

One Water

Joint Newsletter - February 2022

Brought
to you by:



February 2022

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|----|
| ● Message from MeWEA President..... | 1 |
| ● Message from MWUA President..... | 2 |
| ■ Call to Action: Getting Involved..... | 3 |
| ■ Main Events and Job Openings..... | 4 |
| ■ Upcoming Trainings..... | 5 |
| ■ Board and Trustee Trainings..... | 6 |
| ■ JETCC MSC Student Delivers "Show & Tell" Presentation..... | 7 |
| ■ Our Time To Shine: Funding Updates..... | 8 |
| ■ Waters Up Podcast..... | 9 |
| ● MWUA Legislative Annual Report..... | 9 |
| ● Training and Program Committee Report..... | 11 |
| ● MWUA Technology Committee..... | 13 |
| ● MWUA Utilities Finance Officer's Group..... | 14 |
| ■ Joint Sponsorship Opportunities..... | 16 |
| ● MWUA Water Resources Committee Report..... | 18 |
| ● Covid Testing for Wastewater Facilities..... | 19 |
| ■ Greater Augusta Utility District..... | 20 |
| ■ NEIWPC : Celebrating 75 Years..... | 24 |
| ● NEWEA Award Recipients..... | 25 |
| ● NEWEA Conference..... | 25 |
| ● Biosolids Alert..... | 27 |
| ● PFAS Update..... | 28 |
| ● Knowing Your Treatment Options..... | 29 |
| ● Elements of LCRR That Impact Your Water System..... | 30 |
| ● Are You An Expert On Drinking Water?..... | 33 |
| ● Tim Haskell's Retirement Party..... | 34 |
| ■ Side Notes from GAUD..... | 35 |
| ■ In Summary..... | 37 |
| ■ Thank you to Our Sponsors..... | 38 |

● **Green**
Content from MeWEA

● **Blue**
Content from MWUA

■ **Blue/Green**
MWUA & MeWEA content



Message from MeWEA President

Introducing Dave Beauchamp

Welcome to 2022. I would like to take this opportunity as your 2022 president to introduce myself. My name is Dave Beauchamp. I have been a part of this association for over 10 years and have served as the chairman of the collections system committee for 3 years prior to being asked to join the executive committee. I have worked in the water and wastewater field as a contractor for 13 years and have had the pleasure of working with many of you and I look forward to representing all of the association's members for 2022. I have lived in the western mountains of Maine for the past 24 years with my wife and 2 children and truly appreciate the beauty and preservation of the Maine landscape.

In 2022, I will be focusing on the continued partnership with Maine Water Utilities Association. This team effort will allow continued growth to both associations through shared resources and dedicated, focused staff to progress this association into the future while keeping its independence. I want to continue the growth and development of MEWEA's sub-committees and support the growth and opportunities they create.

This association continues to be the frontline representative for all things PFAS and continues to work with the Maine DEP to keep the association informed of both environmental and operational impacts. Our committees continue to engage both the association and the general public in training programs, educational awareness and governmental impacts dealing with water, wastewater, stormwater and our infrastructure.

I truly look forward to representing this association in 2022 and am here to serve the members in any way I can. Thank you.

- Dave Beauchamp
MeWEA President



###



Message from the MWUA President



CALL TO ACTION: Getting Involved

John Leach, MWUA President (South Berwick Water District)

The new year has finally begun and is starting out strong here at the Maine Water Utilities Association! As we ushered out 2021, we all had the opportunity to reminisce about the trials and tribulations that the past year presented us. Each and everyone one of us has had to master new ways and methods to work, learn, shop and communicate safely. The new norm is the hybrid work environment, education in front of a computer, in home schooling, masking in public, and social distancing. We have all faced many challenges and in some cases sickness, and sadness. At MWUA, we are staying positive and heeding the lessons we've learned!

MWUA is a grass roots, non-profit membership organization that is an advocate for the water and wastewater industry. We share information and ideas at bimonthly meetings, sponsor numerous training sessions, offer legislative advocacy, and provide support to members and those in the industry. Each year, MWUA organizes and holds a water works trade show and conference. This year our 96th Annual Conference & Tradeshow was held at the Augusta Civic Center. These conferences allow our many attendees, from the largest to the smallest systems, a chance to get to know and share experiences with others within the profession. Additionally, they are offered various in person training sessions that provide necessary TCHs, and many exhibitors that are ready and willing to equip the water professionals with tools and information on existing and new technology.

As we all look forward to a new year, we hope to be able to put many of the pandemic's difficulties behind us. In 2022, members can look forward to the highest quality professional training with 50% being offered online, and 50% in person as requested by our many members. Furthermore, we would like to encourage you to volunteer to serve on committees and at events or conferences allowing us to fulfill our mission statement. Opportunities to get involved are abundant and we look forward to welcoming you. "The Mission statement of the Maine Water Utilities Association is to represent the water works professional membership in advocating safe drinking water through education, legislation policy and networking." Together we can prepare for the year ahead through good communication, involvement, cooperation, and the sharing of knowledge!

Maine Water Utilities Association (MWUA) and Maine Water Environment Association (MeWEA) are two membership organizations that are volunteer run in the state of Maine. MeWEA for over 50 years and MWUA for almost 100, both have worked hard and diligently to grow as organizations and provide quality service and support to the water professionals of Maine. Both organizations have been and continue to be strong advocates for the water industry through professional development and training, legislation, policy, and networking.



Even though these organizations are strong and successful, they could still use your help! Whether you have over 30 years of industry experience or are brand new, they would love your involvement! Plus, have you considered the benefits to you and the organization you work for? Volunteering for MWUA or MeWEA allows for opportunities to meet, work with, and become friends with like minded people. Further, you are able to become part of a passionate community, learn new skills, and facilitate the change you and/or your organization would like to see. Additionally, it looks great on a resume, and your employer may even offer compensation for your involvement on a committee. If you are interested in volunteering or would like some more information, please reach out!

Contact Information

For MWUA: Bruce Berger – bberger@mwua.org

For MeWEA: Dave Beauchamp – dave.beauchamp@vortexcompanies.com





- March 17, 2022 – Annual Ski Day at Saddleback Mountain
- April 1, 2022 – MEWEA Spring Conference
- April 8, 2022 – [MWUA Bi-Monthly Meeting](#)
- April 24-30, 2022 – National Water Week



Job Openings

Employer

City of South Portland
 Maine Water Company (Freeport)
 Town of Farmington WWTF
 Greater Augusta Utility District
 Maine Water Company (Rockport)
 City of Bangor
 Maine Water Company (Parsonsfield)
 Madawaska Water District

Job Title

[Treatment Plant Operator](#)
[Operator 1](#)
[Operator 1](#)
[Maintenance Mechanic](#)
[Field Service Representative 1](#)
[Administrative Assistant](#)
[Water Operator 1](#)
[Office Manager / Assistant Operator](#)

For the latest job postings, also check out the MEWEA [facebook](#) page and the links below:

<https://www.mewea.org/career-opportunities>
<https://www.newea.org/careers/jobs/>
<https://www.nbiosolids.org/job-opportunities>

