



2021, Edition 3 (autumn)

Supporting Water and Wastewater Systems in New Hampshire

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Panel of final judges give cheers at the Drinking Water Taste Test Contest. Left to right: Pierce Rigrod (NHDES), Rene Pelletier (NHDES), and Brandon Kernan (NHDES).

For Great Tasting Water... The Votes Are In!

GSRWA hosted its seventh annual Drinking Water Taste Test Contest on September 14th during our annual Operator Field Day and Exhibit Show. After careful deliberation by both the preliminary and final judges, **Keene Water Department placed first, while Francestown Water Department placed second.**

This is the first year Keene has won the contest.

Keene will now compete in the Great American Taste Test Contest held annually in Washington, D.C. during the National Rural Water Association Rally in February. We wish them the best of luck in representing New Hampshire. Congratulations, Keene!

Systems across New Hampshire submitted water samples the morning of Operator Field Day. The panels of judges evaluated samples for taste, bouquet, and clarity. The panels included representatives from New England Backflow ROC NH and New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services.

(Continued on page 9)

Our Mission

Supporting public water and wastewater systems by providing training, onsite technical assistance, and legislative representation.

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Board Director's Message

Dear Members,

It was great to see everyone in person at Mount Sunapee for Operator Field Day and the annual meeting on September 14th.

Some great awards were given to some very deserving people and organizations. The day was filled with many fun activities and learning opportunities. There were a variety of training classes to choose from with some excellent presenter's. Thank you to all the staff, exhibitors, vendors, volunteers and sponsors that made this year's event a success.



On September 13th the annual scholarship golf tournament was held at the Country Club of New Hampshire. Thank you to our co-host New England Backflow Inc. and the many other sponsors and volunteers that made the day successful and fun. There was a great turn out this year with approximately 60 golfers coming out to support the scholarship fund and enjoy a beautiful day on the golf course.

On another note, one of the many services GSRWA provides is technical training classes. GSRWA is currently offering both virtual and in-person classes. This is a renewal year for all water licenses holders and if you're still in need of continuing education units (CEU's) it's recommended you sign up as soon as possible because training classes are filling up quickly.

Finally, I want to take the time to thank all of our members for everything you do to provide water and wastewater services to the communities of New Hampshire. I hope everyone is able to get outside and enjoy autumn in New Hampshire. Stay healthy and safe.

Sincerely,

Aaron Costa
President, Board of Directors

From the Executive Director



Dear Member,

One of my family’s go-to sayings is “Just keep swimming...just keep swimming... swimming, swimming...just keep swimming...”. To get the full effect, you need to sing it like Dory in Finding Nemo. During this fall season, that “Swimming” song has been running through my head A LOT.

Our staff continues to shift with comings and goings. **Donny Boynton**, who has been a part of the Rural Water organization since 2003 is officially retiring at the end of October. When Donny transitioned from full-time to per-diem, he became our go-to pinch-hitter. So many times, services were able to continue seamlessly because Donny was there when needed. Also, **Emily Vulgamore** our Sourcewater Specialist, is moving on to become a Senior Aquatic Biologist for Solitude Lake Management. **Justin Shaw** has agreed to return to his former position so those sourcewater plans will still get done! Best wishes to Donny, Emily and Justin as they take a turn down life’s winding path. I’m the H.R. person who gets to do all the paperwork...just keep swimming.

Program funding through a USDA federal contract requires us to follow the recent Executive Order “Ensuring Adequate COVID Safety Protocols for Federal Contractors”. In very brief terms this mandates all GSRWA employees be vaccinated and wear masks in our workplace when community transmission is high or substantial. While this means only small changes for our organization, it feels big. It feels like we need to be ever vigilant, always perfect...just keep swimming.

GSRWA members are meeting stricter compliance regulations, learning all about ARPA grant applications, running systems while looking for new hires, and reacting to every emergency so drinking water stays safe and rivers stay clean. I hope that on most days it feels like progress is being made. On the days that don’t feel that way, please...just keep swimming.

Sincerely,

Heidi Lauricella
Executive Director

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May 24, 2021

Granite State Rural Water Association
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Your letters help secure funding for training and on-site technical assistance programs.

Please send your letters to:
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To Whom It May Concern:

The Warner Village Water District (The District) has been working on a groundwater discharge project for the past four years. During that time, the District has come up against many obstacles that we needed some advice and assistance to over come. Granite State Rural Water Association (Granite State) and your employee, Vinnie Melendez has been there behind the scenes from the beginning. We are a small water district within the Town of Warner and the residents are classified as low and moderate income families. Vinnie addressed our issues with professionalism and timeliness. He assisted us in better understanding the operation of our system and saved us thousands of dollars. We have had many meetings with Vinnie throughout the process and he has played a huge role as our project proceeds. We appreciate the expertise of Granite State and their employees, small precincts like ours would not have the resources that are provided by Granite State to get our project to completion in the near future.

