



President's Message Week of January 7, 2019

Happy New Year!

In continuing with the tradition that Matt and Paula have begun, you will be receiving updates and messages from me in the coming year! It is a great way to keep all members up to date and let you know what is happening with the association. I would also love feedback and if you have anything you need me to share, just let me know and I will make sure it gets included. Just send me an email at [sthompson@sacomaine.org](mailto:sthompson@sacomaine.org).

The next executive meeting will be held on January 18<sup>th</sup> in Augusta at the Maine Municipal Association (MMA) offices. The meeting is from 9-12 and as always, members are encouraged to attend. If you happen to be interested in serving on a committee, please contact the chair of that committee. All contact information can be found on the website at [www.mewea.org](http://www.mewea.org).

The NEWEA Young Professional Summit will be held on Sunday, January 27<sup>th</sup> in Boston. MEWEA's YP Committee is sponsoring registration of up to 5 attendees. This is a great networking opportunity for new people joining the industry. Please contact Jordan Heath at [jheath@portmaine.gov](mailto:jheath@portmaine.gov) if interested.

The Maine Department of Environmental Protection (MEDEP) will be sending out a needs survey to all utilities, which can be filled out electronically or mailed back. I encourage all to participate in the survey because it identifies the needs of utilities and the cost of these needs moving forward. As we look to move ahead in establishing a reliable and sustainable funding mechanism for the future, it is imperative that these needs are known. Please take the time to submit the survey...and thank you in advance!

## *Upcoming Events*

January 18: MEWEA Family Ice Skate Night: 5-7 pm at Thompson's Point in Portland.

January 27-30: NEWEA Annual Conference: Boston Marriott Copley Place.

February 5-6: MWUA Trade Show: Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland.

February 28: Legislative Breakfast: 7-9 am Senator Inn in Augusta.

March 22: Ski Day with NHWPCA: Wildcat Mountain in Gorham, NH.

March 28: Maine Sustainability & Water Conference: Augusta Civic Center.

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President's Message Week of January 21, 2019

Hopefully you all have recovered from Snowmageddon...or a typical snow storm in Maine!

I survived the YP's Family Skate Night at Thompson's Point this past Friday without straining or breaking any body parts! Anyone who knows me, and my clumsiness can attest this is major achievement 😊  
Thank you to the YP Committee for hosting this and to all who attended!



**Save the Date – April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>**

In lieu of MEWEA's Spring Conference this year, we have partnered with JETCC and MWUA to collaborate at the North Country Convention. This will be held on April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> in Presque Isle. All events will take place at the Northern Maine Community College Campus. JETCC, MWUA and MEWEA's Personnel Advancement Committee are working hard on the session agenda to provide a wide range of topics! I'm looking forward to attending this convention and hope to see many of you up there!

**New Operations Challenge Team Member Needed!**

The Treatment Plant Operators Committee is looking for a new team member on the Force Maine Operations Challenge team. As a past team member, I can attest that this is truly an amazing opportunity. The knowledge and friendships I formed the four years I was on the team are

immeasurable. To learn more, feel free to contact Alex Buechner at [Alex.Buechner@Biddefordmaine.org](mailto:Alex.Buechner@Biddefordmaine.org).

The next executive meeting will be held on February 28<sup>th</sup> in Augusta at the Senator Inn following the Legislative Breakfast. The meeting is from 9-12 and as always, members are encouraged to attend. If you happen to be interested in serving on a committee, please contact the chair of that committee. All contact information can be found on the website at [www.mewea.org](http://www.mewea.org).

## *Upcoming Events*

January 27-30: NEWEA Annual Conference: Boston Marriott Copley Place.

February 5-6: MWUA Trade Show: Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland.

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April 24-25: North Country Convention: Northern Maine Community College.

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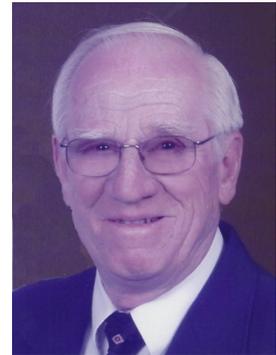


President's Message Week of February 4, 2019

It saddens me to inform you that Frank Stearns, Sr. recently passed away. Frank worked for the Camden Tannery before becoming Superintendent of the Wastewater Treatment Department. He Retired in 1998 after 28 years of service in the wastewater field.

His obituary can be accessed here: <https://www.penbaypilot.com/article/frank-stearns-sr-obituary/113034>

My thoughts are with his family!



### **NEWEA Annual Conference and MWUA Trade Show**

I had the pleasure of attending both the NEWEA Annual Conference and the MWUA Trade show the past two weeks. Both associations put on a fantastic show, with a good number of vendors and excellent sessions. At the NEWEA Conference, I spent a good portion of my time at the Innovation Pavilion. This was a chance to see new innovations and listen to a great panel discussion throughout the day. At the MWUA trade show, I learned more about the York Sewer District's FOG program and about the PFAS issue. Thank you to all the presenters at both shows!

### **Legislative Breakfast and Executive Meeting**

The next executive meeting will be held on February 28<sup>th</sup> in Augusta at the Senator Inn following the Legislative Breakfast. The meeting is from 9-12 and as always, members are encouraged to attend. If you happen to be interested in serving on a committee, please contact the chair of that committee. All contact information can be found on the website at: <https://www.mewea.org/2019-executive-board/>

To register for the Legislative Breakfast, visit the MeWEA website: <https://www.mewea.org/events/legislative-breakfast/>. This is a great opportunity for the water community to speak to their local representatives!

### **Ski Day – March 22<sup>nd</sup>**

The annual ski day with the New Hampshire Water Pollution Control Association (NHWPCA) will be held on March 22 at Wildcat in New Hampshire. Come out for a day of skiing/snowboarding and some great networking! Register today! :<https://www.mewea.org/annual-ski-day/>

## **Save the Date – April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>**

In lieu of MEWEA's Spring Conference this year, we have partnered with JETCC and MWUA to collaborate at the North Country Convention. This will be held on April 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> at the Northern Maine Community College in Presque Isle. All events will take place at the Northern Maine Community College Campus. JETCC, MWUA and MEWEA's Personnel Advancement Committee are working hard on the session agenda to provide a wide range of topics! I'm looking forward to attending this convention and hope to see many of you up there!

## **Upcoming Events**

February 5-6: MWUA Trade Show: Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland.

February 28: Legislative Breakfast: 7-9 am Senator Inn in Augusta.

March 22: Ski Day with NHWPCA: Wildcat Mountain in Gorham, NH.

March 28: Maine Sustainability & Water Conference: Augusta Civic Center.

April 24-25: North Country Convention: Northern Maine Community College.

Stacy Thompson

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## President's Message Week of February 25, 2019

Time has been flying by this year...or I'm just getting older!