<https://mwua.org/jobs/>
<https://jobbankwef.org/jobs/>



Upcoming Trainings

- March 2 [Principals and Practices of Water Distribution Day 1](#) – W 3.0 TCHs
- March 2 Board of Trustee Development 2021-2022 – [Human Resources and Ethics](#) – W 3.0 TCHs
- March 7 [Principals and Practices of Water Distribution Day 2](#) – W 3.0 TCHs
- March 8 [Leadership Institute: Administration](#) – W/WW 6.0 TCHs
- March 10 [Process Controls](#) – WW 3.0 TCHs
- March 10 [Principals and Practices of Water Distribution Day 3](#) – W 3.0 TCHs
- March 14 [Principals and Practices of Water Distribution Day 4](#) – W 3.0 TCHs
- March 15 [Chemistry Basics for Operators Part 1](#) – WW 2.0 TCHs (W pending)
- March 21 [Principals and Practices of Water Distribution Day 6](#) – W 3.0 TCHs
- March 22 [Hydrants and Ductile Iron Pipe](#) – W 4.0 TCHs, WW 2.0 TCHs
- March 23 [Principals and Practices of Water Distribution Day 7](#) – W 3.0 TCHs
- March 24 [Work Zone Traffic Control & Flagger Training](#) – W/WW 6.0 TCHs
- March 30 [Work Zone Traffic Control & Flagger Training](#) – W/WW 6.0 TCHs
- March 31 [Principals and Practices of Water Distribution Day 8](#) – W 3.0 TCHs
- April 7 [Wastewater Sampling](#) – WW 3.0 TCHs
- April 13 [Work Zone Traffic Control & Flagger Training](#) – W/WW 6.0 TCHs
- April 14 [Math Made Manageable](#) – WW 3.0 TCHs (W pending)
- April 20 [Work Zone Traffic Control & Flagger Training](#) – W/WW 6.0 TCHs
- April 21 [Work Zone Traffic Control & Flagger Training](#) – W/WW 6.0 TCHs
- May 10 [Leadership Institute: Coaching and Mentoring](#) – W/WW 6.0 TCHs

ADDITIONAL CLASSES

- [JETCC Remote Learning Catalog](#)
- [MWUA Sponsored Training](#)
- [NEIWPC- JETCC Remote Learning Catalog](#)

KEY ACRONYMS

ww – Technical Credit Hours (TCH) qualifying for wastewater credit hours approved by Maine DEP

w – TCH qualify for water credit hours approved by Board of Licensed Water System Operators (BLWSO)



JETCC Management Candidate School (MCS) Student Delivers “Show & Tell” Presentation

JETCC Management Candidate School (MCS) student Stephen Ortiz of Brewer WWTF delivers his student presentation with an old fashioned “Show n’ Tell” at Brunswick Sewer District on January 17. Steve is among 21 students who will soon graduate from the program that began in November 2019. When Covid-19 derailed the curriculum in early 2020 the MCS students voted to pause the program for a year. Since March 2021, students have participated in 8 virtual classes, 3 live training events and individual operator exchanges.

Board & Trustee Training

Have you heard? Maine Water Utilities Association’s brand-new Trustee Training is a huge hit! All public water and wastewater systems are encouraged to take part in this new training that discusses topics including but not limited to becoming a board member, their responsibilities, board member ethics, and the financial duties. Whether you are a district, department, or another entity, this training is perfect for anyone tasked with governing a water or wastewater system. Leadership, managers, and superintendents will also get a lot out of attending.

Trustee Training has been broken down into four different courses; all leading the participants to a robust understanding of the ins and outs, dos and don’ts, and the responsibilities of a water or wastewater system’s board. The four sessions are as follows:

- “So, You Have Become a Board Member”
- “Walking The Tight Rope – Roles & Responsibilities”
- “Human Resources & Ethics”
- “Operations & Finance”

The Trustee Training courses are specially designed for boards here in Maine. All courses are highly interactive and involve group networking, peer and facilitator coaching, and in-depth activities that put your learning into practice. You will walk away with skills, resources, and templates that can be implemented to positively impact your daily work and the system you’re affiliated with. Also, we likely will see trustee training requirements for funding eligibility very soon – stay tuned.

Attendees will also build a customized guidance document throughout the course with their facilitators. MWUA will have extra copies at the end for folks who were unable to attend. And, if you missed it – don’t worry! We’ll see you next time!

Along with class participation, an operator exchange, and completion of a self-study, all MCS students are required to offer a presentation before their class. The student presentation is often one of the most challenging segments for MCS students, and for this group many needed to do so via zoom.

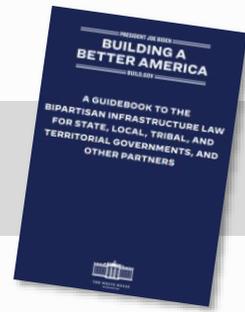


Stephen Ortiz presenting

Stephen’s presentation on creating a hand carved wooden chess set included holding his figures in front of a camera while he discussed them in the classroom. Accompanied by a PowerPoint, his presentation was also streamed via zoom to students unable to attend the class. Also streaming a presentation into the BSD classroom from her office, was Kim Walsh of York Sewer District. Other students who could not attend the in-person class watched the presentations via zoom. Hosted by the crew of Brunswick Sewer District, the classroom topic of the day was “Engineering Design and Blueprint Reading” led by Mike Stein of Wright-Pierce Engineers.

In October, another MCS student Bill Snyder of Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, Wells Water District, expanded his presentation into a full day of training by enlisting other crew members to offer tours of the KKWWD’s water treatment facility and featured a detailed explanation of their PFAS remediation system. Students, trainers and facilitators in the 2019 -2022 MCS program had to overcome an unusual number of challenges to complete what is typically a year-long program. Graduation took place on February 3rd during the MWUA convention in Augusta.

OUR TIME TO SHINE: *Funding Updates*



On November 15, 2021, President Biden, signed the \$1.2 trillion Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) into law. This funding is the largest investment in infrastructure since the 1950s! Together, Governor Mills, Senators Collins and King, and other members of Maine's congressional delegation applauded the IIJA, commonly referred to as the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL). "This is a victory for all Americans.", according to Senator Susan Collins. Furthermore, Senator Angus King stated, "It's nearly impossible to capture just how much good this will do for the state of Maine, but in the months and years ahead, we will see the legislation's impact unfold before our eyes and throughout our communities."

So exactly what does BIL represent for our country's water and wastewater systems? Specifically, the legislation has committed \$50 billion to address water and wastewater infrastructure over five years, \$15B allotted for removing lead pipes and service lines, and \$10B to undertake contamination from toxic chemicals, notably PFAS.

The EPA will allocate \$7.4B to states, tribes, and territories for 2022. You may also ask, what portion of this money will Maine's systems receive? Maine will be given \$68,390,000 for water and wastewater infrastructure in 2022. Unbelievable! Furthermore, this is only a portion of the funding that will be allocated. There will be a total of \$44B flowing to the states in five years starting in 2022. In particular, Maine will receive about \$2.37B over five years to repair and rebuild old or damaged infrastructure. In the future, the EPA will provide more information on how these resources will be directed and accessed.

On January 31, 2022, the White House published a 465-page guidebook that explains the various funding and grant sources available. For more information, check out the guidebook [here](#).

"These investments will create good-paying jobs and have an immense impact on the day-to-day lives of Maine people across our state.", announced Senator King. "The EPA is committed to making the most of this historic opportunity to help communities invest in the critical infrastructure that will deliver clean drinking water for decades to come.", declared EPA Regional Administrator KC Becker. She also mentioned that the funds will improve watershed health and expand access to safe drinking water. **Finally, it's time for Maine's water and wastewater systems to shine!**



Have you heard about *Water's Up?*

A new, first of its kind, podcast that will provide environmental professionals all over the state with an easy, fun, and entertaining way to hear relevant information in our industry hosted by Brunswick Sewer District's own Rob Pontau.

