the Tri-State Safety Conference. We are also creating a strategic plan.

We also welcome member feedback and participation. If you would like to contribute, to the newsletter please let me or the editor, Daryle Lamoureux, know.

Jim Brown, Engineer
President
Salem



Photo: Catherine Schoenenberg

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NHPWMEA Scholarship Fund

NHPWMEA first established a scholarship fund in 1993. Currently, the fund provides two \$1,000 scholarships based on academic performance and financial need. The scholarships are awarded to University of New Hampshire students, one in the Thompson School of Applied Science, which offers two-year associates degrees, and the other in the Civil Engineering department. This year's recipients of the scholarships were Joanne Ellen Brintnall (Thompson School) and Kevin Martindale (Civil Engineering).

Thank you to all the scholarship sponsors for making the NHPWMEA Scholarship Fund a success: Isles of Shoals Steamship Co.; Ambrose Brothers; Bedford Design Consultants; Bell and Flynn; Camp, Dresser & McKee; Clough, Harbor & Associates; CMA Engineers; Donovan Equipment; Dufresne-Henry; E J Prescott; E.W. Sleeper; Edwards & Kelcy, Inc.; FL Merrill Construction, Inc.; Felix A. Marino Co. Inc.; GeoInsight; GMI Asphalt; Hampshire Hospitality Holdings;

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Needs Survey Results

In June 2003, a survey was conducted among members of NHPWMEA for topics for future technical sessions. The survey included a wide range of topics. The highest rated sessions were:

- Construction Permitting — NPDES II
- Local Permitting Issues: Driveways, Excavation, Street Openings, etc.

- How to Handle Angry/Upset People
- Contracting for Services
- Wetlands Permitting
- Encroachments: What Are They and How to Handle Them

Some of these issues were addressed at the NHMA annual meeting. In addition, planning for sessions in 2004 is under way.

What's Wrong with This Picture?



Answer: There are actually two things wrong in this picture. The most obvious problem is that a hoola hoop has been painted over the picture of the pedestrian. The second problem is that this sign is blocking a no parking sign in the background.

Legislative Update

NPDES II Construction Activities. Operators of a construction site must obtain a permit if they disturb one or more acres of land. If part of a larger plan, areas less than one acre are also regulated. The "construction site operator" is the party or parties with operational control of plans and specifications or of day-to-day activities.

If a municipality is a construction operator, it must obtain a permit. Construction activity does not include routine maintenance of roads and ditches.

NHPWMEA is working with Thelma Murphy of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

for clarification. Technical sessions on the impacts of these rules will be held in the spring.

CDL Insurance. As winter sets in, one issue that concerns public works is driver liability. Under current regulations, drivers with CDL licenses, including snow equipment operators, are held accountable on their private driver's licenses for any accidents that occur while at work. This is especially problematic during winter storm operations, when drivers are asked to work long hours in dangerous conditions.

Members of NHPWMEA are currently looking into a way to have this waived for municipalities.

Member Profile



Carl Quiram, PE

Carl Quiram is the Director of Public Works in the Town of Goffstown and an active member of NHPWMEA. He also serves as the NH Director with NEAPWA; a member of the NH Public Works Standards & Training Council; a board member of the Public Works Academy; a member of the NH Best Practices Committee; and a member of the NHDES Waste Management Council.

Before joining Goffstown, Carl worked for the City of Dover for 11 years as junior engineer, assistant city engineer and then environmental projects manager.

He believes NHPWMEA is essential for communication among members. Membership involvement allows the sharing of ideas and the ability to work more effectively.

Carl said that he could not be involved in all these organizations if he did not have the support of his crew.

Carl lives in Goffstown and is engaged to Donna. He has two sons Benjamin, 11, and Nicholas, 9. When not working, he can usually be found skiing at Gunstock in the winter. In the summer, he is usually playing sports with his sons.

The NHPWMEA newsletter is a quarterly publication. For submissions, contact: Daryle Lamoureux, Editor
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Useful Links
NHPWMEA:
<http://www.t2.unh.edu/nhpwmea/>
NPDES II:
<http://www.t2.unh.edu/pubs/stormwater/>

NHPWMEA
c/o NHMA
PO Box 617
Concord, NH 03302

CALENDAR

Technical Meetings: NPDES II Construction Activities
March – Meeting in Dover
April – Meeting in Keene
May – Meeting in Meredith
Tri-State Safety Conference
April 21 – 22, 2004
Bartlett, NH (Tentative)
Fall Scholarship Social
Planned for September