



OPERATOR

NEWS FOR WATER AND WASTEWATER PROFESSIONALS

2021, Edition 2 (summer)

Supporting Water and Wastewater Systems in New Hampshire

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Mountain Lakes Maintenance and Water Department



Photo Credit: Emily Vulgamore

Mountain Lakes and GSRWA—A Working Relationship

“If you do not have water, you do not have anything,” says Don Drew, General Manager of Mountain Lakes District’s Water and Maintenance Department. For a small district with infrastructure dating back to the 60s, Don understands the importance of maintaining and updating their critical assets and operational components. This is where Granite State Rural Water Association comes into play:

For 17 years, Mountain Lakes has maintained a working relationship with

drinking water Circuit Rider, Scott Clang. Both Don and Scott describe their connection as a professional friendship dedicated to finding and resolving problems as a team. As such, their joint approach is to observe, assess, provide recommendations, and offer options to move forward – even late at night or in freezing weather. Scott and Don understand what it takes to get the job done.

Over the years, Scott has aided in well assessments and leak detections. He has also provided guidance for a variety of

improvements and projects: Mountain Lakes recently moved operations back in-house rather than contracting an operator for daily monitoring. Additionally, they installed and re-wired an electrical system in their pump house and upgraded to a VFD soft-start pump system. This allows operation based on demand which saves water hammer and wear and tear. Installation of a direct line to the pump house chamber ensures the system

(continued on page 8)

Our Mission

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

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Keene Public Works

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Plymouth Village Water and Sewer District

Bruce Bottomley, Representative to NRWA

Tony Cavaliere, Member at Large
Marlborough Water Works

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Board Director's Message

Dear Member,

It sure seems like there is a light at the end of the tunnel! Summer is just around the corner, the sun is shining, vaccines are rolling out throughout this great country of ours, mask mandates are beginning to ease, and COVID 19 infections are starting to dwindle. I am hopeful that things will be back to normal soon and we can all finally see each other at the Operator Field day! Water and wastewater folks have not gotten any breaks during this pandemic, and most of us had to put in some extra hours. Lets all hang in there and get through this together.

Even during these crazy times, GSRWA is still just a phone call away. Our circuit riders are following all CDC guidelines (and system guidelines) while still providing top shelf service. We understand that water leaks, sewer backs ups, process issues, and water rate discussions are not on hold for the pandemic and neither are we.

Please give us a call if you need any circuit rider assistance, GIS work, Source Water Protection Work, or just need to sign up for an online class to get some continuing education credits for your water and sewer licenses.

As always, if you have any questions, please contact our new Executive Director, Heidi Lauricella, and she will be more than happy to assist you.

Sincerely,

Tony Cavaliere, Vice President
Board of Directors

From the Executive Director



Dear Member,

July 4th marks a special Independence Day for GSRWA. This is the day, if all goes as planned, that we officially end our Emergency Remote Assistance program. Our staff have been bravely traveling the state for many months already and they will continue to be available by phone and email. This official ending is to observe the closing of one chapter and opening of another. Our hope is to keep all the good that came out of this past year and add it to our already stellar in-the-field work.

This concept of keeping the best shows up in our fall class schedule. Our calendar is booked with nine in-person trainings that are located all around the state and six webinars that operators can take right from their own living room. Developing a solid live webinar training program has been one of the biggest silver linings from this pandemic.

There is also good news regarding our field work. On May 12th the EPA announced its anticipation to increase the grant award to National Rural Water Association by \$1.9 million dollars; bringing the award total to \$6.15 million. This means GSRWA will be able to add more funded hours of direct training and technical assistance to our smaller community systems.

Personally, I can't wait to see everyone at our first official in-person event, Operator Field Day. I want to toss the meter, sample the winning water entry, eat great BBQ and greet everyone who walks through the door. If you don't know who I am yet, I'll be the person with the biggest grin on her face. So PLEASE...Get your shots so we can get together!

With hope for the future,

Heidi Lauricella
Executive Director

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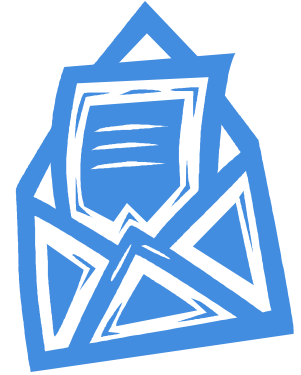
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Your Letters!