I got to spend this past weekend up at Point Lookout in Northport with Phil Tucker (Convention Chair) and Melissa White (MMA) to go over some details for the 2019 Fall Convention being held in September. The staff at Point Lookout are excited to have us there and will make sure things run smoothly! The vendor and session space look great for networking and learning. I look forward to seeing the topics the Personnel Advancement Committee put together this year. Also, I'll be brushing up on my cornhole skills so I'm not out in the first round this year...everybody be prepared!

### **Legislative Breakfast – “Keeping Water Safe, Clean and Sustainable”**

The Legislative Breakfast will be held this Thursday, the 28<sup>th</sup> at the Senator Inn in Augusta. I encourage you all to reach out to your local representatives to have them attend and hear from the water community. DEP Commissioner Jerry Reid and DHHS Commissioner Jeanne Lambrew will be the keynote speakers. Please share this link for registration: <https://www.mewea.org/events/legislative-breakfast/>

### **Plant Operations Conference – March 21st**

Registration is open for the NEWEA Plant Operation Conference being held on March 21<sup>st</sup> in Billerica, MA. It is a one-day specialty conference on the phosphorous removal upgrades at several treatment facilities. To register and learn more about the conference, visit:

<https://www.newea.org/events/specialty-seminars-events/plant-operations-conference/>

### **Ski Day – March 22nd**

Registration is open for the annual ski day with the New Hampshire Water Pollution Control Association (NHWPCHA) which will be held on March 22 at Wildcat in New Hampshire. Come out for a day of skiing/snowboarding and some great networking! You can register through the MEWEA website with the following link <https://www.mewea.org/annual-ski-day/>.

## *Upcoming Events*

February 28: Legislative Breakfast at Senator Inn in Augusta, ME.

March 21: NEWEA Plant Operations Conference in Billerica, MA

March 22: Ski Day with NHWPCA: Wildcat Mountain in Gorham, NH.

March 28: Maine Sustainability & Water Conference: Augusta Civic Center.

April 3-4: Water Week Washington DC Fly-In

April 20: Urban Runoff 5k Walk or Run, Portland, ME

April 24-25: North Country Convention: Northern Maine Community College.

June 2-5: NEWEA Spring Meeting at Wentworth by the Sea in Newcastle, New Hampshire.

Stacy Thompson

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President's Message, March 15, 2019

The MEWEA Government Affairs committee has had a very busy spring (I'm hoping for no more snow) working with a new legislature, and many new bills to review. With several new bills directly impacting the Clean Water industry, we have had a much larger effort than in recent years with contacting representatives, testifying in Augusta and coordinating senate committee meetings. If you would like to be available to assist in any of these efforts, please contact GA Committee Chair, Tim Haskell, at [thaskell@yorksewerdistrict.org](mailto:thaskell@yorksewerdistrict.org).

Also on the Government Affairs side of MEWEA, a group of us will be heading to Washington, D.C on April 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss with our State Senators and State Representatives issues involving the Clean Water industry. Joining us will be the Town Manager of Wilton, Rhonda Irish. She will bring first hand experience on how costly upgrades can affect a community within the State of Maine. Thanks to our MEWEA State Director Jeff McBurnie for scheduling everything and keeping us on track while we are there. It will be great to meet with our representatives and their staff to spread the word on the great work everyone in the water community does to improve and protect the quality of water in Maine!

### **March 18<sup>th</sup> – YP Committee Meeting**

The City of Saco Water Resource Recovery Department will be hosting a YP Committee meeting on March 18<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. It will be at the Saco Train Station and after that there will be a tour of the Saco Water Resource Recovery Facility. If you are interested in being involved on the YP Committee or attending this meeting, either contact Jordan Heath at [jheath@portlandmaine.gov](mailto:jheath@portlandmaine.gov) or myself at [sthompson@sacomaine.org](mailto:sthompson@sacomaine.org).

### **Urban Runoff**



Get out your running shoes....or dust them off in my case and join MEWEA at the Urban Runoff on April 20, 2019. You can run, run/walk or walk the 5K and then have fun at the festival following the race. The picture above shows our Vice President Mike Guethle (the guy on the left with a smile on his face) sporting a fine MEWEA winter hat. Come help us win the largest non-profit team at the 2019 Urban Runoff!

<https://urbanrunoff5k.com/>

## NEWEA Planning Session

This past week, I had the chance to attend the 2019 NEWEA planning session in Salem, MA with Scott Firmin, Jeff McBurnie, Tim Haskell and Mac Richardson. There were two tracks to choose from, Public Relations and Government Affairs. I chose the Public Relations track and it was great listening to and helping NEWEA on how they are going to spread the message on what it is the Clean Water industry does and how it improves water quality not only in Maine, but also throughout New England. We are an industry that is out of sight and out of mind, and only brought to the forefront when something catastrophic happens. I look forward to bringing more awareness on what is the water community does!

## Upcoming Events

March 21: NEWEA Plant Operations Conference in Billerica, MA

March 22: Ski Day with NHWPCA: Wildcat Mountain in Gorham, NH.

March 28: Maine Sustainability & Water Conference: Augusta Civic Center.

April 3-4: Water Week Washington DC Fly-In

April 20: Urban Runoff 5k, Portland

April 24-25: North Country Convention: Northern Maine Community College.

May 17: Southern Maine Children's Water Festival at USM.

June 2-5: NEWEA Spring Meeting at Wentworth by the Sea in Newcastle, New Hampshire.

Stacy Thompson

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President's Message Week of April 8, 2019



I cautiously put the Spring picture up! This past weekend sure felt like Spring, but as I sit and type this message, it certainly doesn't look like Spring outside!

It was recently brought to my attention that Martin Ward passed away. Martin worked for the Waterboro Utility District before retiring in 2004.

His obituary can be accessed here:

<https://www.penbaypilot.com/article/martin-ward-obituary/109749>

My thoughts are with his family!



### **Ski Day**

Ski Day 2019 was quite successful! Not only was the skiing/snowboarding amazing, the mountain also received about 8 inches of new snow that day. Personally, I had to make an emergency exit when I could no longer see...and I was also exhausted. I want to thank everyone who was involved in making this happen and thanks to Bob Poirier for once again donating a ski chair to be raffled off. Here's a picture of a group that let me take their picture. Also, special thanks to Travis Peaslee and Patty Chesebrough for organizing this event. Until 2020!