Tune in live (or later) for Rob's monthly podcasts. Most episodes are eligible for continuing education credits.

Check out the [Youtube Channel](#) – and subscribe today!



As with many things in 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic necessitated a new approach to legislative business. While the 2020 legislative session ended early due to the pandemic, the 2021 session might be termed "the remote" session because most legislative committee work was carried out over Zoom. Although remote committee hearings and work sessions created significant challenges in making personal connections with legislators, it saved MWUA committee members many hours driving to Augusta and sitting in committee rooms waiting for meetings to start.

The critical need for MWUA's ongoing legislative and regulatory advocacy for water utilities was manifested throughout the 2021 legislative session. Presumably, members of Maine's citizen legislature are seeking to establish good public policy, they are relentlessly lobbied by many special interest groups. Fortunately, the Legislature continues to give strong deference to the voice of the water profession when setting water policy in Maine. In 2021, the work of MWUA's legislative committee successfully influenced public policy to the benefit of the water industry.

Participating members of the committee included: Roger Crouse, David Parent, Donna Katsifacas, Bruce Berger, Reggie Winslow, Trevor Hunt, Andy Begin, Rick Knowlton, Mark Vannoy, Jeff Day, Kathy Rodgers, Steve Cox, Carrie Lewis, and John Leach.



Legislative Committee Annual Report (cont'd)

Brad Sawyer, representing the Maine Rural Water Association, and Tim Wade, representing the Maine Water Environment Association, also participated regularly, and provided valuable assistance to the committee. Legislative support from Jim Cohen and his team at Verrill proved to be invaluable in staying on top of the myriad of legislative activities that occurred each week and provided insight into the inner workings of the Legislative machine.

MWUA committee meetings were generally held every three or four weeks from the middle of January through June.

Members of the committee regularly attend meetings of MeWEA's Government Affairs committee to increase coordination between the two associations.

During the 2021 session 1,744 legislative documents (LDs – aka bills) were published. By the end of the legislative session, approximately 100 bills were included on the MWUA's legislative tracking list. Letters or testimony to committees were provided on approximately 25 bills.

Topics of significance included:

- **PFAS** – PFAS was the top environmental health topic of the legislative session with bills banning the use of PFAS, tracking PFAS use, controlling disposal, and setting a regulatory standard for PFAS levels in drinking water. While the legislature did establish an interim regulatory standard of 20 parts per trillion for six PFAS compounds, MWUA, and others, successfully convinced the legislature to leave the establishment of the actual maximum contaminant level with the technical experts at the Department of Health and Human Services. The latter was a big win for us.
- **PUC assessments** – The PUC will now be determining annual assessments for consumer owned water utilities and investor owned utilities separately. To reduce the potential for volatility in the annual assessment amounts, assessments will be based upon a three-year average of a utility's income.
- **Employment law** – Similar to the 2020 session, there were numerous bills submitted in 2021 to expand or improve employee rights including giving increased power to labor organizations in collective bargaining. Several of these bills were carried over to the 2022 session. In general, we did well on labor bills, thanks in large part, to the work of Donna Katsiaticas.
- **Remote participation in public proceedings** – The successful use of remote meeting technology during the pandemic pointed to a need for permanent legislation to allow elected or appointed officials to attend public proceedings remotely. While the legislation that was passed maintained many limitations, it is a good step forward in allowing utility boards to conduct business with one or more board members in remote locations.

- **Commission To Study the Role of Water as a Resource in the State of Maine** – In a last-minute language change to a bill intended to tax bottled water, the legislature created a resolve to establish a commission to study the role of water as a resource in the State of Maine. This commission appears to have a charge similar to the one already given to the Water Resources Planning Committee which was re-established in 2019. While this bill has passed both the House and Senate, it remains pending due to a fiscal note which will be addressed in the 2022 session.

I am grateful for the sacrifices the members of the Legislative Committee made in support of this important work.



Training & Program Committee Report

MISSION STATEMENT: The Training and Program (TaP) Committee shall develop timely topics to facilitate training and educational events, which will enhance operations, promote capacity development and service for members, water, and wastewater industry professionals.

The following persons served on the committee this year:

- Justin Richardson Co-Chair – KKW Water District
- Benny LaPlante Co-Chair – Kennebunk Water District
- Rick Anair – Board Liaison – GAUD
- Chris Curtis – Board Liaison – Auburn Water District
- Amanda Keyes – Tighe & Bond
- Darrin Lary – Wright – Pierce
- Dana Curtis – South Berwick Water District
- Dave Herzig – Portland Water District
- Eric Gagnon – Yarmouth Water District
- Herb Kronholm – Searsport Water District
- John Leach – South Berwick Water District
- Kathy Rogers – RCAP Solutions
- Kevin Luttrell – Bangor Water District
- Michael Cummons – Maine Water Company
- Michael Griffin – Bath Water District
- Noah Emery – York Water District
- Peter Goodwin – Tata and Howard
- Nate McLaughlin – W&C
- Dylan Ross – EJP
- William Dawson – MEDWP
- Aric Odone – Maine Water Company
- Ray Morang – EJP
- Rob Chadwick – EJP
- Jason Souzer – GAUD
- Rychel Gibson – Hoyle Tanner
- Dan Burdin – EJP

Training & Program Committee Report (cont'd)

- In December of 2020 there was a virtual event. The Technical Program discussed the benefits of monthly billing.
- Our next meeting was the 2021 Annual February Trade show which was the first time it was held virtually. This was a joint venture with Maine Water Environment Association. After much concern about having a virtual event, we can look back and say that it was a huge success. The opening session was the Legislative Breakfast. The event attracted 295 attendees with 42 sessions and 11 virtual vendor booths.
- The April Bi-Monthly meeting was a virtual event. The Technical Program included Mike Cummons from Maine Water Company and Rebecca Labranche from A & L Laboratory who spoke about Skowhegan's Do Not Drink Order. In addition, Racheal French from the Drinking Water Program reviewed the three drinking water orders.
- The June Bi-Monthly meeting was our first in-person meeting since COVID restrictions began. The day before featured a golf outing coordinated by Mike Pelkey. That night, McDermott and EJP hosted a social night at the Elks Club. The Bi-Monthly meeting was also held at the Elks club and had a large attendance. The meeting included a welcome from MWUA's President, Brian McGuire and updates from Houlton Water System, Maine Drinking Water Program, Maine Public Utilities Commission and MWUA's Legislative Committee. The presentation of the 2020 MWUA Awards followed. Leonard Blanchette was awarded the Jeffrey L. McNelly Award, Keith Levasseur the Jeff Nixon Distinguished Service Award, Justin Richardson the Sid Anthony Award of Merit, A&L Labs the Jim Doherty Excellence in Volunteerism, Bruce Berger the President's Award, Maine Water Co – Skowhegan Division the Excellence in Operations and Skip Dumais, Robert MacKinnon and Alan Frasier received the Lifetime Achievement Award. During the technical program, Charlie Agnew from Competitive Energy Services and Kurt Penney from Revision Energy discussed solar power. The meeting concluded with a fantastic meal by Chef McGuire.
- The August Golf Tournament was canceled due to a rise in COVID cases.
- The August Summer Outing was very successful and was hosted, for the first time at the Brunswick Landing. Two, one-hour optional trainings started the day on Tractor, Loader, Backhoe Safety and Chainsaws & Safety. We also had a demonstration of NEWWA's Hydrant Hysteria and we started the annual pipe tapping competition, but due to technical difficulties we had to cancel the event. MeWEA hosted a very successful Cornhole Contest and lunch included a traditional pig roast, steak, chicken, burgers and hot dogs.

