

NH Public Works Association

Community Profile:

Manchester NH, "Queen City"



Manchester, population 105,000, was once the largest textile-manufacturing center in the world. It has developed into the center of commerce for the State.

Frank Thomas, Public Works Director, reports that 240 employees work within the Highway Department, the Facilities Division, and the Environmental Protection Division (EPD).

The Highway Department maintains 400 miles of roads, solid waste collection, and resident Drop-Off Facility.

The Facilities Division provides maintenance services to the 26 schools and 24 municipal buildings.

The EPD provides services for the collection and treatment of wastewater for Manchester and portions of Bedford, Goffstown and Londonderry. The plant treats about 34 million gallons of wastewater daily. There are 15 pumping stations in the city, 344 miles of sanitary sewer, and 142 miles of drainage pipe.

- The city has many ongoing projects,
- Phase II National Pollution Discharge
 - Elimination System Stormwater Program
 - \$105 million school design/build project

- \$27 million AA baseball stadium
- \$50 million combined sewer overflow (CSO) program with the US EPA
- Urban Pond Restoration Program
- 8th Grade Environmental Curriculum
- Stream Bank Restoration
- Land Preservation Program, with a 600 acre purchase.

The Highway Department purchased a snow-melting machine, and is purchasing a high-pressure hot water graffiti removal machine and hiring a full-time graffiti removal person.

NHPWA Board Members

Thank you out-going board members:

- Paul DegliAngeli, Conway
- Martha Drukker, Concord
- Jim Wheeler, Berlin

Welcome new board members:

- Peter Capano, Manchester
- Ken Daniels, Enfield
- Larry Jackson, Littleton
- Dave Lent, Merrimack

A Look Inside

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A Celebration of Public Works Week!

The 2005 National Public Works Week was May 15 to May 21. Celebrating Public Works week is an opportunity to educate citizens of the services PW provides. Below are some examples of what towns did:

Dover



Jamie McCulloch created a display for city hall, which included

various information and a map showing the areas to be adopted in the Adopt-A-Spot Program. A TV played "A Day in Life without Public Works," which depicted how things can go wrong in one day without Public Works.

Exeter

The selectmen in Exeter proclaimed May 15 to May 21 National Public Works Week. The



American Public Works Association promotional video "Everyday Heroes" was aired on the government channel and their poster was highlighted on the downtown bulletin board. Phyllis Duffy created a display for the Exeter Library, and an employee luncheon was held.

Goffstown

The Goffstown DPW visited two Elementary Schools, where they spoke to



the fourth graders about the role the PW plays in the community. The DPW brought equipment for the children to explore. In addition, some supervisors attended the New England American Public Works Association Luncheon at Anthony's Pier IV in Boston. About 500 other PW folks from around New England attend this event. Goffstown hosted a staff luncheon and invited other departments to join in.

Merrimack

Public Works Director, Ed Chase, asked the Board of Selectmen to sign a proclamation recognizing

public works week. Joe Maguire, Highway Foreman, assembled a display,



illustrating services provided by the DPW, for the selectmen's meeting and the town hall. The PW had their second annual employee cookout.

What's wrong with this photo?



Answer: A workzone should not have too many signs. It is confusing and dangerous. Keep signs simple and easy to follow.

Legislative Update

• Senate Puts Kibosh on OBD II Contract

On March 7, 2005 the Senate passed an amended version of SB 148. It provides that "the department of safety shall not require, as a condition of being a vehicle inspection station, that any inspection station contract with Gordon-Darby NHOST Services, Inc., or otherwise participate in any department-run program requiring state vehicle inspection information to be transmitted to the department of safety electronically."

• Senate Passes Exemption Law

The April 5, 2005 the House passed SB 138, which is an exemption law relative to motor vehicle liability for municipal workers. Governor Lynch signed the bill into law in May. The law exempts municipal public works employees from certain financial responsibilities, relative to on-the-job duties. This law takes effect on January 1, 2006.

Outside Committees

• NHPWA members serving on other committees:

Jim Brown	Public Works Academy
Jim Brown	Standards and Training
Jim Brown	Salt Brine
Alan Côte	Mutual Aid
Ken Daniels	Mutual Aid
Martha Drukker	T ² Advisory
Michael Faller	Best Practices
Carl Quiram	Standards and Training

NHPWA Fall Sessions

- Fall Scholarship Social
August 26, 2005 at Gunstock
- NHLGC Annual Meeting
November 17, 2005



Member Profile

Jim Wheeler

Jim Wheeler began his work for Berlin in 1994 when he was hired as the City Engineer. In 1998, Jim also became the Public Works Director, when the responsibilities for the two positions were combined.

Jim's responsibilities include the city infrastructure and facilitating snow removal and winter maintenance, among other things.

Jim earned his BS in Civil Engineering from UNH in 1986. He worked for an engineering consulting firm for eight years before working for the city.

Jim has served on the NHPWA Board of Directors for eight years. He says it has been a valuable experience.

Jim is married to Karen. They share three kids, ages 2, 8, and 11. Jim likes to attend his boys youth hockey activities, spend time outdoors, and ski.

Jim's last day with the City was Friday, June 3, 2005. Jim said that his time spent in Berlin has been very rewarding, and he was happy to give back to the city where he grew up. He will begin work as the Facilities Director for the Androscoggin Valley Hospital in Berlin.

Good luck to you Jim. You will surely be missed.

NHPWA
c/o LGC
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Calendar

- **Fall Scholarship Social**
August 26, 2005 at Gunstock
- **NHLGC Annual Meeting**
November 17, 2005



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