

- AGENDA -

NH Lower Merrimack Valley Stormwater Coalition Meeting

Remote Meeting via Zoom (check your email and Outlook invitation from Deb Loiselle for details)

Thursday, January 12, 2023

1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Present:

<i>Dawn Tuomala, Chair</i>	<i>Milford</i>	<i>Scott McPhie</i>	<i>Nashua</i>
<i>Jeanne Walker, Chair</i>	<i>Bedford</i>	<i>Doug Starr</i>	<i>Nashua</i>
<i>Brian Arsenaault</i>	<i>Allenstown</i>	<i>Sara Siskavich</i>	<i>NashuaRPC</i>
<i>Joe Jordan</i>	<i>Amherst</i>	<i>Andrea Bejtlich</i>	<i>NHDES</i>
<i>Eric Slosek</i>	<i>Amherst</i>	<i>Steve Landry</i>	<i>NHDES</i>
<i>Brandon Boisvert</i>	<i>Bedford</i>	<i>Deb Loiselle</i>	<i>NHDES</i>
<i>Craig Durrett</i>	<i>Derry</i>	<i>Tom Swenson</i>	<i>NHDES</i>
<i>Michelle Vuto</i>	<i>EPA</i>	<i>Melissa Macheras</i>	<i>NHDES</i>
<i>Scott Ozana</i>	<i>Goffstown</i>	<i>Matt Wood</i>	<i>NHDES</i>
<i>Dave Gleason</i>	<i>Hazen and Sawyer</i>	<i>Dena Hoffman</i>	<i>Pelham</i>
<i>Joan Cudworth</i>	<i>Hollis</i>	<i>Christine Addington</i>	<i>Pembroke</i>
<i>Ben Berthium</i>	<i>Hooksett</i>	<i>Victor (VJ) Ranfos</i>	<i>Pembroke</i>
<i>Heidi Marshall</i>	<i>Hoyle-Tanner</i>	<i>Zach Swick</i>	<i>SNHRPC</i>
<i>Nate Guerette</i>	<i>Laconia</i>	<i>Kaitlyn Allen</i>	<i>Verdantas</i>
<i>Kim Kleiner</i>	<i>Litchfield</i>	<i>Nick Germain</i>	<i>Wilton</i>
<i>Amy Gill</i>	<i>Nashua</i>	<i>Alex Mello</i>	<i>Windham</i>

1. Introductions

- Roll call was done alphabetically by municipality or affiliation.

2. Approve meeting minutes

- The November 17, 2022 meeting minutes were approved.

3. Update:

- Dawn has left Merrimack and is now the Town Engineer in Milford. She will remain the co-chair of the coalition.

4. EPA Liaison and NH MS4 Updates – Michelle Vuto (EPA)

- Michelle Vuto presented.
- Martine Wang has moved on and Michelle is the new liaison for New Hampshire MS4.
- The Year 4 Annual Report review is currently wrapping up.
- Michelle gave an overview of the Stormwater Permits Section. The Stormwater Permits Section is **not** the enforcement section.
- The Water Division is broken into:
 - Surface Water Protection
 - Drinking Water & Municipal Assistance Branch
 - Water Permits Branch.
 - a. Municipal and Industrial Permits Section
 - b. Stormwater Permits Section
 1. Damien Houlihan- Manager
 2. Newton Tedder- MS4
 3. Michelle Vuto- NHMS4 and CGP
 4. Danielle Gaito- Individual SW Permits
 5. Shauna Little= Dewatering/ Remediation General Permit, Individual SW Permits
 6. Abed Ragab- MSGP, Individual SW Permits

7. John Nagle- Biological permitting

- “Urbanized Areas” is no longer used in the census. EPA is proposing to change the definition of an MS4 Area from “urbanized area” to “urbanized area with a population of at least 50,000”. The comment period is open until 1/18. There really will be no change in how permittees are selected for the NHMS4 permit if the changes are approved.
- There will be a new reporting system with the new version of the NHMS4 permit. The new version of the permit will not be out before the 2017 MS4 Permit ends.
- Communities will receive a letter extending the current NHMS4 permit soon.
- Q- Is EPA in the office or still working remotely?
 - A- Both, we are working both remotely and in the office.
- Q- Is the 50,000 population over a specific area?
 - A- That has not been decided yet.

