



Fall 2022 Edition 3

Supporting Water and Wastewater Systems in New Hampshire

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Another Operator Field Day for the Books!

With thunder and lightning in the forecast for the Mt Sunapee Valley, the call was made to move 300 people inside for GSRWA's annual conference and trade show. Maps were redrawn, tables shifted, classrooms and lunch were completely relocated. In the end no one got zapped, but everyone got pretty soggy. Operators ventured out side to get to seminars, toss the meter, and try their hand at dowsing. A couple brave souls made it onto the chairlift for a ride into the clouds.

A lot got packed into this one day. Our annual Members' Meeting convened where Jason Randall and Tony Cavaliere stepped forward to serve another three-year term on the board. Ten seminars provided amply opportunity for operators to hear about updates in regulations and learn about latest technologies. Lastly, 47 industry businesses and organizations hosted exhibitor booths to make connections with constituents.

With everyone making adjustments and running between rain drops, another Operator Field Day is successfully in the books.



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 Member,
Thank you to all of our members, vendors, venue staff, sponsors, volunteers, and GSRWA staff for an awesome 2022 Operator Field Day! Even in the rain, it was a great day for all involved. Classes were held by knowledgeable instructors, meters were thrown in the rain, vendors got the chance to meet all of you operators, friendships were formed and reignited, raffles were won, prizes were given, and a great buffet lunch was had by all.

Personally, I learned a lot about emerging contaminants and the regulations that come along with them, what funding sources are available to fund the projects we all need to get done, and even learned about how to lobby for our industry at the local, state, and federal level. It was also nice to meet new faces, and re-connect with old friends and colleagues.

Folks in the water and sewer industry work hard every day and it is nice to take a day to relax a little. Speaking of relaxing, thank you to NE Backflow for sponsoring the massage chair once again this year.

The GSRWA staff worked hard all year to make this event happen and I am glad that everyone had a great day, despite the weather. We will be back next year and we hope to see you all again!

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

Sincerely,
Tony Cavaliere, Vice President
GSRWA Board of Directors



From the Executive Director



Dear Member,
There's a heated discussion happening in the Lauricella household. Should we become urine donors for the pee-cycling program that recently started in our town? Both my husband Rob, and I are in the water/wastewater industry so maybe we need to walk-the-walk, as the saying goes.

The non-profit Rich Earth Institute (REI) just opened its second collection site at the Rockingham VT Recycle Center and they are looking for donors. This research and demonstration organization is sanitizing urine to create fertilizer that is used by local farmers. According to REI, "The urine we each produce in a day contains enough fertilizer to grow the wheat for a whole loaf of bread." A donor could conserve approximately 4,000 gallons of flush water each year. That's both fresh water saved, and wastewater that does not need to be treated.

With biosolids already getting composted maybe this is just the next step in reducing our human waste impact. This could become a very different way for us to manage our water world. We shall see... and I'll keep you posted.

With hope for the future,
Heidi



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Your Letters!



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Dear Ms. Lauricella,

June 24, 2022

I am sending this letter to you on behalf of the Town of Canaan concerning the services provided by Granite state Rural Water's circuit riders. Like many other small water and sewer systems we do not have that engineer or consultant on speed dial. We can't include that fifty grand as a line item in our budget. So, instead we utilize Granite State Rural Water and your circuit riders as our go-to alternative. We can call them any time of the day and know that they are there at the ready to help us. We depend on your circuit rider's years of experience and wealth of knowledge to help us with our issues and if they don't have the answer for us, they will reach out through their close network of operators throughout the state to find the answer. We view the circuit riders as a critical component to the operation of our facilities. In baseball terms they are our Bull Pen. Ever at the ready to help that small system operator. I would like to recognize the GSRWA circuit rider team of wastewater specialist Vinnie Melendez, drinking water specialist Dale Curtis, and (now retired) drinking water specialist Scott Clang. They go above and beyond when it comes to servicing our needs here at Canaan. We appreciate their help and assistance.

Thank You,
John J. Coffey
Town of Canaan N.H.



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

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GSRWA

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Drinking Water Taste Test Competition

GSRWA hosted its eight annual Drinking Water Taste Test Contest on September 13th during our annual Operator Field Day and Exhibit Show. After careful deliberation by both the preliminary and final judges, Orford Water Department placed first, while Farmington Water Department placed second.

