President’s Message:

Here we are in mid-September and signs of fall can be seen with the changing foliage, cooler days and nights, and less daylight. Personally, this is my favorite season. I hope everyone had an enjoyable and productive summer.

A major happening occurred this summer; on July 1, 2014 fuel prices in New Hampshire increased by 4.2 cents per gallon (tax), the result of Senate Bill 367 (SB 367). This increase, the first since 1991, will be dedicated to the state’s transportation system. Projects anticipated to be funded with the additional revenue include reconstruction of secondary roadways, resurfacing, municipal bridges, and Interstate 93. SB 367 funds will be used to repair New Hampshire’s roads and bridges, a significant asset in the state of New Hampshire that keeps our economy moving.

The association is involved in a number of events in September including the 9th Annual Ken Ward Memorial Snow Plow Rally and Construction Career Days, both of which are to be held at the Hillsborough County 4-H Youth Center, in New Boston, NH. On behalf of the Board of Directors (BOD), I would like to extend my appreciation and many thanks to Catherine Schoenenberger for her hard work and dedication in organizing these two worthwhile events.

The association will be sponsoring three educational sessions at the New Hampshire Municipal Association’s Annual Conference on November 12th and 13th at the Radisson Hotel in Manchester. The sessions will include presentations on: “Quality Based Selection (QBS),” “Culvert Maintainer Certification Program,” and “How to Get off the 303 List.” At this time we do not know which day (12th or 13th) these sessions will be scheduled - stay tuned for more information. The association will also be exhibiting at the conference; I hope you can stop by and attend at least one of the sessions or see us in the exhibition hall.

In order to make our profession stronger, I encourage everyone to get involved. Ideas about new presentations or interesting projects are always welcome.

Enjoy the fall,

John R. Trottier, P.E.
NHPWA President
What's in this issue?

President's Message .......................................................... 1

Calendar ............................................................................. 2

2014 Annual Meeting Highlights ............................................. 3

2014 Annual Technical Meeting Highlights .............................. 4

Wetlands Permitting: NHDES is seeking Broad Input on a Significant Program Update .................................................... 5

9th Annual Ken Ward Memorial Plow Rally ................................. 6

New Venue for 6th Annual NH Construction Career Days ............. 6

NHWPA Board Members ....................................................... 7

NHPWA Membership Form .................................................... 8

Calendar

- **Sept. 17**: 9th Annual Ken Ward Memorial Plow Rally, New Boston, NH
- **Sept. 17-18**: New England Public Works Expo, Boxboro, MA
- **Sept. 18-19**: 6th Annual NH Construction Career Days, New Boston, NH
- **Oct. 15**: New England Chapter APWA Fall Conference, Chelmsford, MA
- **Oct. 22**: 1st Annual NH Salt Symposium, Windham, NH
- **Nov. 12-13**: NH Municipal Association Conference, Manchester, NH
The NHPWA held the Annual Meeting on May 15, 2014, at the Derryfield Country Club in Manchester. This is the fourth year in a row we have returned to this municipally-owned golf course and events center, and the attendance continues to grow slightly every year. The Annual Meeting packs a lot of punch into one day, including technical presentations in the morning (worth 4 PDHs), luncheon business meeting, networking opportunities and a fund-raiser golf tournament in the afternoon.

Green infrastructure and low impact development (LID) were the themes of the technical sessions this year. Tamara Lee Pinard, Executive Director of the Long Creek Watershed Management District in Maine, provided an overview of this unique collaborative effort to address stormwater impacts in this highly impacted watershed with over 33% impervious cover. The Long Creek watershed straddles Portland, South Portland, Scarborough and Westbrook. It is home to the Maine Mall and the Portland International Jetport, and it is bisected by the Maine Turnpike. When business and municipal leaders were faced with either getting individual stormwater permits and going at it alone, to the tune of $11,000/acre/year, or associating into one general permit at $3,000/acre/year, the bottom line prevailed. The District has implemented changes which include vacuum sweeping of parking lots and streets (70% of impervious cover), cleaning all catch basins (found only 20% need annual cleaning), retrofitting existing lots and streets with stormwater treatment, and stream bank and channel restoration. The District is able to prioritize project locations across all four municipalities for environmental and cost effectiveness, and believes they are on track to meet their goal of cleaning up Long Creek by 2020.