Sincerely,

Ray Martin
District Administrator

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Operator Field Day



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Operator Field Day



Meter toss winners Brian Morway of Claremont and Naomi Hastings of Eastman Village District

Operator Field Day And the winners Are...



Operator Field Day Annual Meeting Award Winners



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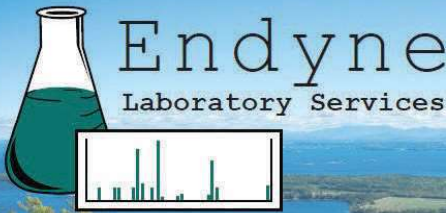
The Votes Are In! (continued from page 1)



Keene Water Wins First Place in the Drinking Water Taste Test Contest



Francestown holds the Runner-Up position in the Taste Test Contest



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We extend our gratitude to our preliminary judges, Aimee Whittmore (New England Backflow), Kinny Newell (New England Backflow), and Chris Clasby (ROC NH) in addition to our final panel, Pierce Rigrod (NHDES), Rene Pelletier (NHDES), and Brandon Kernan (NHDES). We would also like to thank Eastern Analytical for their continued support in sponsoring this event.

The Taste Test Contest makes light of the importance of clean, safe drinking water—something that is often taken for granted. As operators work hard to ensure health and human safety standards are met, this event continues to highlight the efforts that go into protecting and enhancing drinking water in New Hampshire. GSRWA thanks the systems for their continued effort with this endeavor! We have pride in our members.

Thank you to all participants. We hope to see your system next year!



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11/4	PFAS New Regulations & Funding	3	dw ww	\$35/\$50	Zoom Webinar
11/16	Handling Distribution	6	dw	\$99/\$130	Chesterfield, NH
11/18	Lab Skills for Operators	6	dw	\$65/\$88	Franklin, NH
12/7	Water Main Breaks, Pressure Loss & Contamination Issues	6	dw	\$99/\$130	Enfield, NH
12/9	Basic Safety for Water/Wastewater Operators	3	dw ww	\$35/\$50	Zoom Webinar
12/14	Understanding Your Motor Control Panel	5	dw	\$85/\$108	Madbury, NH
12/16	Intermediate Blueprint	6	dw	\$99/\$130	Hinsdale, NH

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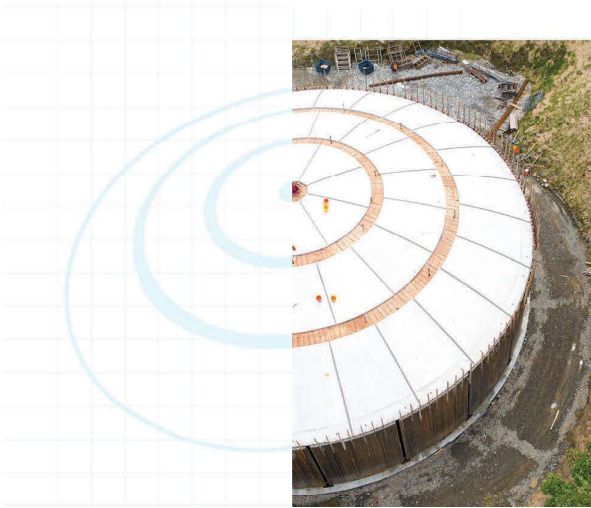
With any question please contact our training coordinator Morgan Carpenter - Pelletier
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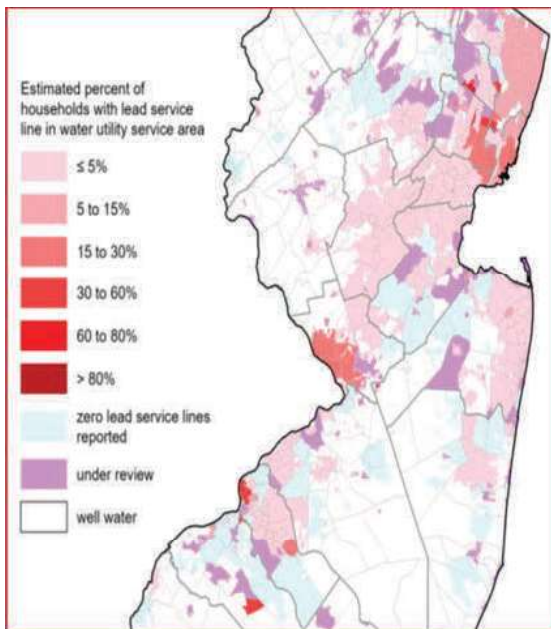
Service Line Inventories for the LCRR—Article 2

By Cynthia Klevens, P.E. / NHDES Water Treatment Engineer

EPA’s Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) are on schedule to be adopted in December 2021, including the requirement to identify and notify customers of their service line materials up to their water meter. Approximately 1200 New Hampshire non-transient public water systems serving from 25 to 160,000 customers will have 3 years from the new rule promulgation to develop their service line inventories and corresponding replacement plans for state approval.