Orford 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, Orford!

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 the water industry, funding organizations, and environmental regulators.

We extend our gratitude to: Our preliminary judges, Aimee Whittemore and Eva Rugoletti of New England Backflow, and Alan Blake and Carlos Rincon of ROC NH. Our finalist judges Besty Davis of EPA Region I, Rene Pelletier of NHDES, and Shaun Fielder of USDA-

RD. We would also like to thank Eastern Analytical for their continued support in sponsoring this event.

The Taste Test Contest lightheartedly acknowledges the importance of clean, safe drinking water. 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!



Congratulations Orford and Farmington

Meter Toss Competition



Submitted by Competition Coordinator Vinnie Melendez

The 2022 meter toss competition was a very wet affair this year. It wasn't quite as fierce as it has been, but it still was a very spirited group of throwers that braved the elements. Although this year didn't provide for a great spectator opportunity it did allow the participants and few spectators that we had a chance to enjoy some comradery and the ability to root for coworkers, the weather unfortunately knocked down the numbers significantly but didn't ruin the competitive nature of the event.

The goal of the competition is to hurl an inch and a half water meter as far as possible on our meter toss field. This year the weather was less that optimal and was definitely a contributing factor to the relatively small field of throwers toeing the line. I'm sure there were several sore backs and a couple of sore arms but I'm happy to report no new worker's comp cases were filed. Although no new records were broken all that participated had a great time.

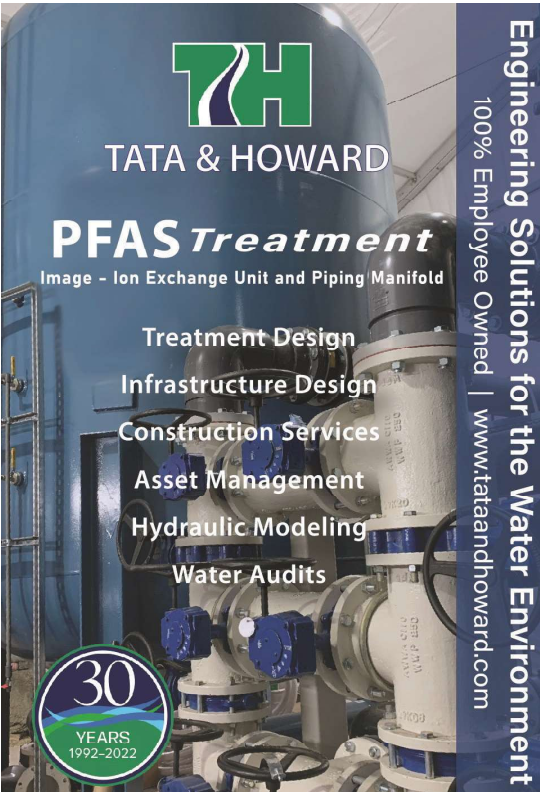
In the always hotly contested men's division, a winning toss of 54'.0" by Eli Raymond of Capital Well (one of our vendors) beat out the second place toss by Robert Wood from Seabrook Water Department 51'.0". I'm happy to report our OFD Meter Toss record by (Sly Karasinski of the North Swanzezy Water Department 72'.0") is still intact for another year. Great job guys.

Continued on page 14



Operator Field Day Photo Album





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Granite State Rural Water Association Water Environmental Science Scholarship Program

GSRWA provides training and technical assistance to water and wastewater systems throughout the state. This trade association has created a scholarship fund to provide financial assistance to GSRWA member employees and their dependents who wish to pursue a career related to the water industry.

Scholarship Amount: Two scholarships of \$1250 each are awarded each year.

Eligibility:

- Be a GSRWA member employee or a dependent of a GSRWA member employee.
- Accepted to a degree program at an accredited college or university.
- Seeking a professional career in the water or wastewater industry, or in a career that has direct relevance. Course of studies include but are not limited to environmental science, public works management, water & wastewater technology, natural resources, hydrology, and engineering.