Elm Brook Village Cooperative, Inc.
P.O. Box 64
Contoocook, NH 03229

May 19, 2021

Granite State Rural Water Association
47 Main Street
Walpole, NH 03608

Re: Mapping Services provided

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of the Board of Directors of Elm Brook Village Cooperative, Inc., a resident-owned manufactured home village located in Contoocook, New Hampshire.

During a recent upgrade of our community water system, we became a member of Granite State Rural Water Association at the recommendation of our water operator as we were trying to detect whether a leak existed. During this process, we learned that our plans did not provide pertinent location information so we retained Granite State Rural to perform a mapping of our property, including curb stops at each lot and control valves to our main lines.

We understand NHDES has been enforcing record drawing regulations in New Hampshire and with the help of Granite State Rural Water Assoc. and the EPA Training & Technical Assistance program we believe we now have created compliant record drawings which will serve our community in the future.

We are most appreciative of Granite State Rural Water Association's professionalism and guidance.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "S. Sherman". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Sandra Sherman, VP
Aileen Marquis, Secretary
Mary Siebert, Operations Mgr
Jay Wolk, Treasurer

Your letters help secure funding for training and on-site technical assistance programs.

Please send your letters to:
GSRWA
P.O. Box 596
Walpole, NH 03608

Thank You! New and Renewing Members March to May 2021

Ashland Water & Sewer	HACH Company	Pickpocket Woods Well Association
Birdsall (Birdsall Inspections LLC)	Haley Ward	Pound Road Waterworks, Inc.
Canaan Water Department	Hanover Water Reclamation Facility	Presidential Pines Cooperative Inc
Carroll County Complex (County of Carroll)	HEB Engineers, Inc.	Rodgers Development Company
Catamount Hill Cooperative	Hilltop Cooperative, Inc.	Sanbornville Water Department
Charlestown Water Works	King Gage Engineering	Seabrook Wastewater Treatment
City of Dover Community Services Department	Laconia Water Works	Singing Hills Christian Fellowship
Colebrook Water Works	Lake Breeze MHP	Slope N Shore Club, Inc.
County Lane Manor, Inc.	Lakes Region Water Company	Suez Advanced Solutions & Utility Services Co., Inc.
Diamond View Associates, Inc.	Lane's End Inc/ Front Well System	Sunapee Water & Sewer Dept
DuBois & King	Lincoln Water Works	Susmann (Pump Man)
Dufresne Group	Lower Bartlett Water Precinct	Swanzey Sewer Department
Dundee Highland Water System	McConkey (Ossipee Mountain Estates Co-op)	Ti Sales Inc.
Fisherville Water Systems	Merrymeeting River MHP	Utilitronics/BMS
Fitzwilliam Village Water District	Milford Water Utilities	Village District of Bethlehem
Ford Meter Box Co., Inc	New Hampshire Community Loan Fund	Village District of Eidelweiss
Franconia Village and Mittersil Water Systems	New Hampton Village Precinct	West Stewartstown Water Precinct
FW Webb Waterworks	Newfields Village Water & Sewer	Windy Hill Coop North & South
Glenclyff Home Improvement Association	Newport Water & Sewer	Wolfeboro Water & Sewer Utilities
	Northfield Mount Hermon School	Woodstock Water & Wastewater

*Recognition to those systems who are renewing through to January 2023 coming soon.

Staff SPOTLIGHT: GSRWA's Wastewater Specialist, Vinnie Melendez

“There are too many success stories to chose a favorite” says Vinnie Melendez when reflecting back on his years with GSRWA. Vinnie did share the story of being called to Meriden Village Water District to review ongoing collection system inspections and record drawings. During an initial inspection by a third party, it was believed that one of three homes might be discharging a steady flow into the main. To pinpoint the home in question, Vinnie set up a camera on a manhole to view the sewer line above and below the laterals. He confirmed that a specific property on the lateral was utilizing a sump pump and was thus discharging a steady flow into the main. Vinnie gathered appropriate video evidence to allow the operator to approach the property owner and request they follow the sewer ordinances.