- The October 2020 meeting was a virtual bi-monthly meeting. The technical program included a Pressure Session by Jason Burkhard of Sensus pH and Cl presented by Benny LaPlante of the Kennebec Water District and a Case Study from Bruce Gardiner and Brian Murray of the Bath Water District.
- **2022 Bi-Monthly Locations:**
 - **February 2nd & 3rd** – Annual Conference and Tradeshow, Augusta Civic Center
 - **April 14th** – Augusta
 - **June 9th** – Presque Isle
 - **August 11th** – Summer Outing, Cumberland Fairgrounds
 - **October 13th** – Bath
 - **December TBD** – Kennebunkport
 - **Golf Tournament** – date and location TBD



Technology Committee 2021 Annual Committee Report

While attendance and recruitment continue to be a challenge with the pandemic, 2021 was another productive year for the Technology Committee. At the February Trade show, we held a session covering underwater drones. In the session Keith Levasseur, committee member and engineer for Sanford Water District, covered his experience with an underwater drone and used it for tank and intake inspections. Following Keith, Ryan Bourque from Portland Water District, discussed Portland's experience with robotics for pipeline condition assessment.

After the Trade Show, we started planning for a hands-on technology meeting and a fall GIS session. A hands-on session covering the use of drones was held in Wells. This session involved presentations from TC Schofield, committee co-chair, and Brunswick Topsham Water District engineer, Justin Richardson, KKW Water District's GIS Coordinator, and Cam Cox, Project Engineer at Crooker Construction. After the presentations, we headed outside to see them in action. This was the second hands-on meeting we had with technology, with GPS units being the first, and once again this meeting was very well received. We've discussed expanding on this idea in the future and making training credits available for attending.

(cont'd on next page)

MWUA Technology Committee Report (cont'd)

Finally, we finished up the year with a session on GIS. We had speakers from Maine Water Company, KKW Water District, EJ Prescott, Esri, and VHB. Like 2020, we had to pivot to an online only session out of consideration for COVID-19. While we were pleased with how it came together, attendance was relatively low compared to past years. With that in mind, we've discussed putting more emphasis on a technology track at the February Trade Show instead of a stand-alone technology session in October. We feel there's a need for more technology-related sessions and we're hoping that by moving it to the construction off season we can boost attendance at future events. We've also discussed reaching out to more technology vendors for booths on the trade show floor and to provide product demonstrations. For the 2022 February Trade Show, we planned another session on GIS.



Maine Water Utilities Association Finance Officers Group

Committee Mission: To review and/or disseminate information of special interest to water utilities on financial management issues, such as infrastructure financing, asset management, financial planning, accounting practices, rate setting, tax procedures, and water utility expenditures and revenues

Committee Members

- Amy Dyer
- Brian Tarbuck
- Bruce Berger
- Cathy McLeod
- Cathy Robinson
- Cynthia Clements
- Donna Tice
- Eric Gagnon
- Greg M. Leighton
- Holli Silva
- John Leach
- Karen Hamilton
- Kathleen Chapin
- Kathy Moriarty
- Mike Payne
- Nicki Pellenz
- Patrick Desrosiers
- Sherry Kenney
- Sonya
- Tanya Dunn
- Trudy Dixon
- Waterboro Water District

(cont'd on next page)

Accomplishments/Activities in the Past Year:

- Annual May meeting was not held due to scheduling conflicts
- Benchmarking tool published last year - <https://utilitymeasures.org/>. Responsibility to update migrated to MRWA (Norm Lamie) who are receiving grant money from the Drinking Water Program.
- Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program. Participated in a focus group sponsored by the Maine Housing Program. The group provided input on how to design the LiWHAP program in Maine. The program is supposed to become active by the end of the year.
- It was requested that the Legislative Committee solicit a change in the deadline for the submittal of annual PUC reports. There was also a discussion with the PUC staff.
- A number of online group discussions on various topics including rate making and PUC Assessment in order to provide an immediate response on a hot topic.

Upcoming Events/Assistance:

- Plan for a May 2022 meeting.
- Create periodic virtual meeting in coordination with NEWWA on the hot topic of the day.

Assistance Requested:

- Outreach to utilities to see if the finance person for each utility being on the distribution list. Best way to this? Received a list from MWUA and plan on reaching out.
- Should we coordinate our efforts with the Office Training session MWUA holds? There could be an overlap.
- Rachel Bailey resigned her position at the Bangor Water District, so we are in need of a new co-chair.



**MeWEA Spring
Conference**
April 1, 2022
Black Bear Inn - Orono, ME
Brochure coming!



BECOME A JOINT SPONSOR

Limited spots available

As a valued partner, we invite you to become a joint sponsor of MWUA, MeWEA and Tom's Water Solutions. Choose your level of sponsorship and take advantage of special discounts while reaching 3x the audience!

YOU'LL RECEIVE

VISIBILITY ON MULTIPLE WEBSITES

Sponsors can receive a website ad on MWUA, MeWEA and Tom's Water Solutions.

DISCOUNTS ON EVENTS

Receive discounts on multiple annual events including the joint golf event and annual conference.

SAVE ON MEMBERSHIP DUES

Depending on your level of sponsorship, you can save from 25% off to completely waived dues.

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

PLATINUM

\$7,500

PLATINUM LEVEL - Limit 4 Sponsors - \$7,500

- First page Web Ad (MWUA, MeWEA and Toms Water Solutions)
- 1/2 page Newsletter Ad (2x/year). Ad placed on inside front page or back page.
- 1/4 page ad joint newsletter ad 2x/year in remaining joint newsletter issues.
- 2-page Newsletter insert once per year. Insert to be placed in middle of newsletter
- Training Sponsorship for all training (a dedicated slide and/or verbal mentions at all training classes)
- Joint Annual MWUA/MeWEA February and Fall Conferences Sponsorship includes company logo display on video screens on at building entrance
- Annual Joint Golf Sponsorship (including one team of four)
- Annual Summer Outing Sponsorship
- 20% Discount for Display at Joint Annual MWUA/MeWEA February and Fall Conference
- 10% Discount for 5-Registrations for all MWUA/MeWEA CO-sponsored events including summer outing
- Annual Membership Dues Waived for MWUA/MeWEA Membership

\$3,800
savings

GOLD

\$5,000

GOLD LEVEL - Limit 8 Sponsors - \$5,000

- Web Ad on MWUA, MeWEA and Toms Water Solutions Websites
- 1/4 page Joint Newsletter Ad in all four issues
- Joint Annual MWUA/MeWEA February and Fall Conferences Sponsorship
- Annual Joint Golf Sponsorship (including one team of four)
- Annual Summer Outing Sponsorship
- 15% Discount for Display at Joint Annual MWUA/MeWEA February and Fall Conferences
- 10% Discount (limit 3-Registrations) for all MWUA/MeWEA CO-sponsored events including summer outing
- 50% Discount on Annual MWUA/MeWEA Membership Dues

\$2,750
savings

SILVER

\$2,500

SILVER LEVEL - Unlimited Sponsors - \$2,500

- Web Ad on MWUA, MeWEA and Toms Water Solutions
- 1/8 page Joint Newsletter Ad in all four issues
- Golf Sponsorship (including team of 4 players)
- Joint Annual MWUA/MeWEA February and Fall Conference Sponsorship
- 10% Discount for Display at Joint Annual MWUA/MeWEA February and Fall Conference
- 25% Discount on Annual MWUA/MeWEA Membership Dues

\$1,850
savings

Have a smaller budget but still want to participate?