Required Documents:

- Completed GSRWA Scholarship Application
- School transcript of grades— If current or recently graduated high school or college student
- Letter of Recommendation from GSRWA member supervisor—If GSRWA member employee

To Apply:

- Download application from the GSRWA website <https://www.granitestatewater.org/#!event-list>
Or request application by emailing info@granitestatewater.org.
- Submit all documents.
Email as attachment to info@granitestatewater.org. or
Mail to GSRWA, attn: Scholarship Committee, PO Box 596, Walpole NH 03608.
- For more information contact Heidi Lauricella, Executive Director by emailing Heidi@granitestatewater.org, or by phoning 603-756-3670.

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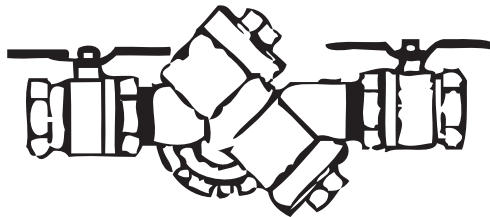
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Date	Course	TCH's	DES Approved	Mem/Non-Mem	Location
10/13/22	Common Contaminants in NH & Treatment	6	DW	\$102/\$134	Woodstock, NH
10/18/22	Polymer Optimization	2	DW & WW	\$30/\$38	Virtual
10/20/22	How To Start & Fund an Asset Mgmt Program from Scratch/Business Continuity & Emergency Response	3	DW & WW	\$37/\$52	Virtual
10/25/22	Small Systems aren't Small Potatoes	2	DW & WW	\$30/\$38	Virtual
11/3/22	Understanding Your Motor Control Panel	5	DW & WW	\$88/\$112	North Conway, NH
11/10/22	Advanced Blue Print Reading	6	DW & WW	\$102/\$134	Hinsdale, NH
11/15/22	Septic 101	6/4	6 Installer & Designer and 4 WW	\$102/\$134	Chesterfield, NH
11/17/22	Treating Iron & Manganese in Small PWS (with tour of Grey Ledges)	6	DW	\$102/\$134	Grantham, NH
11/22/22	Basic Safety for Water/Wastewater Operators	6	DW & WW	\$102/\$134	Gorham, NH
12/1/22	Surface Water Treatment for Package Plants	6	DW	\$102/\$134	Pittsfield, NH
12/6/22	Water Meters & Chemical Feed Pumps	5	DW & WW	\$88/\$112	Lebanon, NH
12/13/22	Backflow, Cross Connect & Meter Change Out	4	DW & WW	\$68/\$91	Franklin, NH
12/15/22	How To Start & Fund an Asset Management Program from Scratch	2	DW & WW	\$30/\$38	Virtual

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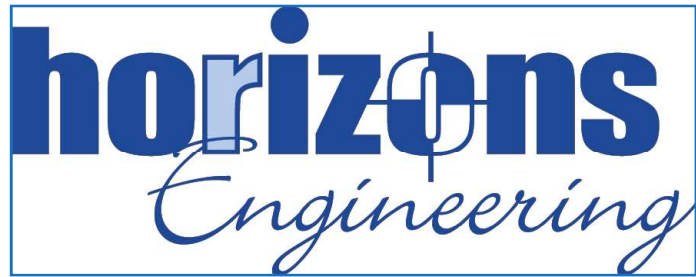
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Meter Toss Competition continued from page 7

In the fiercely competitive woman's division, a winning toss of 30'.0" was thrown by Andrea Day (Dufresne Group, last year's second place thrower) beating out Naomi Hastings of the Village District of Eastman (Last year's winner in this event) with a second place throw of 28.6'. Nice Job ladies!! An honorable mention goes out to Betsy Davis of EPA for continually showing up with that big smile, big effort and always looking to compete. Next year I'm expecting a big agency competition between USDA, EPA and of course NHDES.



I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the meter toss participants which help make this event what it is. I would like to thank my assistant Ethan Sudan for stepping in this year to help me out. **Thanks Ethan, much appreciated!** A special **"THANK YOU"** goes out to Robbie Lockhart of EJ Prescott and the rest of Team Prescott for their continued support of this event. This event wouldn't and couldn't happen without their support and sponsorship efforts...THANKS Again. See you in the field, and thank you all for supporting our efforts, see you next year.

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