5. Watershed Assistance Planning Grant for Sodium Chloride in Drinking Water – Steve Landry and Melissa Macheras (NHDES)

- Steve Landry presented
- RFP is live for the Watershed Assistance Grant for Sodium Chloride in Drinking Water.
- New Hampshire applies 400 tons of salt per year. The chloride concentration has increased 70% in the lakes and ponds in New Hampshire. The salt permeates mostly in older, middle-aged lakes, and urbanized areas. Parking lots and municipal roadways are the biggest contributors.
- Melissa Macheras presented
- Sodium chloride in drinking water is problematic for the health of people and pipe systems. There has been a 150% increase in sodium chloride in wells.
- This grant is available for Public Water Supplies with sodium chloride concentrations of 50 mg/L or more.
- Please contact Steve or Melissa before Feb 3rd, 2023 if you would like more information about the grant.
- There is \$80k available and no match required. This will be a competitive funding cycle. The grant requires the plan to be an a-I watershed-based plan or EPA approved alternative plan. This ensures the projects are eligible for 319 funds in the future.
- MS4 communities can use the funds to meet an MS4 requirement since the grant funding source is not federal.
- Q- When is the state (non DOT) going to mandate its own contractors be Green SnowPro certified and/or follow BMPs for salt reduction.
 - A- Great question! We are working with NHDAS to get this done. Steve will bring this up to Ted Diers as well.

6. 2024 303(d) Assessment List Data – Matt Wood (NHDES)

- Matt Wood presented.
- Matt is the Water Quality Assessment Program Coordinator.
- NHDES has put out a request for any water quality related data or information that is out there that hasn't already been sent to NHDES so that it can be included in the 2024 assessment cycle.
- Assessment cycles are done every two years but takes about a year to complete so we are starting on the 2024 cycle now.
- Even though you send data to EPA, it doesn't necessarily go to NHDES. If you want to know if NHDES has received the data, please contact [Matt Wood](#).
- Q- How much data do you need?
 - A- We will take any data. The Environmental Monitoring Database (EMD) can accept pretty much any type of data. Every waterbody has a unique assessment ID. All the data for each assessment unit is analyzed.

- Q- What form should the data be submitted in? Raw lab data? Spreadsheet summary? Some data is collected under other programs. What kind of proof do you need for QA/QC?
 - Whatever information in whatever form you have it in but preferably in an Excel file if possible. We can then format it more if needed. Lab data sheets are helpful to know the detection limits. We are looking for: Location sampled at (coordinates are best but maps are fine). If you have a memo, QA reports, or SOPs, that would be helpful. The more information the better!
- Q- If Goffstown is working with VRAP, do we still need to submit the data?
 - A- If sampling is done through NHDES, the program would submit the data for you.
- The deadline to submit data is January 27th. If you can't submit data before the deadline, please reach out and let Matt know.

7. December Holiday Meeting Summary

- Jeanne presented.
- The holiday meeting was in person in Merrimack.
- Deb gave an update on CWNS during the meeting.
- We had a round table discussion on a variety of MS4 topics which was very helpful.
- We also started working on rough ideas for a NHLMV logo.

8. Year 5 Requirements Table

- Tom presented.
- The requirements tables can be found on the [NH MS4 Website](#) on the Annual Reports/NOIs page. There's a table for [new permittees](#) as well as table for [existing/old permittees](#).
- The status column shows how the requirement will be fulfilled.
 - Municipal Specific- up to each community to fulfill the requirement.
 - A blank cell means the coalition is working on getting resources prepared to help everyone fulfill the requirement.
- Tom will be updating the table as resources become available. We will be working on the Appendix F & H requirements in the coming months.
 - If you have a chloride TMDL or impairment, you need to fully implement your Chloride/Salt Reduction Plan by the end of Year 5.
 - a. We will go over the plans during the February and March coalition meetings. Please bring your Chloride/Salt Reduction Plans with you to the next few meetings.
 - Permittees with Nitrogen and Phosphorus Impairments have requirements to complete. We will supply resources for this during the April and May meetings.
 - This year permittees with Phosphorus TMDL must finish their Lake Phosphorus Control Plans. We will supply resources for this during the May and June meetings.

9. Industrial Audience Outreach Materials

- Tom presented
- It is required that all permittees do two outreach efforts to the industrial audiences within their MS4 area during the five-year permit period.
- We had already done one round of outreach to the industrial audience in Year 3 and now we will do a second round this year.
- This is a requirement for **all** permittees.
- The Year 3 and Year 5 outreach resources can be found under the Industrial Facilities Resources on the [MCM #1 webpage](#).
- Please use the Year 5 resources for this outreach effort.

- Year 5 Industrial Facilities [Outreach Letter](#)
 - a. The yellow highlighted text shows where you need to add your permittees information and the information for the facility you are contacting.
 - b. A new paragraph was added to talk about the new requirements of the 2021 MSGP.
- Year 5 Industrial Facilities [Fact Sheet](#)
 - a. The yellow highlighted text shows where you need to add your permittees information.
 - b. Most of the changes to the MSGP are in the monitoring requirements so these are listed at the bottom of the fact sheet in their own section.
- Q- Are we sending the information to all the Industrial Facilities in each community or just within the MS4 area?
 - A- It is up to each community on how to handle this. The permit requires that you reach out to facilities within your MS4 boundaries, but you could also send it to everyone within your municipal boundaries.
- A list of Industrial Facilities in each community has been created.
 - These can be found on the [Permittee-Specific Page](#) for each community.
 - a. Columns A-G give the general information for each facility.
 - b. These lists were created using information obtained from EPA.
 1. **Please note:** The lists contain any facilities that have filed under MSGP or received a no exposure waiver. It's possible the information supplied in the lists is outdated or that facilities could be missing.
 - Some permittee's list may say that there aren't any industrial facilities within their municipal boundaries. This could be true but there could also just be facilities that have not registered with EPA. Make sure to take a little time and look around to see if there are any facilities you could contact.
 - Q- Does this have to be through certified mail to document the fact that you did it?
 - a. A- No, you do not need to use certified mail. You can just keep copies of the outreach resources and who you sent them too.
 - Q- If the only company is the Goffstown Transfer Station. Do we have to send ourselves a letter?
 - a. A- No, since you have a SWPPP you should be covered. You could put the flyer up at the transfer station so the employees that work there can look at it.