### **DC Fly-In**

Jeff McBurnie, Mike Guethle, Scott Firmin, Rhonda Irish (Town Manager of Wilton) and myself flew to DC last week for the National Water Policy Fly-In. Key topics discussed were: funding (Grants, SRF, etc.), work-force development, Water Warriors, sustainable funding and PFAS. I think the story of Wilton really resonated with our officials and their staff. Even with funding and grants, the rate payers in Wilton saw their sewer bills increase nearly 3-fold. MEWEA will be more involved in doing "drive-ins", meaning

we will be visiting our officials on their home turf. It has already been a busy year in the legislature (just ask Tim Haskell) and it looks to continue. If you are interested in the legislative process and bills, follow this link for an update on the happenings in Augusta <https://www.memun.org/Training-Resources/MMA-Publications/Legislative-Bulletin>.

### **Operation's Challenge Training Day**



This will be held Friday the 12<sup>th</sup> at the West Warwick Wastewater Treatment Facility in Rhode Island. It's a great way to learn about Op's Challenge and meet the current Maine team. If interested in attending or learning more about the team, contact Captain Riley Cobb at [rcobb@sacomaine.org](mailto:rcobb@sacomaine.org).

### **Urban Runoff**

The Urban Runoff raises awareness of water pollution and raises money to support clean water education in the greater Portland area. The race is followed by the City of Portland's Green Neighbor Family Festival (<https://urbanrunoff5k.com/festival/>).

MEWEA has a team, so join the team when you register and I'll see you on the trail....although, I'll be walking mostly 😊

### **Register for the NCC!!!**

Don't forget to register for the North Country Convention being held at Northern Maine Community College! JETCC, MEWEA, and MWUA have put together a 2-day agenda full of great sessions!

Visit this link to register: <http://jetcc.org/nconvention.php>.

## *Upcoming Events*

Visit this link to view the events calendar: <https://www.mewea.org/event-calendar/>

**April 20:** Urban Runoff in Portland

**April 24-25:** North Country Convention: Northern Maine Community College.

**May 17:** Executive Board Meeting at Lewiston-Auburn Water Pollution Control

**May 17:** Southern Maine Children's Water Festival at USM in Portland

**June 2-5:** NEWEA Spring Meeting <https://springmeeting.newea.org/>

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President's Message Week of April 29, 2019...more like May 2, 2019 ☺

It is with sadness that I announce that Gary Stetson passed away. From 1977 to 2011, Gary was the superintendent for the wastewater treatment facility for the City of Old Town. He received the NEWEA Operator of the Year Award in 2004 and the Legend of the Links Green Jacket at the 2009 Fall Convention.



His obituary can be accessed here:

<https://obituaries.bangordailynews.com/obituary/gary-stetson-1946-2019-1074389700>

MEWEA is thankful for his many years of service to the wastewater community. My thoughts are with his family!

### **PFAS Task Force**

Governor Mills issued an Executive Order on March 6, 2019 creating a PFAS Task Force. MEWEA members Andre Brousseau, Superintendent of Sanford Sewer District and Jeff McBurnie, Director of Permitting & Regulatory Affairs Casella Organics have been assigned to the task force. The first meeting will be held on May 22, 2019. I will do my best to keep everyone informed through this message about the progress of the task force!

### **North Country Convention**



I moved to Maine 19 years ago yesterday...I know, I'm not technically a Mainer! Anyway, I have been wanting to visit Aroostook County since then and I finally got the chance heading up there for the North Country Convention last week. Presque Isle and the Northern Maine Community College did not disappoint! First, a huge thanks to Leeann and Spring at JETCC for the enormous amount of work they put into this event. It was clear from the start of the Convention that all the attendees love this event and look forward to it every two years.



Northern Maine Community College was the perfect setting for the sessions, vendors, luncheons....and of course the cornhole tournament. Thank you to Travis Jones for once again being the emcee and bringing the tournament up to NCC. I somehow lost in the first round (AGAIN!), but I look forward to advancing at the Fall Convention.

I think 2020 will bring great things for MEWEA, MWUA and JETCC. I look forward to all of it!

### **Young Professionals Committee Meeting**

The next YP committee meeting will be Thursday May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 12:00-1:00 at the Portland office of Wright Pierce. (75 Washington Ave. Suite 202) Mark your calendars now! At this meeting we will go over all the duties of the YP committee and the yearly events that we organize. We will also do a review of the events already passed in 2019 and review what went well and what could be done differently next year. This is a great first meeting to attend to get fully engaged in the committee and all the fun activities we put on for our members and the rest of MEWEA. There will also be pizza and cookies!!

## **Upcoming Events**

Visit this link to view the events calendar: <https://www.mewea.org/event-calendar/>

**May 17:** Executive Board Meeting at Lewiston-Auburn Water Pollution Control

**May 17:** Southern Maine Children's Water Festival at USM in Portland

**June 2-5:** NEWEA Spring Meeting <https://springmeeting.newea.org/>

**June 21:** Executive Board Meeting at MMA in Augusta

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President's Message Week of May 20, 2019

### **LD 1707 and LD 112 Update**

LD1707 – An act to ensure accuracy and reliability of environmental testing by requiring compliance testing by 3<sup>rd</sup> parties. The sponsor amended the bill on May 16<sup>th</sup> to only include air testing and on May 17<sup>th</sup> it was voted on as ought not to pass.

LD112 – An act to implement changes to Maine's solid waste laws pursuant to a review of the State Waste Management and Recycling Plan. The bill was amended to remove the section limiting construction and demolition debris fines and oversized bulky waste. As such, the bill was voted on as ought to pass.

Both are good news to wastewater facilities. A thank you to Lenny Blanchette from the Brunswick Sewer District for testifying on behalf of MEWEA on these two items.

### **Biosolids/PFAS Data**

Scott Firmin, Andre Brousseau and I have started collecting data pertaining to sludge/biosolids. If you haven't heard from us yet, feel free to email me at [sthompson@sacomaine.org](mailto:sthompson@sacomaine.org). We want to know quantity of sludge produced annually, method of disposal and whether your facility has tested for PFAS. Also, if you have tested for PFAS and would share your results with Ned Beecher of NEBRA for him to compile, that would be great! His email is [ned.beecher@nebiosolids.org](mailto:ned.beecher@nebiosolids.org).

The first PFAS Task Force meeting will be held this Wednesday (22<sup>nd</sup>) at the Camden National Bank Ice Vault in Hallowell. The meeting begins at 1 pm and will be open to the public.

### **Maine DEP Needs Survey**

If your facility hasn't filled out their needs survey the DEP sent out, please do so! This helps tremendously with future money needs and will be good information to have for the sustainable funding bill that is currently in the legislature.

If you have misplaced your needs survey, you can find a new one at this link   
<https://www.maine.gov/dep/water/wwtreatment/index.html>.

## Southern Maine Children's Water Festival

For the third year in a row, I had the pleasure of attending the Children's Water Festival, which is held at USM in Portland. Our DEP inspector, Stuart Rose, talked me into showing the wastewater model and microscope a few years back and I haven't given it up yet! Here's a picture of the setup and no it isn't pee, which I was asked a dozen or so times. The kids from various schools are always really intrigued by the bugs under the microscope and hopefully I convinced a few of them to be future operators!