How will we do this? Together! Many of you have good inventories already up to the curbstop, so will just be adding / updating those records to include the customer side. For those generally small and very small systems starting from scratch, NHDES has developed an excel-based template [HERE \(LINK PENDING\)](#) to help get you started.

Per the new LCRR, pipe materials must be classified into one of four categories: Lead, Non-Lead, Galvanized (or Iron Steel) requiring replacement, and Unknown. Any unknown materials will need to be investigated as part of the water system’s LSL Replacement Plan which is due at the same time as the LSL inventory.



Mapping is a great tool if you can take this extra step now, to make your own inventory and maintenance recordkeeping easier and to facilitate ongoing communications to the public. Mapping is not required under the LCRR but making the inventory information available to the public is, including annual education notices to each customer with existing lead components.

Technical assistance is available through the NHDES Asset Management Program, Granite State Rural Water Association, RCAP Solutions, NH Water Works, and the EPA LCR webpage. Watch for ongoing trainings and additional guidance as developed. NHDES also has a 50% Asset Management Grant for community water systems which can be used toward developing or updating your LSL inventory.

For additional information, please contact:

Luis Adorno at Luis.Adorno@des.nh.gov, 603-271-2472

Cynthia Klevens at Cynthia.Klevens@des.nh.gov, 603-271-3108

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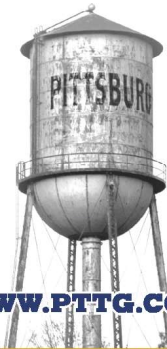
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Vinnie Melendez,
Wastewater Specialist

Operators, test your general knowledge of water and wastewater systems. Enjoy!

-Vinnie

References:

WEF Study Guide
Keystone Tap (PA
Rural Water)
WE&T Magazine-
WEF

- 5. B
- 4. C
- 3. B
- 2. C
- 1. C

Answers

Multiple Choice

1. *This represents the vast majority of physical infrastructure for wastewater systems. The wear and tear of this can pose intermittent or persistent health risks?*
 - A. Distribution system
 - B. Chemical feed system
 - C. Collection system
 - D. Intake structure
2. *What is the area of a trench that is 30.5 feet long and 6.5 feet wide ?*
 - A. 1982.50 sq/ft
 - B. 19.82 sq/ft
 - C. 198.25 sq/ft
 - D. 298.15 sq/ft
3. *When performing sewer maintenance, what is the term pig referring to ?*
 - A. A power rod
 - B. A bullet shaped object passed through a force main
 - C. Any foul-smelling equipment
 - D. The hydraulic rodding truck
4. *Clear water from foundation drains, cistern overflows, roof drains and similar sources?*
 - A. May be connected to either storm or sanitary sewers, whichever is most convenient.

Vinnie's Puzzle Corner

- B. Should be connected to sanitary sewers because it dilutes the wastewater and makes it easier to treat.
 - C. Should not be connected to sanitary sewers because it tends to hydraulically overload the collection system and wastewater treatment plant..
 - D. None of the above.
5. *A sewer 89.0 ft (27. m) MSL means ?*
- A. The top of the sewer is 89.0 ft (27.1 m) above mean sea level
 - B. The bottom of the interior diameter is 89.0 ft (27.1 m) above mean sea level.
 - C. The center of the pipe is at 89.0 ft (27.1 m) elevation.
 - D. The surface of the wastewater will flow at 89.0 ft (27.1 m) above mean sea level.



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FLEET Program

• The National Rural Water Association has created partnerships with motor groups to offer discounts to State Rural Water Associations and their utility system members.

• Member utilities should contact their State Rural Water Association to access the Rural Water Fleet Program.

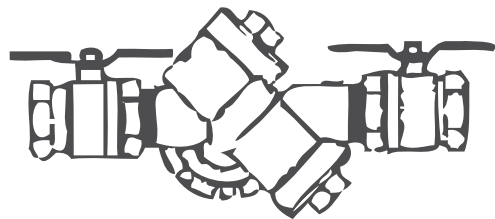
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