10. NH MS4 Contact List

- Tom presented.
- Have heard that communities would like a NH MS4 Contact List to allow them to know who to contact in other communities.
- The list would be completely voluntary.
- Each community could add as little or as much information as they wanted.
- We would make it password protected so members of the public couldn't access it.

11. Water Environment Federation (WEF) MS4 Survey

- Deb presented.
- [2022 National Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Needs Assessment Survey](#)
- This is **not** the same survey as the Clean Watershed Needs Survey (CWNS).
- Every two years, WEF conducts a national survey of all MS4 communities. The last time it was completed was 2020.
- They are looking for information on your MS4 status, where do you need help, what should they be focusing their webinars on, etc.

- Please participate in this survey.
- Have one individual per MS4 community fill it out. If you aren't sure if anyone has already done it, please contact [Bianca Pinto](#).
- It is much easier and faster to fill out than CWNS. Deb is going to see if someone from WEF is available to come to the February coalition meeting to talk about this more.

12. Clean Watershed Needs Survey (CWNS)

- Deb presented.
- A huge thank you to everyone that filled out the survey!
- 45 communities participated in the survey and 27 were MS4 communities.
- There was \$496 million in stormwater needs from those 45 communities.
- When EPA approves the funding data, NH will extrapolate the data to account for all communities in NH (even if they didn't fill out the survey). This will happen very soon!

13. New Hampshire Stormwater Manual Update

- Deb presented.
- NH is updating the 2008 Stormwater Manual.
- It is currently a 3-volume manual. However, the new version will be one volume and hosted on the UNH Stormwater page. NHDES, CEI, and the UNH Stormwater Center are working together to create this new version.
- Dawn Tuomala, Ben Lundstead, and Gretchen Young are on the review team.
- There will be a public review period where everyone can give their comments. Deb will let you know when the public review is open.
- The final document will be available around August 2023.

14. FHWA Culvert Funding Opportunity

- Deb presented.
- [National Culvert Removal, Replacement, and Restoration Grants Website](#)
- [FY22 Notice of Funding Opportunity for Culvert AOP Program](#)
- NOFO (Notice of Funding Opportunity) for National Culvert Removal, Replacement & Restoration Grants
- The project must be associated with Aquatic Organism Passage (AOP) and Anagomous fish (i.e., shad, lamprey, and salmon).
- You may be able to connect any of your projects with this. Feel free to contact [Matt Carpenter](#) at Fish and Game to see if any of the culvert projects you may want to submit include Anagomous fish and AOP.
- There is a 20% cost share.
- Bridge replacements are not eligible but a culvert replacement with a bridge replacement is.
- NHDOT and Federal Highway would be assisting anyone that receives funding.
- You will need to have an UEI number with Grants.gov when applying.
- Applications are due February 6th.

15. Updates and Upcoming Events

- **NHDES Water Infrastructure Funding Workshop**

- April 10th - April 14th

Details and Registration Coming Soon

- [NHDES Infrastructure Funding Webpage](#)

Information on any available funding will be posted on this website

Use the [email alerts page](#) to receive updates from NHDES pertaining to CWSRF/ARPA/Infrastructure funding opportunities.

All upcoming events and funding deadlines, that are currently known, can be found on the [important dates page](#).

- 16. Upcoming meeting dates for 2022 – Mark your calendars!** Meetings occur on the 2nd Thursday of each month, unless otherwise noted. We will continue working on the elements necessary for Year 5 requirements of the permit and update the SWMP template as needed. Following are the topics that are planned for the monthly meetings. Please note that topics may change dependent on priorities identified during the year.

2023 Meeting Dates

February 9th:

March 9th:

April 13th: CWNS update

May 11th:

June 8th:

July 13th: Note this date is not during the regular monthly scheduled time Prepare for Year 5 Annual Report

August 10th: Prepare for Year 5 Annual Report

September 14th:

October 12th:

November 9th (Veterans' Day on 10th) or 16th:

December 14th: 🎄 Holiday Meeting

Please email potential agenda items and/or presentations to Deb Loiselle at deborah.s.loiselle@des.nh.gov. These will be considered for upcoming meetings and very helpful in the development of the monthly agendas.

- 17. Sign-in Sheet** – Your names will be documented during introductions.