## Awards



Awards are the best way to show your appreciation for an employee or someone you feel should be recognized by the association. Nominees are due (for most) by the first week in July, but it is best to check out the following link for more accurate information regarding the award and the deadline for nominees <https://www.mewea.org/recognition-program/>.

Do you know someone that has been in the field for 25+ years? If so, they can be in NEWEA's Quarter Century Club. For the nomination form visit: <https://www.newea.org/about-us/awards/quarter-century-operator-club/>

## Upcoming Events

**May 22:** PFAS Task Force Meeting in Hallowell

**June 2-5:** NEWEA Spring Meeting <https://springmeeting.newea.org/>

**June 21:** Executive Board Meeting at MMA in Augusta

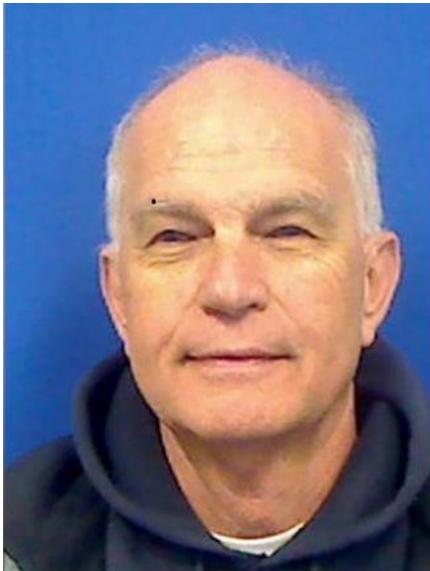
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President's Message Week of June 3, 2019 – Clean Water Week

### **Virginia Beach Tragedy**



It is with great sadness and heavy heart that I announce that a member of the Water Community, Robert Williams lost his life at the tragic shooting in Virginia Beach this past Friday.

Robert was a former member of the Operation's Challenge team Terminal Velocity and was heavily involved in the water quality profession. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and loved ones during this time.

Our thoughts go out to Steve Motley as well. Steve is a longtime Operation's Challenge competitor and is currently an event coordinator for the maintenance event. He was wounded during this tragic shooting and underwent surgery. He is expected to make a full recovery! We wish him a speedy recovery and will keep him in our thoughts.

### **Biosolids/PFAS Task Force**

Jeff McBurnie, Andre Brousseau and I attended the first PFAS Task Force meeting on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. It was a very informative meeting, with presentations given by several DEP presenters. Following the presentations was a question/answer session. This included questions from the Task Force as well as the audience. These presentations can be viewed by following this link:

<https://www.maine.gov/pfastaskforce/index.html>. The website will have information and materials posted as they become available.

All future meetings will be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every month thru November at the Augusta Civic Center from 1-5 pm. These meetings will be open to the public and I encourage members to attend. The MEWEA website calendar has been updated to include these meetings:

<https://www.mewea.org/event-calendar/>. If anyone has other PFAS events that they would like added to the calendar, please contact Paula Drouin at [pdrouin@lawpca.org](mailto:pdrouin@lawpca.org).

Again, if you haven't heard from us yet, feel free to email me at [sthompson@sacomaine.org](mailto:sthompson@sacomaine.org). We want to know quantity of sludge produced annually, method of disposal and whether your facility has tested for PFAS. Also, if you have tested for PFAS and would share your results with Ned Beecher of NEBRA for him to compile, that would be great! His email is [ned.beecher@nebiosolids.org](mailto:ned.beecher@nebiosolids.org).

### **Save the Date**

The MEWEA Fall Convention will be held from September 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> at Point Lookout in Northport, ME. The annual golf tournament will kickstart the event, followed by two days of technical sessions, vendors, networking, bowling and a cornhole tournament. The Personnel Advancement Committee is working hard to bring you great technical sessions across multitudes of topics.

We hope to see you there!

### **Awards – Calling all Nominations** 😊



Awards are the best way to show your appreciation for an employee or someone you feel should be recognized by the association. Nominees are due (for most) by the first week in July, but it is best to check out the following link for more accurate information regarding the award and the deadline for nominees <https://www.mewea.org/recognition-program/>.

Do you know someone that has been in the field for 25+ years? If so, they can be in NEWEA's Quarter Century Club. For the nomination form visit:

<https://www.newea.org/about-us/awards/quarter-century-operator-club/>

## **Upcoming Events**

**June 2-5:** NEWEA Spring Meeting <https://springmeeting.newea.org/>

**June 12:** Clean Water Week Poster Winners: LAWPCA at 9:30

**June 21:** Executive Board Meeting at MMA in Augusta

**June 26:** PFAS Task Force Meeting: Augusta Civic Center 1-5

Stacy Thompson

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President's Message Week of June 17, 2019

### **Force Maine at NEWEA Spring Conference**



I had the opportunity to attend the Operation's Challenge awards ceremony at the NEWEA Spring Conference at Wentworth By the Sea in New Castle, NH at the beginning of the month. It was great to see five teams representing the New England states this year: Maine, New Hampshire, Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. The top three finishers move onto WEFTEC in Chicago this September. Congratulations to all the teams, but especially to Maine for qualifying to attend

WEFTEC. The Force Maine team placed third overall with Rhode Island placing first and Connecticut second. MEWEA wishes you all the luck and good vibes going into WEFTEC. The team members are: Riley Cobb (City of Saco WRRD,) Shelby Carver (Kennebunk Sewer District), Dan Munsey (Brunswick Sewer District) and Nate Melanson (Lewiston-Auburn Water Pollution Control Association). Vivian Matkivich has come out of retirement to coach them! Good luck!

### **Clean Water Poster Winners**

Last week Past President Paula Drouin, Treatment Plant Operator committee chair Alex Buechner and I were able to congratulate the winners of the Clean Water poster contest. Auburn Mayor Jason Levesque and Lewiston Councilor Alicia Rea were able to attend and congratulate the winners as well. Overall, twelve posters are selected to make up the MEWEA calendar for the following year. The selections were voted on by members at the North Country Convention this past April. I personally love to see all the creativity and talent that the students across Maine



show in their posters. It reminds me that I have absolutely no artistic ability outside of stick figures. Special congratulation to Anica Messer (Raymond Elementary), Naliyah Love (Caribou Middle School) and Madilyn Keep (Auburn Middle School) who were the winners in the three major grade categories. They each received a \$100 check! Special thanks to Alex Buechner and Paula Drouin for putting this event on! The students were also able to enjoy a tour of the Lewiston-Auburn facility that Mac Richardson was so gracious to conduct.