Sign up for our newsletter ads!

Unlimited Sponsors - \$1,000 (or \$250/quarter)

- 1/8 page Joint Newsletter Ad in all four issues (circulation approx. 5,000)

Reserve Your Spot Today

 (207) 623-9511

 cwade@mwua.org



Water Resources Committee

Annual Report 2021

This year, the committee brought together a diverse group of speakers to present at the February Tradeshow and September Source Water Seminar. Presenters included academic professors, staff from various state departments, and employees of our local water utilities. For the February Tradeshow, the committee put together three 1-hour courses, with a focus on technology and maintenance in the water industry. For the September Source Water Seminar, the theme was Water and Weather. The committee pulled together a group of presenters to offer a full day of training and 6 TCHs. Currently, there are 10 active members on the committee, and 6 associate members with Greg Pargellis and Alisha Cooney as co-chairs. A big thank you to all committee members for another successful year of programming, and to Greg and Alisha for leading the way.

Active members

Alisha Cooney – Bath Water District
 Greg Pargellis – KKW Water District
 Mary Jane Dillingham – Maine Water Company
 Keith Levasseur – Sanford Water District
 Erica Kidd – Auburn & Lewiston Water
 Chris Curtis – Auburn & Lewiston Water
 Robbie Bickford – Kennebec Water District
 David McCaskill – MeDEP
 Racheal French – MeDEP
 Ashley Hodge – MeDEP

Associate members

Cindy Wade – MWUA
 Bruce Berger – MWUA
 Mike Abbott – MeDEP
 Tim Wade – GAUD
 Brian Tarbuck – GAUD
 Jefferson Longfellow – Kennebec Water

Below is a recap of the sessions put together by the committee for 2021:

MWUA 95th Annual Conference and Trade Show (2/2-2/4, 2021)

- Water Reuse for Water and Wastewater – Dr. Carol Nemeroff, University of New Brunswick
- UV Technology for Drinking Water – Dr. James Malley, University of New Hampshire
- Well Maintenance – Bruce Fowler, P.G., Sevee & Maher Engineers

15th Annual Drinking Water Protection Seminar – Weather & Water (9/1/21)

- Drought and Extreme Weather Events
 - Streamflow and Snow Melt Changes – Glenn Hodgkins, USGS
 - Microburst – Jim Leighton, Limestone Water and Sewer District
 - Resources from DEP – Nathan Robbins, DEP
- Forest Management
 - Fire Prevention and Response – Kent Nelson, Maine Forest Service
 - Land Trusts and Lake Protection – Paul Hunt, Portland Water District
- Contamination during Events
 - Emergency Response and Maine Drinking Water Orders – Amy Lachance, Susan Breau, & Racheal French – DWP
 - DEP: When to Call, How to File a Report, and Scenarios – Stuart Blanchard – DEP



Covid Testing for Wastewater Treatment Facilities



The State has announced recently, it is expanding SARS-CoV-2 wastewater surveillance to a total of 23 communities in Maine. Wastewater surveillance of SARS-CoV-2 provides officials with valuable information about the overall virus presence to help track the virus by understanding the increases, decreases and acceleration of infection rates in a given community.

There are currently two SARS-CoV-2 wastewater surveillance studies in Maine. One project is being overseen by the U.S. CDC using the vendor LuminUltra. The other is through Maine CDC in partnership with the Maine DEP using the vendor BioBot Analytics.

More information can be found here:

<https://www.pressherald.com/2022/01/23/following-yarmouths-lead-state-looks-to-wastewater-for-covid-clues/>

<https://www.pressherald.com/2022/01/26/maine-cdc-director-to-give-update-on-massive-covid-19-testing-backlog/>



The Greater Augusta Utility District (GAUD) was established in 2007, when the assets of the Augusta Water District, the Augusta Sanitary District, and the sewer collection system of the Hallowell Water District were combined. Today, GAUD supplies:

- drinking water to Augusta and parts of Manchester, Hallowell, Chelsea, Vassalboro and Winthrop;
- sewer collection service to Hallowell and Augusta;
- stormwater service to Augusta; and
- bulk sewer collection and treatment from Monmouth, Winthrop, and Manchester, via a 1970 interlocal agreement.

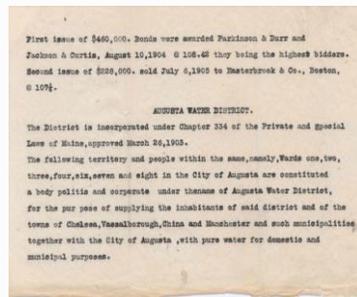
Where We Are

The chronicles of GAUD begins with the Kennebec River and its basin. The story of the Kennebec River is a 170-mile-long saga starting in Moosehead Lake and ending at the Atlantic Ocean, draining 6,000 square miles along the way (much of central Maine). The Kennebec is a holdover from the last Ice Age. When the glaciers retreated, they left behind a gorge and cliffs. Over time, the climate grew warmer, the ice melted, and the gorge filled in, leading to the river and basin we know today.

On its journey to the sea, the Kennebec passes many Maine towns and cities, including the state's capital (and the county seat), Augusta. Before it was known as "Augusta", the Native Americans called the area "Cushnoc" or "consecrated place". Old Fort Western was built in Augusta by English settlers in 1754, and by 1832 the city was Maine's state capital.

History of Drinking Water in Augusta

In the 19th century, Augusta's drinking water came from private companies tapping into Kennedy Brook and the Kennebec River. The winter of 1902-1903 witnessed over 300 cases of typhoid fever throughout the region, with approximately 30 deaths. An investigation determined that sewer discharges to the river upstream contaminated drinking water supplies downstream. On March 9, 1903, a bill was drafted to create a new water district to alleviate the polluted water supplies. With overwhelming public support and the blessing of the Legislature, the Augusta Water District was incorporated on March 26, 1903.



(cont'd on next page)

In 1905, the Kennebec River was abandoned as a supply source, due to poor water quality in territories east of the river. After careful study, two new sources were chosen: Lake Cobbosseecontee, which provided an ample water supply, and Carleton Pond, with premium water quality. Undeniably, the District had procured an abundant supply of the purest water.

In the 1950s, two wells were installed to supplement the supply, with a third well coming on-line in the early 1960s. From 1993-2004, the water from Carleton Pond was treated using filtration and disinfection, but this method was discontinued in favor of using groundwater to save on operating costs and rapidly declining water sales.

History of Wastewater in Augusta

The Augusta Sewerage District, created in 1955, shifted the cost of sewer and stormwater services to the ratepayer instead of the City of Augusta taxpayers. The wastewater treatment plant was constructed in 1965, and the name was changed to the Augusta Sanitary District in 1977. In 2007, local voters and the Legislature approved the merger of the Augusta Water and Sanitary Districts and the sewer collection system of the Hallowell Water District.