Rob Robinson, P.E., is the City of Manchester Environmental Permits Coordinator, leader in the Manchester Area Stormwater Group, and member of the New England Stormwater Collaborative. The Manchester Area Stormwater Group assisted in getting passage of the stormwater utility enabling legislation in the State. The City of Manchester has investigated the feasibility of a stormwater utility district with assistance from Hoyle Tanner and AMEC. The City of Manchester was one of two NH MS4 communities that participated in an EPA study to determine the effectiveness of public outreach and stakeholder engagement in the success of stormwater funding, essentially via stormwater utility districts. Although the City has ample documentation that justifies the development of a stormwater utility district, at this point in time due to the economic and political climate, they have put the concept on hold.

Kari Mackenbach, National Green Infrastructure Practice Leader for URS Corporation, discussed incorporating sustainable practices and green infrastructure into existing and proposed infrastructure. She provided examples of recent project elements and their capital and maintenance costs including green roofs, pervious pavement and sidewalks, rain gardens, and bio-infiltration devices. She emphasized several key points, including treating rainwater as a resource and not as trash to be discarded as quickly as possible, right-sizing sewers and investing in green solutions rather than grey solutions.

Following these three excellent presentations and some time for all to catch up and network, a delicious buffet lunch was provided which rolled right into the annual business meeting. Treasurer Bruce Temple delivered the financial report; the membership elected new Board member Peter Rice, Portsmouth Public
2014 Annual Technical Meeting Highlights

by: John Trottier, P.E., NHPWA President

On Friday March 28, 2014 the NHPWA’s Annual Technical meeting was held at the NHDOT John O. Morton Building in Concord, NH, with approximately fifty people in attendance. The program included presentations on Asset Management, Working with Consultants and Climate Adaptation.

ASSET MANAGEMENT

Seth Garrison of Woodard & Curran, Bill Boulanger of the City of Dover, and Glenn Davison of the NHDOT comprised the speakers for this portion of the day. Each speaker shared his thoughts and experience on the importance of establishing an asset management program, actual implementation, and how asset management is utilized in everyday municipal operations and maintenance. Seth spoke of his experience with asset management in the realm of consulting for and regulating water and wastewater utilities. His presentation boiled down to three basic questions: what are your clients willing to pay for, what assets are critical to sustained performance, and what is the state of your assets. Bill touched on how asset management is integrated into their work order system, and gave a brief demonstration of Dover’s implementation of Vueworks software. Finally, Glenn explained the concept of the Statewide Asset Management Exchange System, and how partnerships between the RPC’s, NHDOT, and municipalities have really fostered the growth of this program.

WHY CAN’T CONSULTANTS DO WHAT WE WANT?

This section was presented by Nancy Mayville of the NHDOT, as well as Michael Penny of GeoInsight, Inc. and John Vancor of Hayner/Swanson. Municipalities, when working with consultants and contractors typically have numerous concerns, which come up repeatedly with contract terms and conditions. The intent of the discussion was to be a step toward helping both municipalities and consultants better understand the background of some of these contracting concerns. This question-and-answer segment focused on rules/regulations/requirements, risk management, and common contract terms used.

CLIMATE ADAPTATION

Presented by Sherry Godlewski from the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES), this section focused on the every-present battle Public Works Departments face in trying to keep up with what Mother Nature throws our way. Storm-related damage poses the greatest threat to the State’s infrastructure; including roads, buildings, potable water, sanitary sewer, communication and electrical systems. Climate change also poses a threat to all aspects of New Hampshire. By preparing for, and being prepared, for climate change, significant costs can be avoided.

Kevin Skarupa of WMUR News 9 provided an entertaining and informative luncheon presentation regarding recent weather patterns. The technical meeting concluded with a Board of Directors meeting.

If you have any suggestions for future meetings, including the Annual Meeting, such as topics for presentations, meeting venue, keynote speakers, or other activities, please share your ideas with a Board member. This is your association; make the most of it.
The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) has initiated a significant, multi-year effort to improve the technical standards as well as the operating and decision-making processes used by the Wetlands Bureau. Under this effort, referred to as the “Wetlands Program Rulemaking and Process Improvement Effort,” DES is examining all aspects of the program and undertaking a comprehensive rewrite of the rules governing the program. DES hopes that at the completion of this effort the Wetlands program requirements and permitting processes will be more transparent, predictable, and consistent, and ensure scientifically-based decisions that protect New Hampshire’s sensitive and important natural resources.