### **Save the Date!!!!!!!!!!**

The MEWEA Fall Convention will be held from September 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> at Point Lookout in Northport, ME. The annual golf tournament will kickstart the event, followed by two days of technical sessions, vendors, networking, bowling and a cornhole tournament. The Personnel Advancement Committee is working hard to bring you great technical sessions across multitudes of topics.

We hope to see you there!

## **Upcoming Events**

**June 21:** Executive Board Meeting at MMA in Augusta

**June 26:** PFAS Task Force Meeting: Augusta Civic Center 1-5

**July 24:** PFAS Task Force Meeting: Augusta Civic Center 1-5

**August 8:** Paddle after Hours: Auburn

**September 11-13:** MEWEA Fall Convention: Point Lookout Northport, ME

**September 21-25:** WEFTEC: Chicago, IL

Stacy Thompson

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### President's Message Week of July 1, 2019

It is hard to believe we are half way through 2019! I certainly have more gray hair to show for it 😊 I wanted to wish you and your families a very happy and safe Fourth of July week!

#### **Gerry Kamke**

It saddens me to inform you that Gerry Kamke recently passed away. Gerry began his career in wastewater treatment when he graduated from New England Regional Wastewater Institute at Southern Maine Vocational Technical Institute (SMVTI) in 1981 . He was known throughout the state as a Circuit Rider for Maine Rural Water Association through the 1990s before working at Lisbon WPCF for a number of years. During the last few years of his life he was actively involved in veterans causes.

His obituary can be read here: <https://www.everhere.com/us/obituary-king-gerald-kamke-9353384>.

My thoughts are with his family!

#### **YP Committee Meeting**

The YP Committee is hosting their next meeting at Ted Berry Company in Livermore, ME at 4:00 PM on July 17<sup>th</sup>. This will be a regular committee meeting followed by a tour of the Ted Berry Company facility and equipment. The tour will be guided by Ted Berry employees familiar with the operation and capabilities of the equipment, providing a great learning opportunity for young professionals in a number of fields. Happy hour and pizza to follow the tour! A carpool will be leaving Portland around 2:30 PM for those interested. For more information on this event or other YP Committee happenings please reach out to Max Kenney at [mkenney@woodardcurran.com](mailto:mkenney@woodardcurran.com).

#### **JETCC Upcoming Classes**

JETCC is pleased to announce that the 11<sup>th</sup> Management Candidate School will begin in November 2019. This is an 11-month program which provides the training, networking and skill-development coursework to prepare the next generation of water and wastewater managers. It will be held at the York Sewer District, so look for the upcoming registration material!

JETCC would also like to announce they will be providing the Wastewater Operator School again, which will begin in January 2020. This will be held at the Portland Water District. This is a great school if you are new to the industry or even need some refreshing on topics. The registration material will be out soon for this as well!

### **TCH's Accepted**

If you attended the PFAS seminar by Alpha Analytics held at Pierce Atwood on June 12<sup>th</sup>, you are eligible to receive TCH's towards your operator's license. Please send supporting documentation into JETCC at [sconnolly@neiwppcc-jetcc.org](mailto:sconnolly@neiwppcc-jetcc.org).

### **Save the Date!!!!!!!!!!!!**

The MEWEA Fall Convention will be held from September 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup> at Point Lookout in Northport, ME. The annual golf tournament will kickstart the event, followed by two days of technical sessions, vendors, networking, bowling and a cornhole tournament. The Personnel Advancement Committee is working hard to bring you great technical sessions across multitudes of topics.

We hope to see you there!

### **Upcoming Events**

**July 24:** PFAS Task Force Meeting: Augusta Civic Center 1-5

**August 8:** Paddle after Hours: Auburn

**August 15:** JETCC Board Meeting at Greater Augusta Utility District

**August 16:** Executive Board Meeting at Point Lookout

**August 29:** Poo & Brew at Biddeford Treatment Plant

**September 11-13:** MEWEA Fall Convention: Point Lookout Northport, ME

**September 21-25:** WEFTEC: Chicago, IL

Stacy Thompson

[sthompson@sacomaine.org](mailto:sthompson@sacomaine.org)



President's Message Week of July 15, 2019

### **PFAS**

The PFAS task force meeting for July has been moved to the 29<sup>th</sup> from 1-5 at the Augusta Civic Center. Again, this is open to the public and I encourage you to attend and participate in the PFAS issue.

Stone Environmental will be meeting with the DEP and Commissioner Reid on August 2<sup>nd</sup> regarding PFAS data modeling they conducted. Many thanks to all the municipalities that contributed to this effort.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me and I will make sure the question gets directed to the correct person. Thank you to Andre and Jeff for putting a huge amount of time and effort into the PFAS task force!

### **Fall Convention**

This years Fall Convention will begin with the Annual Golf Tournament at the Rockland Country Club on Wednesday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. The MEWEA Personnel Advancement Committee has been working hard to finalize the list of sessions being offered...which total a whopping 37! This year will also include a mini "PFAS Summit" on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> which will have presenters from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Water Environment Federation (WEF) and the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA)....among others!

Being held at Point Lookout in Northport, the event will be a great time for learning, networking and also fun in a great location on the coast of Maine! We will be having our Annual Cornhole Tournament on Thursday night following the Vendor sponsored Meet & Greet...and if you aren't a cornhole player, there will be bowling as well. I might just retire from my cornhole days considering I've been ousted in the first round the past two years.

The Attendee Packet will be going out by the end of this week, which means the beginning of registration. MEWEA hopes to see you all there 😊

## *Last call for award nominations!*

Do you know an individual that goes above and beyond? Look no further than the list of awards that MEWEA has to offer and nominate that person! Awards are the best way to show your appreciation for an employee or someone you feel should be recognized by the association. Just check out the following link for more accurate information regarding the award and the deadline for nominees <https://www.mewea.org/recognition-program/>.

Do you know someone that has been in the field for 25+ years? If so, they can be in NEWEA's Quarter Century Club. For the nomination form visit: <https://www.newea.org/about-us/awards/quarter-century-operator-club/>

### **JETCC Founders Award**

JETCC is still taking nominations for the Founder's Award. This award is intended to recognize one of a wastewater facility's "unsung heroes" who are super dedicated and really keep things going behind the scenes. If you know of an individual who comes to mind, recognize them by nominating!

Nominations are due to JETCC by August 2.

Follow this link to learn more about the award! <http://jetcc.org/founders-award.php>

### **Hometown Career**

MMA is once again seeking a Municipal Waste/Water professional for the Hometown Careers campaign. They are looking for a young professional who works for a municipality in wastewater or drinking water.