GAUD Today

Today, the drinking water system consists of two treatment buildings, 5 groundwater wells, 8 storage tanks with a total storage capacity of 17.5 MG, and 130 miles of water pipe. The average daily water demand is only 1.6 MGD. Drinking water is supplied from 5 gravel-packed groundwater wells and is treated at 2 different treatment stations. The water is treated with 3 chemicals: sodium hypochlorite, sodium fluoride, and a poly-orthophosphate blend. This treatment protocol has fortunately met the corrosion control, total coliform, and lead and copper compliance needs for years.

The wastewater treatment facility discharges to the Kennebec River. It has an average daily flow of 4.3 MGD.

The plant can provide up to 36 MGD of primary treatment and 8 MGD for secondary treatment with a pure oxygen activated sludge system. Ninety-five percent of incoming wastewater pollutants are removed before the effluent is discharged to the Kennebec. The wastewater treatment system includes 3 combined sewer overflow tanks, with a storage capacity of 3.6 MG, and 19 wastewater pump stations. Beyond the facility, GAUD maintains 146 miles of sewer pipes and 107 miles of stormwater pipes.

(cont'd on next page)



RECORD OF MONTHLY CONSUMPTION OF WATER

| Month | Pumping Record Hours | Current Used Kw. Hours | Total Consumption Gallons | Daily Consumption Gallons |
|-----------|----------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1926 | | | | |
| January | 730½ | 19,160 | 87,590,000 | 2,825,484 |
| February | 655 | 17,070 | 84,290,000 | 3,010,556 |
| March | 712½ | 17,210 | 90,210,000 | 2,910,000 |
| April | 703½ | 15,650 | 87,230,000 | 2,907,666 |
| May | 402 | 12,750 | 85,220,000 | 2,749,032 |
| June | 378½ | 12,240 | 85,010,000 | 2,833,666 |
| July | 579½ | 19,070 | 100,390,000 | 3,238,387 |
| August | 618½ | 18,320 | 96,420,000 | 3,110,322 |
| September | 546½ | 17,970 | 86,910,000 | 2,897,000 |
| October | 556½ | 17,960 | 88,220,000 | 2,845,806 |
| November | 518 | 16,560 | 90,760,000 | 3,025,333 |
| December | 681 | 21,740 | 98,430,000 | 3,175,161 |
| Total | 7,082½ | 205,800 | 1,077,270,000 | 2,951,150 |

table above shows consumption back in 1926.



The people behind GAUD

GAUD's 42 employees have a combined 492 years of service. In the next year or so, an additional six more personnel will be hired, primarily to lessen the stress of the anticipated retirement of current staff. General Manager Brian Tarbuck



and Assistant General Manager Andy Begin confidently say that some of the people who work at GAUD are real characters, and everyone's day goes by quickly. Per Brian, the best adjective for their employees is "adaptable". He stated, "It's hard to join a water utility and then have it merge with a wastewater utility, so those who stayed learned to adapt and learn and thrive." The team is proficient as they are willing to listen to people and subsequently fill their needs. According to Brian, "a collective 'git 'r done' attitude pervades this organization."

GAUD believes that customers are the reason for their existence, which means maintaining high standards of customer service and engagement. That goes from providing high quality services to their customers, to utilizing digital interfaces to give customers a self-service billing and payment option. GAUD's website was designed to be as user-friendly and transparent as possible, and the District maintains very active Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram sites. These tools and services, along with a highly professional staff, promote an open and honest organization.

In December 2021, GAUD proudly accepted the award for State of Maine's Safety and Health Award for Public Employees (SHAPE). This honor is presented to public sector employers that maintain an exemplary safety and health management system, distinguishing select organizations as a model for workplace safety and health. Brian notes, "The District prides itself on providing a safe work environment for our employees. We want them going home to their other family every night."

Challenges and projects

Recently, particularly significant challenges include PFAS limits for both drinking water and biosolid residuals; arsenic limits for drinking water; and revisions to the Lead and Copper Rules. Using new technology, and adding new positions dedicated to specific issues, GAUD is attempting to mitigate these problems. At the same time, GAUD's board has also recognized these obstacles and is providing significant funding to keep infrastructure up to date.

GAUD also has an ongoing \$5M Kennebec River Utility Crossing project. It started as a replacement sewer siphon and has turned into a redundant water line and fiber optic line. The permitting effort has been so onerous that it was foolish to not add a couple of other pipes to provide conveyance options for the future. An additional upcoming project for GAUD is a \$3M upgrade of the wastewater facility's electrical system and generator including relocation of the generator to a more flood-resistant elevation.

(cont'd on next page)

Side notes...

Not Your Typical CSO Storage Tank

In Maine, a common thread among communities is protecting the state's waterways and natural resources. GAUD's long-term control plan to reduce combined sewer overflows (CSOs) included the construction of a 1-million-gallon CSO storage tank along its East Side Interceptor Sewer.



Working with engineers, construction companies and tank manufacturers, GAUD developed a design that would be easy to build and competitive to bid. The design was based on GAUD's concept of using a wire-wound, prestressed concrete tank to meet its needs.



Typically, an underground tank made of precast sections linked together is utilized for CSO projects. However, the project team recognized that a tank normally used for drinking water storage could store combined sewer overflow at a very significant savings. The project was also able to provide additional site parking and standby power to the entire District campus and relocate a 1963 era pump station out of the flood zone.

The tank and new pump station were operational in late 2020. The 100-foot diameter, partially buried tank drains to a new pump station that both pumps the tank down after it is full and provides daily sewer conveyance when the tank is empty. To date, CSO activations at this location have dropped from 58 MG per year to < 4 MG per year. This project received a Maine ACEC honor award in 2021 for a unique application of an existing technology.

(more side notes on page 35)





At the Maine Water Environment Association (MeWEA) Convention on September 16 at Sunday River, JETCC Program Manager, Leeann Hanson presented a Past Service Award to Andrew Seiler of General Dynamics. From 2014 to 2021, Andrew served as an Industrial Representative on the JETCC Board of Directors. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the passage of the federal Clean Water Act of 1972, the landmark environmental legislation that has, to this day, defined how we protect and restore our water resources. It also marks 75 years since NEIWPCC's establishment by an act of Congress in July 1947.

In recognition of these milestones, through 2022, NEIWPCC will be sharing stories from our staff, commissioners, and partners to commemorate our strong history of advancing clean water in the Northeast. Please join us as we celebrate the partnerships that have defined our success, reflect on the progress we've made, and use our passion and expertise to take on the water quality challenges that lie ahead

With a health and safety background and past service in the US Marine Corps, Andrew's brought a unique perspective to the JETCC Board.

Message from Leeann Hanson

JETCC Program Manager

2022 is here and JETCC has a new virtual training schedule ready for you!

We have filled the calendar with a series of learn-from-anywhere, live and virtual classes to help prepare for an entry-level wastewater exam. Or, if you've been in the field for a while, these classes will help you obtain continuing education credits through some interesting and entertaining topics. Meet your training needs through JETCC with 30 plus training contact hours available through April!

Keep checking our [website](#) as new classes are added later in the Spring.

Please feel free to send me an [email](#) or give me a call (207-253-8020) to recommend training topics you would like to see.



The NEWEA Awards Ceremony was held on Wednesday January 26. Congratulations to all the recipients! Below is a partial list of award recipients.