As a result of Vinnie’s collaboration with Village of Meriden, the system is currently in the process of reaching out to users on the system, and scheduling the next phase of the inspection process. “At the end of the day, it’s all about helping systems any way you can,” says Vinnie. Because of his assistance, the Village of Meriden now recognizes a one-time savings of \$1200 dollars and will continue to work with him for future improvements.

Vinnie Melendez, a 23-year veteran of both Granite State Rural Water Association and Northeast Rural Water Association, is the resident Wastewater Specialist. Before Granite State Rural Water Association became an independent entity in 2006, Vinnie served Vermont, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire. Currently, he solely serves New Hampshire by providing technical assistance and training to members and non-members alike. Much of his time is spent helping operators identify issues within their collection systems. This entails utilizing sewer cameras, smoke tests, and visual inspections. His goal is to keep operators in compliance with permit related CMOM regulations. Once issues are located and identified, Vinnie proposes funding options for equipment and processes repairs or replacements.

On a personal note, Vinnie has been married to his beautiful wife of 36 years. Together, they have one son who presently lives in North Carolina. Vinnie has lived in Greenfield, Massachusetts for 45 years. For the past 18 years, he has held an assistant head coach position for the Greenfield Highschool baseball team. In 2014, he received the Massachusetts Assistant Coach of the Year award, following a 2015 National Region I Assistant Coaches of the Year award. In addition to being an active member of his community, Vinnie enjoys hunting, fishing, and watching New England sports.



**Vinnie Melendez,
Wastewater Specialist**

Email: vmelendez@granitestatewater.org
Cell: 413-775-3751



Vinnie can frequently be found facilitating the Blueprint Reading trainings.



Vinnie is coordinating this year’s Scholarship Golf Tournament happening on September 13th. Contact Vinnie if you would like to join in the fun.

NH is Getting the Lead Out

A series by Cynthia Klevens, P.E. / NHDES Water Treatment Engineer

The federal Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) were published Jan 15, 2021, and must be adopted by states within 2 years of final promulgation. The rule is currently on hold for review by the new administration and additional stakeholder input, but is expected to be finalized by the end of the year. These revisions constitute the first major overhaul of the original LCR enacted in 1991. NHDES will provide outreach and guidance to the approximately 1200 non-transient water systems in the state to assist with planning and implementation.

This is the first of a series of LCRR articles to inform you of the rule's major changes, which currently include the following:

- Acute 24-hour public notification for Lead Action Level Exceedances;
- New 10 ppb 90th percentile "Trigger Level", in addition to the existing 15 ppb Action Level, that will require corrosion control review, return to annual sampling at all sample locations, public notification to customers with lead service lines (LSL), and initiation of goal-based full LSL replacements;
- "Find and Fix" confirmation lead and water quality parameter sampling at individual sites testing above 15 ppb, even if passing the 90th percentile;



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(continued on page 11)

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Mountain Lakes (continued from page 1)

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(Continued from page 1)

is not over-pressurized, and the deployment of a SCADA system allows remote system monitoring – both monumental projects for Mountain Lakes. In fact, when asked what the most essential improvement has been, Don expressed equal importance among them all.

Mountain Lakes District is overseen by a water committee that is comprised of sharp and involved department members and commissioners. Both Don and Scott serve on the committee to offer insight about what is happening and suggest recommendations for system maintenance. Together they discuss what works, what does not, and how to move forward. Scott is able to connect Mountain Lakes to needed resources. Recently, this involved reaching out to engineering firms to address hydrogeological questions and assist with well development.

Utilizing circuit riders is not the only way Mountain Lakes connects with GSRWA. Don attends our webinars and classes to glean information that will in turn serve the district. He views his attendance as critical means to understanding and researching problems at hand. Courses assist him in finding and fixing existing issues and making necessary adjustments to prevent future problems before they arise. Don describes research as an imperative accessory of maintenance.

Mountain Lakes has invested extensive time and effort to improve their system. With Don's leadership and Scott's assistance, they have been able to both protect and improve the drinking water. "Water systems are here forever," says Don. "No water, no community."