If you or someone you know is interested, please contact me at [sthompson@sacomaine.org](mailto:sthompson@sacomaine.org)

Here is a link to last year's campaign - <https://www.mainehomeowncareers.org/>

### **Upcoming Events**

**July 29:** PFAS Task Force Meeting: Augusta Civic Center 1-5

**August 8:** Paddle after Hours: Auburn

**August 15:** JETCC Board Meeting at Greater Augusta Utility District

**August 16:** Executive Board Meeting at Point Lookout

**August 29:** Poo & Brew at Biddeford Treatment Plant

**September 11-13:** MEWEA Fall Convention: Point Lookout Northport, ME

**September 21-25:** WEFTEC: Chicago, IL

Stacy Thompson

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President's Message Week of July 29, 2019

### **PFAS Task Force**

I attended the monthly PFAS Task Force meeting that was held Monday at the Augusta Civic Center. Again, thank you Andre Brousseau and Jeff McBurnie for representing MEWEA. Main discussions focused on disposal options for biosolids/sludge, what are the sources of PFAS, what the group thought the current data gaps are and PFAS regulation as a class. As always, these meetings are open to the public or can be streamed. I encourage you to attend or listen!

This is the address to find the current information about these meetings:

<https://www.maine.gov/pfastaskforce/index.html>.

### **YP Paddle After Hours – August 8th**

The MEWEA YP Committee is partnering again with the Androscoggin Land Trust for the After-Hours Paddle event at Festival Park in Auburn on Thursday August 8<sup>th</sup>. Paddlers will leave Auburn's Festival Plaza boat launch at 5:30 p.m. for a tour of the nearby river, hearing about local history and gazing up at the cities on either side. This event is open to all MEWEA members, not just YPs. After the event there will be a gathering at Gritty's for attendees. MEWEA will provide rental kayaks/canoes for those who do not wish to bring their own. Please RSVP to Max Kenney at [mkenney@woodardcurran.com](mailto:mkenney@woodardcurran.com) to find out more information about the event.



### **Treatment Plant Operator Committee Questionnaire**

The Treatment Plant Operator Committee of MEWEA has worked hard in putting together a questionnaire for facilities to fill out. Attached to this email will be the questionnaire. It can also be accessed electronically here: <https://www.mewea.org/facility-survey/> . We hope you have the time to fill it out and get the information back to Alex Buechner at [Alex.Buechner@Biddefordmaine.org](mailto:Alex.Buechner@Biddefordmaine.org).

Thanks for your help!

### **Fall Convention Registration Has Opened**

The Fall Convention registration has officially opened. Take a peruse through the sessions being offered this year! MEWEA is looking forward to hosting this event at Point Lookout in Northport, ME. Visit <https://www.mewea.org/fall-convention/> to register online....and we hope to see you there!

### **Upcoming Events**

**August 8:** Paddle after Hours: Auburn

**August 15:** JETCC Board Meeting at Greater Augusta Utility District

**August 16:** Executive Board Meeting at Point Lookout

**August 29:** Poo & Brew at Biddeford Treatment Plant

**September 11-13:** MEWEA Fall Convention: Point Lookout Northport, ME

**September 21-25:** WEFTEC: Chicago, IL

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## President's Message August 22, 2019

This is when I wish I could pause time for a moment! Right around the corner is Fall and with that, we know Winter is fast approaching. This year has truly passed by within the blink of an eye! I'm looking forward to seeing many of you up at Point Lookout in three weeks for the 2019 Fall Convention. We had our executive meeting there last week and went through some logistics with the staff at Point Lookout to ensure things run smoothly and we have an event full of learning and networking. If you haven't seen the technical sessions being offered or need to register, visit: [www.mewea.org](http://www.mewea.org)

### **JETCC Classes – Management Candidate School and Wastewater Operator School**

Details will come out very soon on the next Management Candidate School, which will begin on November 29<sup>th</sup> at the York Sewer District. If you, or you know someone who is looking to improve on their current skills and learn more about management, then this is a great opportunity. With an aging population in the wastewater field, not only in Maine but throughout the country, the need to replace management positions within a facility is growing. This is a great way to expand on one's knowledge and I'm sure Leeann and Spring look forward to seeing many applications for this.

JETCC will also be offering a Wastewater Operator School set to begin on January 9<sup>th</sup> at the Portland Water District. This is a 6-month, 12-session class meant for individuals just starting out in the wastewater field or needing to brush up on current skills. Look for details soon.

Always visit JETCC's website [www.jetcc.org](http://www.jetcc.org) to see a list of available sessions.

### **Poo and Brew Event in Biddeford**

NEWEA's Young Professional's Committee is hosting a Poo & Brew Event in Biddeford on August 29<sup>th</sup>. The event will kick-off with a tour of the Biddeford Wastewater Treatment Facility at 4 pm. Superintendent Alex Buechner will be your tour guide, which will certainly be very entertaining and informative. After the tour, the group will gather at a local brewery for some pops and networking. I hope to see some of you there!

To register visit: <https://www.newea.org/events/specialty-seminars-events/poo-and-brew-networking/>



## Imagine a Day Without Water

October 23, 2019

All MEWEA members know the importance of water, but many don't. MEWEA and the York Sewer and Water Districts are hosting an event on October 23, 2019 to show how important water is and how we as cleanwater professionals keep it clean in Maine. The location will be at the York Beach Ball Field from 10 am to 2 pm. There will be games, informational displays, demonstrations and maybe even a dunk tank...we are still debating who will go in the dunk tank if we get one! For more information, contact Phil Tucker at [ptucker@yorksewerdistrict.org](mailto:ptucker@yorksewerdistrict.org) or Paula Drouin at [pdrouin@lawpca.org](mailto:pdrouin@lawpca.org).

### **Pretreatment Committee**

The New England Regional Pretreatment Coordinators Association (NERPCA) will be hosting an Annual Conference on October 21-23, 2019 in Lowell, Massachusetts. For more information, visit the following link: [http://www.nerpca.org/annual\\_conference.html](http://www.nerpca.org/annual_conference.html)

### **Upcoming Events**

**August 28:** PFAS Task Force Meeting; Augusta Civic Center 1-5 PM

**August 29:** Poo & Brew at Biddeford Treatment Plant

**September 11-13:** MEWEA Fall Convention: Point Lookout Northport, ME

**September 21-25:** WEFTEC: Chicago, IL

**October 2-3:** MMA Convention: Bangor Cross Center

**October 18:** Executive Board Meeting: Brunswick Sewer District

**October 21-23:** NERPCA Annual Workshop: Lowell, MA

**October 23:** Imagine A Day Without Water: York Beach Ball Field

Stacy Thompson

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## President's Message September 25, 2019

I clearly took a slight hiatus from the President's message...in that time, I recovered from an eye injury sustained at the Fall Convention! Public announcement: the name badges can be quite dangerous! I want to take a moment to send a huge thanks to all the vendors and attendees that were able to make the show. I hope you all enjoyed the Convention and were able to enjoy the setting of Point Lookout. A huge thank you is also in order to the Personnel Advancement Committee for putting together a great selection of sessions and to the Convention Committee for running a smooth show!