MASSACHUSETTS
Jennifer Lichtensteiger
Lowell, MA



RHODE ISLAND
Kathy Perez
South Kingstown, RI



NEW HAMPSHIRE
Dan Driscoll
Concord, NH



RHODE ISLAND
Scott Goodinson
Narragansett, RI



MASSACHUSETTS
Ashley Demarey
Agawam, MA



CONNECTICUT
Sally Keating
Hartford, CT



VERMONT
Richard Kenney
Hartford, VT



MAINE
Paula Drouin
Lewiston, ME



E. SHERMAN CHASE AWARD
Michael Williams
Holyoke, MA



YOUNG PROFESSIONAL AWARD
Colin O'Brien
Petersham, MA

NEWEA Conference

Written by: Gene Weeks, BAU Hopkins

The NEWEA Conference took place on January 23-26 at the Boston Marriot Copley Place. The theme of the conference was "Navigating the Tides: FOSTERING DIVERSITY AND LEADING CHANGE". Lauren Hertel from Woodard and Curran chaired the NEWEA Program Committee that organized the event. The event operated with a list of COVID 19 guidelines including attendees wearing masks at all times, and all attendees had to have proof of COVID-19 vaccination.



This year's theme: FOSTERING DIVERSITY AND LEADING CHANGE

(cont'd on next page)

NEWEA Conference

(cont'd from previous page)

Among the presentations were:

- "Sound the High Water Alarm – Effects of Seawater Rise on Maine's Wastewater Infrastructure"
- "Feasibility and Design of Biosolids Drying at the Lewiston Auburn Water Pollution Control Authority"
- "Destructive Technologies Overview for Complete PFAS Treatment Solutions" and
- "What if Amazon Ran a Treatment Facility" – The Future of Wastewater Automation".

This is just a sample of some of the many presentations. If you want to know what is new in the field of wastewater collection and treatment, go to an event like this and attend some of the presentations. Overall the comments on the presentations were positive. Attendance was mixed, but there was good information given at all of the presentations.

Attendance at the conference was down, final numbers were not available at this writing, but maybe a little more than half of the 2020 attendance? What does this mean for the future? No one knows.

In the exhibit halls the reduced attendance was evident. However, we did have a chance to reacquaint ourselves with old friends and meet some new ones. Some people had traveled for the first time in a year or more to get to the conference. We also made some good contacts and had some good conversations. Personally, I keep notes in a small pocket notebook of people I talked with and what was said. In the evening I enter the notes into my computer. This year I entered 15 notes. I looked back at my 2020 NEWEA notes and found that I had entered 22. A reflection of reduced attendance, but as a vendor, still well worth attending.

At the end of the conference awards were given out and the new slate of officers took office. The office of President of NEWEA passed from Virgil Lloyd of Fuss and O'Neill to Fred McNeill from Manchester, NH.

At this point the conferences and trade shows we have attended seem to be changing. Hopefully by next year's NEWEA Conference COVID 19 will have a reduced presence in our lives. No mask requirement will help attendance. Virtual training sessions and presentations may replace part of what has been done at conferences. However, the need for us to gather together to socialize and exchange ideas will not go away. It may take a few more years, but I look forward to the January when NEWEA is bustling with people enjoying themselves and learning about the fascinating, important field of wastewater collection and treatment.



Biosolids Alert

To MEWEA Members:

The Maine Legislature's Joint Standing Committee on Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) considered an amendment to LD 1911 that would immediately prohibit the use of biosolids in compost and would immediately prohibit any and all land application of biosolids throughout Maine. Our serious concerns about this proposal are highlighted in the attached letter to the ENR Committee.

In particular, the concern is that, without the ability to use land applications, there may be no available means to dispose of biosolids generated by municipal and other wastewater treatment facilities. Our concern was confirmed by representatives of Casella who report that there is not sufficient operational capacity to divert biosolids to landfills. Without a viable disposal option for municipal biosolids, it is unclear how wastewater treatment facilities in Maine could continue to operate.

We encourage you to quickly reach out to members of the ENR Committee and alert them to your concerns about LD 1911 and how it will impact your wastewater treatment plant operations. A letter template is included if you would like to use it. Below are the email addresses for all ENR committee members.

[Sen. Stacy Brenner, Chair \(D-Scarborough\)](#)

[Rep. Victoria Doudera \(D-Camden\)](#)

[Sen. Richard Bennett \(R-Oxford\)](#)

[Rep. Lori Gramlich \(D-Old Orchard Beach\)](#)

[Sen. Anne Carney \(D-Cape Elizabeth\)](#)

[Rep. Jeffrey Hanley \(R-Pittston\)](#)

[Rep. Ralph Tucker, Chair \(D-Brunswick\)](#)

[Rep. Beth O'Connor \(R-Berwick\)](#)

[Rep. Art Bell \(D-Yarmouth\)](#)

[Rep. Will Tuell \(R-E. Machias\)](#)

[Rep. Lydia Blume \(D-York Beach\)](#)

[Rep. Stanley Zeigler \(D-Montville\)](#)

[Rep. James Boyle \(D-Gorham\)](#)

Thank you in advance for your efforts on this bill. Your voice is critical to making sure that policymakers understand the serious problems that LD 1911 will create.

Please let us know if you have questions or need additional information.



PFAS Update

By: Jeff McBurnie

PFAS contamination continues to be the primary time consumer for the Residuals Management Committee. While no new 'hot spots' have emerged in the State, reports have been released detailing the finding of PFAS in the meat of deer harvested (5 of 8 animals) and in eggs produced in the Fairfield area, where incidents of significant groundwater and soil PFAS contamination have been identified. The Maine Departments of Environmental Protection (DEP); Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry (DACF); and Health and Human Services (CDC-Drinking Water Program) (DHHS) remain active in sample collection and analysis. The State has been granted substantial federal monies for staffing to support the PFAS sampling programs and to facilitate remediation projects. The first regular session of the 130th Maine Legislature also established a fee of \$10.00 per ton of sludge and septage handled in Maine to support PFAS sampling and remediation. Sludge includes municipal and industrial wastewater treatment solids.

Much is occurring at the Regulatory and Legislative levels of government. The MEWEA Government Affairs and Residuals Management Committees are actively engaged with the Maine DEP and the Maine Joint Standing Committee on the Environment and Natural Resources (ENR). One of the action items resulting from the PFAS Fee legislation was the development of an implementation plan. ENR has tasked the DEP with determining the details of how the fund will be administered. This would include issues like identifying the basis of the fee, deciding who will be assessed the fee, figuring out how septage (usually a gallons unit and not tons) will be assessed, etc. Draft rules are being developed and MEWEA expects a stakeholder's group will be established to help develop the implementation plan. A major concern with the regulated community is that they are uncertain on how they should accrue funds for this new fee. Assessment began, technically, on January 1, 2022. However, with no guidance on how the program will be conducted, these monies won't be collected by the State until February or March of 2023. One of the unknowns that affects this process is who pays the fee. Is it the generator making a direct payment to the State or will it be the manager of the sludge (composter, land applier, landfill) who will collect the fee through contractual arrangements with the generators? We will be looking for your input as the process plays out.

(cont'd on next page)

Legislatively, there will be more work for us right out of the gate. Over the last few sessions there has been an assault on responsible biosolids management with bills trying to restrict or outright eliminate biosolids recycling in Maine. This includes bills that directly single out biosolids and bills that target other parts of waste management in Maine (landfills, for example) that affect our ability to manage our biosolids locally. The 2022 130th Second Session is no exception. By the time this article is published there will have been a public hearing and possibly a work session or two on LD 1911 'An Act to Prohibit the Contamination of Clean Soils with So-called Forever Chemicals'.