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Training Class Schedule



New trainings are always in the works

Please periodically visit our website for the latest information

Date	Course	TCH' s	DES Approved	Mem/Non-Mem	Location
9/23/21	PFAS New Regulations & Funding	3	dw & ww	\$35/\$50	Zoom Webinar
9/30/21	How to Protect Your Utility from Cyber Attacks	2	dw & ww	\$28/\$36	Zoom Webinar
10/13/21	Handling Distribution Components	6	dw & ww	\$99/\$130	Concord, NH
10/14/21	Chemical Feed: Staying with the Flow	3	dw & ww	\$35/\$50	Zoom Webinar
10/26/21	Backflow, Cross Connection and Meter Change-out	4	dw	\$65/\$88	Franklin, NH
10/28/21	Wastewater Pump Station: Troubleshooting & Maintenance	2	ww	\$28/\$36	Zoom Webinar
11/2/21	Dealing with High Strength Discharges & Brewery Tour	6	ww	\$99/\$130	Keene, NH
11/4/21	PFAS New Regulations & Funding	3	dw & ww	\$35/\$50	Zoom Webinar
11/16/21	Handling Distribution Components	6	dw & ww	\$99/\$130	Chesterfield, NH
11/18/21	Lab Skills for Operators	6	dw & ww	\$65/\$88	Franklin, NH
12/7/21	Water Main Breaks, Pressure Loss & Contamination Issues	6	dw	\$99/\$130	Enfield, NH
12/9/21	Basic Safety for Water/Wastewater Operators	3	dw & ww	\$35/\$50	Zoom Webinar
12/14/21	Understanding Your Motor Control Panel	5	dw & ww	\$85/\$108	Madbury, NH
12/16/21	Intermediate Blueprint Reading	6	dw & ww	\$99/\$130	Hinsdale, NH

To Register:

Visit our website www.granitestatewater.org.

Pay online or mail in a payment to GSRWA, PO Box 596, Walpole, NH 03608

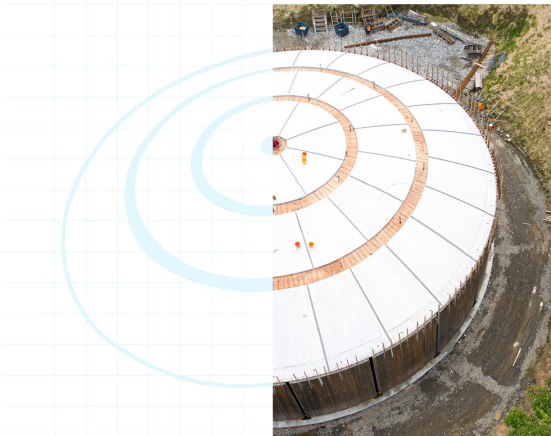
With any question please contact our training coordinator Morgan Carpenter - Pelletier (603) 756-3670, email info@granitestatewater.org

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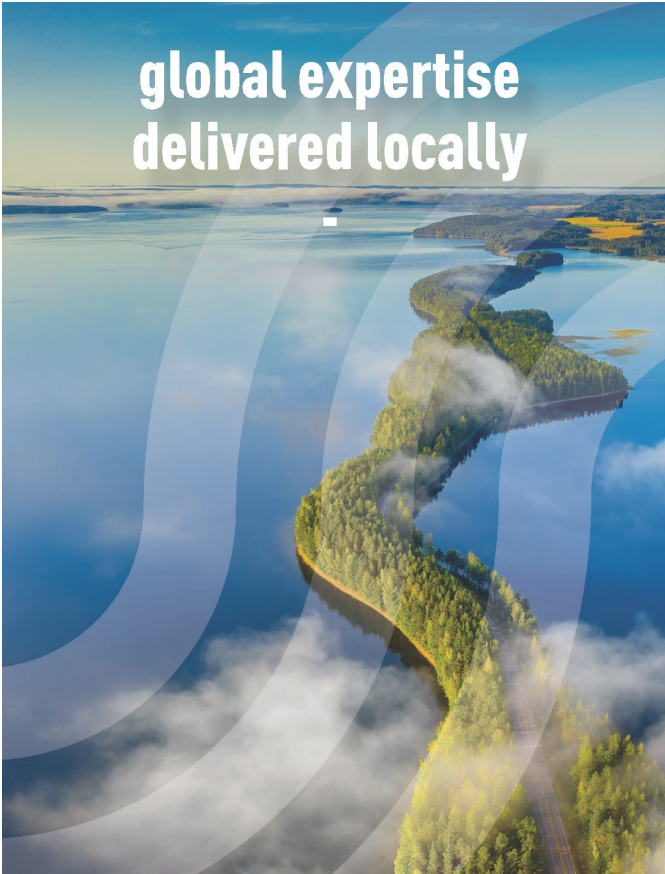
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NH is Getting the Lead Out (continued from page 7)