The Biosolids PFAS Summit on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> brought together the DEP, EPA, the Water Environment Federation, NEWEA, NEBRA, the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, the Maine CDC and the farming community to discuss the emerging contaminant. MEWEA will continue their representation on the PFAS Task Force formed by Governor Mills and remain engaged as the discussion continues. Thank you to Commissioner Reid for delivering the key-note luncheon address and fielding questions from the audience. If you have thoughts or comments regarding this, please feel free to reach out to me: [sthompson@sacomaine.org](mailto:sthompson@sacomaine.org)

Some things I learned from the Fall Convention:

- My golf game has not improved, although I can almost hit a moving minivan quite well.
- On the topic of games, no improvement on the cornhole side either! Although I did make it past the first round and my co-worker Matt brought the winning trophy back to Saco!
- Most importantly, the MEWEA community is by far the most humble, caring and supportive. I've learned a tremendous amount from all I speak to and have made lasting friendships that I will always cherish. Thank you!

Some upcoming events and announcements:

### **JETCC Classes – Management Candidate School and Wastewater Operator School**

Management Candidate School, which will begin on November 29<sup>th</sup> at the York Sewer District. If you, or you know someone who is looking to improve on their current skills and learn more about management, then this is a great opportunity. With an aging population in the wastewater field, not only in Maine but throughout the country, the need to replace management positions within a facility is growing. This is a great way to expand on one's knowledge and I'm sure Leeann and Spring look forward to seeing many more applications for this.





## President's Message Week of October 7, 2019

It saddens me to inform you that Tracy Drew passed away on September 26, 2019. Tracy was a long-time employee at the City of Brewer's Wastewater Treatment Facility. His passions included: helping others with addiction by volunteering at the Acadia Hospital, spending time with grandchildren, hunting, and fishing.

His obituary can be accessed here:

<https://obituaries.bangordailynews.com/obituary/tracy-drew-1077412901>

My thoughts are with his wife Dawn, children, grandchildren and the rest of his family!



### **Survey Request from Leonard Blanchette at Brunswick Sewer District**

The Brunswick Sewer District is taking a survey to determine which municipalities/districts bill only the property owner/landlord for the sewer bill, and not the tenant. If you can help Leonard out in this survey, he would greatly appreciate it! You can reach him via email at: [lblanchette@brunswicksewer.org](mailto:lblanchette@brunswicksewer.org)

In advance, thanks to all that help out!

### **Troubleshooting Webinar**

There will be a webinar on Troubleshooting Noncompliance at the Smallest Wastewater Treatment Plants on October 17, 2019 from 1:00-2:30 EST. If you are interested, you can register at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5775464501807506946>

This will be Part I in a II Part series. This topic will cover conversion problems. The second webinar will be scheduled for November 13<sup>th</sup>, which will cover separation issues, disinfection issues and residual chlorine compliance.



## Imagine a Day Without Water

October 23, 2019

MEWEA and the York Sewer and Water Districts are hosting an event on October 23, 2019 to show how important water is and how we as cleanwater professionals keep it clean in Maine. If you have time, we would love to see MEWEA Members there to support clean water. The location will be at the York Beach Ball Field from 10 am to 2 pm. There will be games, informational displays, demonstrations. For more information, contact Phil Tucker at [ptucker@yorksewerdistrict.org](mailto:ptucker@yorksewerdistrict.org) or Paula Drouin at [pdrouin@lawpca.org](mailto:pdrouin@lawpca.org).

### **JETCC – Save the Date**

JETCC has announced the dates for the next North Country Convention! This will be held at the Northern Maine Community College in Presque Isle on April 21 and 22, 2021 (yes, 2021). Vendor set-up will be held on April 20, 2021. Put these dates in your calendar!!!

## **Upcoming Events**

**October 18:** Executive Board Meeting: Brunswick Sewer District

**October 21-23:** NERPCA Annual Workshop: Lowell, MA

**October 23:** Imagine A Day Without Water: York Beach Ball Field

**November 15:** Executive Board Meeting: MMA in Augusta

**December 20:** Executive Board Meeting: MMA in Augusta

Stacy Thompson

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President's Message Week of November 18, 2019

I took a bit of a hiatus from the President's message, partly because I was away on vacation, but I will try to get a couple more out before the end of the year and the end of my presidency! MEWEA is wrapping up another great year in which we collaborated with MWUA on their Annual Trade Show, JETCC with the North Country Convention, and also had a very successful Fall Convention at Point Lookout.

We've had two members, Jeff McBurnie and Andre Brousseau, take part on the Governor's PFAS Task Force. Information pertaining to these meetings can be found at <https://www.maine.gov/pfastaskforce/index.html>. And remember, all meetings are open to the public. The next meeting is being held on November 26 from 1-5 pm at the Augusta Civic Center.

If there is anything you want mentioned before the end of the year, shoot me an email at [sthompson@sacomaine.org](mailto:sthompson@sacomaine.org) and I'll make sure it is included in the President's message. I'm sure Mike Guethle will continue with this message...no pressure Mike!

#### **EPA Nutrient Survey**

EPA recently released a National Nutrient Survey to every treatment plant in the U.S. This is an effort to gather data on treatment plants and their nutrient reduction efforts. The survey is voluntary.

The survey can be found at: <https://www.epa.gov/eg/potw-nutrient-survey>. Please take the time to fill out the survey because the more information available, the more helpful it will be! The survey is due by November 26<sup>th</sup>!

#### **Maine Stormwater Conference**

This biennial conference brings together many individuals to discuss and learn about stormwater management. The focus for this year's conference is on resiliency that helps municipalities and other groups prepare for changing conditions while maintaining their clean water goals. The conference will be held on December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland.

To learn more about the event and register, visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2019-maine-stormwater-conference-registration-61310685912>.

#### **MWUA Trade Show – Save the Date**

Next year's Maine Water Utilities Trade Show will be at a new location! MWUA will be hosting the event on February 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> at the Augusta Civic Center. A bigger space and better parking 😊! There will be many training sessions available for drinking water and wastewater professionals throughout the 2-day event. Along with sessions, there will be many vendors in attendance to discuss their products! Always a great learning and networking opportunity.

If you are interested in attending the trade show, look for this link to updated when registration is open!  
<https://mwua.org/events/mwua-94th-annual-conference-trade-show/>.

### **MEWEA/NHWPCA Ski Day – Save the Date**



Some of you have seen snow already in the state, but I haven't yet and I'm patiently waiting for it to arrive. What better way to celebrate the white stuff, than with a great day of skiing/snowboarding and networking?? This years joint Ski Day with the New Hampshire Water Pollution Control Association will be at Sugarloaf in Carrabassett Valley on March 27, 2020. I've been dusting off the cobwebs on my snowboard in anticipation for this event and hope to see you there! Registration will begin soon, so watch out for further details.