The last complete re-write of the wetlands rules was back in 1991. Since then there have been many piecemeal changes in the laws and rules and much advancement in our understanding of our natural systems and better engineering practices. In addition, the collection of different application and notification forms has expanded, leading to confusion for many applicants. In re-evaluating our current permit application and notification options, DES wants to ensure that the effort required of applicants, and the allocation of staff time for technical review, reflects the potential threat of proposed activities to aquatic resources. In this way, the resources and efforts of applicants and DES staff would be focused on minimizing impacts and threats to the most valuable or threatened resources. Activities expected to have lesser impacts could have reduced submission requirements. DES also is evaluating all of the technical design standards including those applied generally to all projects as well as those that are specific to a certain type of project (such as forestry or roadway maintenance) or certain type of resource (such as tidal areas).

Given the magnitude and significance of this major overhaul of the Wetland Program rules and procedures, the Department knows that it will require a substantial amount of time to do well and provide the necessary amount of discussion with stakeholders and the public. This effort will involve 3 phases running through 2015. Phase 1 is the Research and Listening Phase, which began October 2013. During Phase 1, DES staff is conducting research on a wide variety of topics and soliciting input from the broad array of stakeholders.

The Department plans to begin drafting rules during the Summer/Fall of 2014, and engage in additional stakeholder and public discussions throughout 2014 (Phase 2). If all goes well, the formal rulemaking process (Phase 3) will begin in early 2015, with new rules adopted by the end of 2015. This schedule will be adjusted to provide more time for public input or to explore new ideas if that proves necessary to reach consensus on the best approach for New Hampshire.

We are committed to working closely with our partner organizations, stakeholders, and concerned citizens during this project and we will strive to maintain an open dialogue to ensure that we identify the best possible strategies to achieve our goals. Please visit our Rulemaking and Process Improvement Website (http://des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/wetlands/process-improvement.htm) for information on the topics under evaluation, summaries of comments from the spring listening sessions, and a very simple survey tool to submit ideas and comments directly to the department.
9th Annual Ken Ward Memorial Plow Rally
by: Catherine Schoeneberger, President, Stay Safe Traffic

The 9th Annual Ken Ward Memorial Plow Rally will take place on Wednesday, September 17th at the Hillsborough County 4-H Youth Center. This event will be an opportunity for Municipal Driving Teams of two to hone their plowing skills, as well as experience an Equipment Exposition, Educational Workshops and possibly vie for the winner’s place in the Dana Wright Backhoe competition. Mark your calendars and scout your best team to compete.

Will the DOT team beat our Municipal Champs this year? Will it be the returning 2-time Champions from the Town of Weare again? Will the City of Franklin’s rookie team of last year return for the win? Where did your team place last year? Did you compete?

Take advantage of this event, including a free lunch, t-shirt and door prizes to all attendees. Competitors of the Plow Rally will also receive a hat, and the winners’ circle boasts lucrative gift cards and trophies.

If you would like more information on the Plow Rally, Equipment Expo or Educational Workshops, please contact/get in touch with Catherine Schoenenberger at staysafetrafic@aol.com or Beth Hamilton at e.hamilton@unh.edu.

New Venue for 6th Annual New Hampshire Construction Career Days
by: Catherine Schoeneberger, President, Stay Safe Traffic

New Hampshire Construction Career Days (NH CCD) will hold its 6th Annual event on September 18th and September 19th at the Hillsborough County 4-H Youth Center in New Boston. Since 2009 over 4,000 students from New Hampshire have participated. At the core, CCD events promote hands on activities, safety, diversity, partnerships, teamwork, continuous improvement and follow up for and to all of the students participating.

New Hampshire Public Works professionals and municipal agencies have been a huge source of support for this event. We are seeking Exhibitors, Sponsors and Volunteers throughout the Public Works community. Get involved. Make a difference. Please go to www.nhccd.weebly.com for more information, or contact Catherine Schoenenberger at staysafetrafic@aol.com.
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<td>NHDOT Representative</td>
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If you would like to volunteer, please contact John Trottier at jrtrottier@londonderrynh.org
Membership Application

Name: ____________________________________________________________

Title: ____________________________________________________________

Employer: _________________________________________________________

Street Address: ____________________________________________________

Mailing Address: ____________________________________________________

City, State, Zip: ____________________________________________________

Work Phone: ___________________________ Extension: ____ Fax: ____________

Work E-mail Address: ______________________________________________

Optional Group Membership

Group membership includes entire group such as Public Works Department/Engineering Department/Firm/Business. Each group will be allowed to have any and all members participate in the NHPWA events but can only have five members of the group listed for mailing purposes.

Please list four additional people with addresses, phone and email address:

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Membership dues: $25.00/Individual. $100.00/Group (up to 5 people on mailing list)
Membership term expires June 30.

Please mail this form along with payment to:

NH Public Works Association
53 Regional Drive, Suite 1
Concord, NH 03302