- Publicly available service line materials inventory and LSL replacement plans by 3 years of rule final promulgation. Inventory must include utility and customer-owned portions and be categorized as either lead pipe, galvanized requiring replacement, lead-unknown, or non-lead;
- New sample tier definitions and sample site review to perform all sampling at LSL sites, if available, and highest non-lead sites;
- Reset to Round 1 semi-annual sampling at all sample locations upon adoption of the new rule, unless confirmed to have all non-lead service lines;
- Testing first and fifth liter, first draw, stagnant water samples at every LSL sample site;
- Provision of 6 months of certified lead point of use or Pitcher Filters following replacement of LSLs; and,
- Testing in Elementary Schools and Licensed Childcare facilities (anticipated compliance via existing NH Lead Bill SB247).

Please contact Cynthia.Klevens@des.nh.gov and visit <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/final-revisions-lead-and-copper-rule> for additional information. Article 2 in this series will focus on common means and methods to develop your **LSL Inventories**, so we invite your comments and recommendations as we work together to Get the Lead Out of New Hampshire drinking water!



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2021 Operator Field Day & Exhibit Show

September 14, 2021



Mount Sunapee Resort
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- ◆ Learn about products and services for your system at our trade show.
- ◆ Compete in our annual *Meter Toss* and *Water Taste Test* contests.
- ◆ Enjoy a fun day at Mt Sunapee Resort with BBQ and Chairlift rides.

Seminar Series

Please check our website this summer for the list of seminars. We will host nine different classes throughout the day, with the option to attend up to four. All seminars will be credit approved by NHDES for drinking water and/or wastewater credit.

Event Details

Date: September 14, 2021

**Location: Mount Sunapee Resort
Newbury, NH**

**To Register: Please visit our website
Granitestatewater.org or call 603-756-3670**





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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Vinnie Melendez,
Wastewater Specialist

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

-Vinnie

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.
 - 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.
6. The velocity of flow in a force main during "pump-on" condition should be approximately ?

Vinnie's Puzzle Corner

6. (Continued)
 - A. 0 to 1 ft/sec
 - B. 1 to 3 ft/sec
 - C. 3 to 6 ft/sec
 - D. 9 to 12 ft/sec
7. Any trench that is more than ___ ft deep must be shored ?
 - A. 5 ft
 - B. 6 ft
 - C. 8 ft
 - D. 10 ft
8. Slope of a sewer may be defined as ?
 - A. The hydraulic grade divided by slope.
 - B. The rise over the run.
 - C. The rim elevation minus the invert elevation.
 - D. None of the above.
9. The total dynamic head of flowing liquid is ?
 - A. The velocity head plus the static head.
 - B. The static head plus the miscellaneous head
 - C. The velocity head plus the static head plus the miscellaneous head during pumping.
 - D. None of the above
10. The term kilowatt-hours is best applied to ?
 - A. Power.
 - B. Energy.
 - C. Capacity.
 - D. Resistance.

True or False

11. T or F Color can be indicative of activated sludge health.
12. T or F The activated sludge process is an anaerobic, suspended growth biological treatment method.
13. T or F Condensation is water coming out of the air.

References:

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

GSRWA Welcomes Lauren MacLachlan

Please welcome Lauren MacLachlan who is joining GSRWA for the summer. She is pitching in to help us with Operator Field Day, member services, and office administration. Lauren just graduated from The University of New Hampshire and is discerning what she wants to do next. She is excited to learn all about what we do in the water and wastewater field!



Quiz Corner Answers:

- | | |
|---|-----------|
| 1. C. | 7. A. |
| 2. C : 30.5 ft X 6.5 ft =
198.25 sq/ft | 8. B. |
| 3. B. | 9. C. |
| 4. C. | 10. A. |
| 5. B. | 11. True |
| 6. C. | 12. False |

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