## **Upcoming Events**

**December 2-3:** Maine Stormwater Conference: Holiday Inn By the Bay in Portland

**December 20:** Executive Board Meeting: MMA in Augusta

**January 26-29:** NEWEA Annual Conference: Boston

**February 5-6:** MWUA Trade Show: Augusta Civic Center

**February 27:** Legislative Breakfast: Senator Inn in Augusta

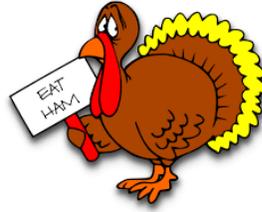
**March 27:** Ski Day: Sugarloaf

Stacy Thompson

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## President's Message November 27, 2019



I wanted to wish everyone a great Turkey Day! Hope you are all able to spend time with family and friends...and maybe even enjoy some black Friday deals! Safe travels!

### **Clean Water Needs Survey**

The Maine DEP has reached out to all municipal and quasi-municipal wastewater entities to gather information on the needs for wastewater infrastructure improvements. It is imperative that this survey is filled out, because it allows the DEP to advocate for funding from the Legislature. This includes the state match in the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) program and State bonds or sustainable funding mechanisms for grants. If you have not taken the time to fill out the survey, I encourage you to do so by following this link:

<https://www.maine.gov/dep/water/wwtreatment/index.html>.

Thanks again for your help!

### **Greater Augusta Utility District – Peracetic Acid**

The Greater Augusta Utility District (GAUD) is beginning a pilot study using peracetic acid for disinfection, which would be a replacement for sodium hypochlorite. GAUD wanted to extend an invitation to anyone who is interested in checking out their pilot study. Equipment will be arriving the week of December 2<sup>nd</sup>, and their plan is to have it running by the end of that week. Also, Phyllis Rand will be giving a presentation at the MWUA convention in February regarding their pilot study! You can find contact information on their website:

<https://www.greateraugustautilitydistrict.org/>.

### **Young Professionals Committee Meeting**

The next YP Committee Meeting will be held December 17<sup>th</sup> at noon. The location will be at the Woodard & Curran office in Portland (41 Hutchins Drive). If you have been involved in the wastewater field for under 5 years, this is a great committee to join. If you have any questions or want to learn more about the committee, contact the committee chair Maxwell Kenney at [mkenney@woodardcurran.com](mailto:mkenney@woodardcurran.com).

### **Upcoming Events**

**December 2-3:** Maine Stormwater Conference: Holiday Inn by the Bay in Portland

**December 17:** YP Committee Meeting in Portland

**December 20:** Executive Board Meeting: MMA in Augusta

**January 26-29:** NEWEA Annual Conference: Boston

**February 5-6:** MWUA Trade Show: Augusta Civic Center

**February 27:** Legislative Breakfast: Senator Inn in Augusta

**March 27:** Ski Day: Sugarloaf

Stacy Thompson

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President's Message December 23, 2019



This year has certainly flown by! It has been an honor to serve as your President and I look forward to continuing to help MEWEA in any way I can. I wanted to take a moment to thank all the volunteers that make MEWEA successful. We truly have a dedicated group for which I am grateful for....Thank you!

I wanted to wish everyone a great holiday season! I'm very optimistic that 2020 is going to be a great year.

#### **Bacteria Limit Changes – Extended disinfection season**

Upon renewal of licenses, the following changes are being made to bacteria limits and testing season.

**e. Coli** (freshwater): Class B – 64 monthly geometric mean, 427 daily max. Class C – 126 monthly geometric mean (NEW), 949 daily max. Disinfection seasons runs from April 15<sup>th</sup> through October 31<sup>st</sup>.

**fecal coliform** (marine): Class SB and SC – 14 monthly geometric mean (NEW), 31 daily max (NEW). Disinfection season runs year-round.

**Enterococci** (marine): Class SB – 8 monthly geometric mean, 54 daily max. Class SC – 14 monthly geometric mean, 94 daily max. Disinfection season will run from April 15<sup>th</sup> through October 31<sup>st</sup>. Enterococci limits not effective until **April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022**.

Note: If you need a compliance schedule to accommodate extended or year-round disinfection, you need to make that request of your license writer when submitting your application (or as soon as possible if you've already submitted).

#### **Southern Maine Community College**

I was fortunate to attend a meeting last week at SMCC. If you aren't aware, Northern Maine Community College in Presque Isle started a Water Treatment Technology program this past fall. There are three tracks available: An Associate Degree (2-year), a Drinking Water Certificate Program (1-year) and a Wastewater Certificate Program (1-year). The goal is to bring this program down to the SMCC campus starting in the Fall of 2020.

If you are interested in having your facility participate in internships as part of this program, let me know at [sthompson@sacomaine.org](mailto:sthompson@sacomaine.org). Also, any suggestions are highly recommended because we want to hear from all of you, so this can become a successful program at SMCC. Gil St-Pierre has already done a great job with the NMCC program!

Stay tuned for more information!

### **NEWEA Annual Conference – Registration Open**

NEWEA's Annual Conference & Exhibit begins January 26<sup>th</sup> at the Boston Marriot Copley. This a great opportunity to network with over 2,000 attendees/vendors in the industry. There will be lots of sessions to choose from, many vendors, and also the Innovation Pavilion to attend.

To learn more or register, visit:

[https://annualconference.newea.org/?utm\\_source=ac%20announcement&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=NEWEA&utm\\_content=annual%20conference](https://annualconference.newea.org/?utm_source=ac%20announcement&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=NEWEA&utm_content=annual%20conference)

### **Young Professional Summit at NEWEA Annual Conference**

The MEWEA YP Committee sponsors 4-5 YP's from Maine to attend the NEWEA YP Summit. This year, the summit is on January 26<sup>th</sup> from 10 am – 4 pm in Boston. This is a great opportunity to network with other YP's in the industry. Additional information can be found at <https://annualconference.newea.org/young-professionals-program>.

If you are interested in attending, contact Max Kenney at [mkenney@woodardcurran.com](mailto:mkenney@woodardcurran.com).

### **Legislative Breakfast**

Next year's Legislative breakfast will be held on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2020 from 7-9 am at the Senator Inn in Augusta. This is a great opportunity to get your local representatives involved and learn more about our concerns in the clean water and drinking water industry. Stay tuned for registration details and start contacting your representatives!

## **Upcoming Events**

**January 10:** Pretreatment Committee Meeting at MMA in Augusta

**January 26-29:** NEWEA Annual Conference: Boston

**February 5-6:** MWUA Trade Show: Augusta Civic Center

**February 27:** Legislative Breakfast: Senator Inn in Augusta

**March 27:** Ski Day: Sugarloaf

Stacy Thompson

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