

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Week of May 19, 2025

Here we are: already Memorial Day Weekend summer just around the corner.

It has been a busy couple of months in the Legislature, and our Government Affairs Committee has been working extremely hard.

Some of those legislative items that our team has been working on are:

LD297 An Act Regarding the Management of Oversized Bulky Waste (This was passed in committee for a 2-year extension, but still need 2/3 vote at the full legislature to go forward – we will continue to advocate hard for this one); and

LD25 An Act to Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue to Fund Wastewater Treatment Facility Planning and construction of Infrastructure Projects. (Still waiting to hear on this one, due to budget issues on the State level, there is a lot of uncertainty)

LD251 An Act to Protect the Confidentiality of Information of Individual Customers of a Public Utility (We supported this one and added an amendment to include sewer utilities which passed through Committee)

MeWEA submitted comments to the EPA in relation to the Ambient Water Quality Criteria <https://www.regulations.gov/document/EPA-HQ-OW-2024-0454-0001/comment> and Biosolids Risk Assessment <https://www.regulations.gov/docket/EPA-HQ-OW-2024-0504/comments>

MeWEA will be sending a letter to our Federal Delegation regarding the recently proposed SRF funding cuts. We are asking for members/utilities to also send a letter asking for our delegation to help fight to get back much needed funding. NACWA has provided a [template letter](#) for those that are interested.

I want to congratulate our Operations Challenge Team (Force Maine) for taking second place overall at the NEWEA spring conference in Portland. We look forward to seeing how they do at WEFTEC. If anyone is interested in donating towards the Ops Challenge Team, there is a link on the MEWEA website for donations.

AWARDS – Now is the time to start thinking about nominating someone for one of MeWEA's awards that will be presented at our fall conference. You can find an online submittal form on our website.

Upcoming Events

Water/Wastewater Professionals Day (Sea Dogs Event) – June 21st.
<https://mwua.org/event/sea-dogs-2025/>

MWUA Summer Outing – August 5th - Lost Valley Ski Area (more info to come)

MEWEA Annual Fall Conference – Sunday River September 17th- 19th (Registration will be open soon)

Theresa Tucker, MeWEA President