The bill as we currently interpret it, would essentially eliminate land application, composting, and processing of biosolids. The way the bill is written calls for the enforcement of screening levels for PFAS as ceiling concentrations. If a material were to exceed any PFAS screening level, it could not be beneficially recycled. Currently that would affect more than 90% of biosolids generated in Maine. Under current regulations, we can apply best management practices (reduced application rates, lower frequency of application) for materials exceeding PFOS or PFOA screening levels, allowing for their continued beneficial use. In addition to PFOS, PFOA, and PFBS, the bill calls for the addition of four other PFASs (PFHxS, PFHpA, PFDA, and PFNA), compounds that were recently legislated for inclusion in Maine's Drinking Water Standards. A critical issue here is that there have been no risk assessments for these other chemicals, either at the State or federal level. This would likely lead to establishing screening levels without the necessary scientific evaluation. We have already expressed our concern that the screening levels for PFOS and PFOA are overly conservative and have worked extensively with industry partners to establish more reasonable screening criteria.

Only time will tell where all this is going. Nevertheless, it will take a strong, united front to make sure we are not saddled with poorly thought out rules and regulations that make our jobs more difficult than they already are. We hope you will speak up in support of our activities and directly let Augusta know how this will impact your abilities to protect the high quality waters of Maine.



Knowing Your Treatment Options

35 treatment processes and 123 regulated and unregulated contaminants, including 37 per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). New information is available with recent updates to the Treatability Database! 11 New PFAS Chemicals!

In an effort to create stronger, more resilient drinking water systems, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) offers various tools and resources to assist in providing safe drinking water. One of these tools is the Drinking Water Treatability Database (TDB).

(cont'd on next page)



(cont'd from previous page)

Knowing Your Treatment Options

The TDB is a regularly updated database where systems can gather referenced information to use in controlling contaminants in drinking water. It has been designed for use by utilities, first responders, regulatory agencies, consultants, treatment process designers, and other researchers.

The TDB contains information on chemical, microbial, and radiological contaminants that are regulated. Disinfection byproducts are not included, as they are controlled through different strategies. Information available includes solubility, vapor pressure, Henry's Law constant, size, shape, fate, and transport parameters that may be pertinent to drinking water. Additionally, the TDB has information on drinking water treatment processes that are most commonly and less commonly used for each contaminant. Key processes and water quality parameters are also provided alongside each treatment process.

The TDB provides information for regulatory uses and in designating the best available technology in different situations. Information can also be utilized when responding to water security emergencies, designing water treatment processes, and/or identifying research needs. The TDB is available for use with desktop and mobile devices and is compatible with all operating systems. [Click here for more information](#) or to access the TDB.



4 Key Elements of LCRR That Will Impact Your Water System

After an extensive review and commenting period, the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) officially went into effect in December 2021. Public water systems now have just two years to prepare and comply with a deadline of October 16, 2024.

In addition, the Biden administration is developing a [new proposed rule](#) called the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI), which they hope to finalize by the compliance deadline.

With LCRR now in effect and LCRI on the horizon, it's time for Maine water systems to accelerate compliance plans. 120Water offers innovative solutions to help you in four key areas: Lead Service Line Inventory, water sampling, school and childcare facility testing, and public communication.

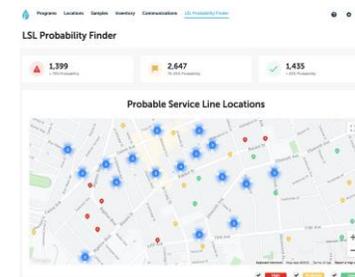
(cont'd on next page)

Lead Service Line Inventory requirements

Under the LCR revisions, utilities will have to compile and manage an inventory of both the public and private portions of all service lines within their service area by 2024.

The submission recurrence is now based on your system's monitoring compliance schedule and the first inventory must be submitted by the October 2024 deadline (or you must prove you don't have any LSLs).

The inventory must be made publicly available and each customer serviced by either an LSL or a line with an unknown material type must be notified annually.



120Water can help you prioritize and track inventory work, centralize all key data, and visualize LSLs. Our [Inventory and Reporting functionality](#) makes it easy to create and maintain a record of all service lines, and our LSL Probability Finder helps you accurately identify which service lines of unknown material are likely to be composed of lead.

Water Sampling Requirements

Monitoring has gotten more complicated under the revised LCR, now requiring a 1st- and 5th-liter draw and analysis for any home served by an LSL. The EPA also introduced a "find and fix" provision, which will require you to take a second look at homes with high lead levels.

This increase in sampling requires customer-friendly processes to ensure samples are filled correctly. 120Water's automated and trackable sample kits act as the basis for LCR monitoring under the revised rule.



In addition to sample kits, our platform centralizes your data and allows you to consolidate information and easily segment tier lists, based on your inventory.

Our software digests sample results and tier list data in an actionable dashboard, where corrective action can be documented and tracked. All results can be accessed and exported at any time, ensuring an audit trail of the monitoring process.

(cont'd on next page)

(cont'd from previous page)

School & childcare facility sampling requirements

The revisions apply to all schools and childcare facilities built before January 1st, 2014. [Utilities must sample](#) 20% of both elementary schools and childcare facilities in the service area each year. Secondary school sampling must also be provided when requested. Results must be provided to each sampled facility, primary agency, and health department.

120Water can seamlessly integrate this sampling protocol into the larger LCR sampling requirements. Our lead sample kits for facilities save resources, and our services team can help you put together a sampling plan. Communication to parents and other stakeholders can be triggered from the 120Water communications module, and all sampling data will be stored in the platform, making it easy to communicate results.

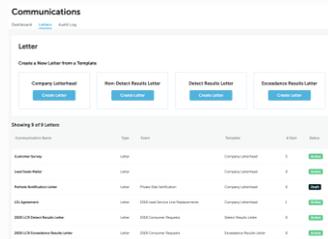
Communication Requirements

Communication requirements are included in nearly every LCRR provision. Transparency requirements concerning sample results and the location of LSLs will increase substantially.

For example, water systems previously had 30 days to notify customers on the monitoring list and only used the Consumer Confidence Report to share monitoring results with the whole community annually.

Now, any customer with an individual LCR sample result > 15 µg/L must be notified within 3 days, and after all monitoring round samples are in, customers must be notified within 24 hours if the 90th percentile levels are > 15 ppb.

The [120Water communications module](#) makes it easy to send results-based letters to customers, using a triggered and templated approach. Should the 90th percentile be reached, we can support notification of all customers within 24 hours. In addition, our Public Transparency Dashboard can automatically post results for centralized public access.



Schedule an LCRR planning assistance session

To help Maine Water Utilities Association members assess their LCRR readiness and answer your questions about the revisions, the 120Water team is providing free 30-minute planning sessions.

Visit 120water.com/lcrr-assistance/ or reach out to jeff@120water.com to book your session today.

Are you an expert on drinking water?



Test your drinking water knowledge.

1. Which factor is used to express the relative volatility of a substance?

- a. Harold's constant.
- b. Einstein's Constant.
- c. Henry's constant.
- d. Boyle's Law.

2. Regarding operator safety, wet granular activated carbon will remove _____ from air.

- a. Carbon dioxide.
- b. Carbon monoxide.
- c. Organic gases and hydrogen sulfide.
- d. Oxygen.

3. What does SCADA stand for?

- a. Supervisor Control of All District Assets.
- b. Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition.
- c. Standard Computer and Data Analysis.
- d. Super Computer and Device Accessories.

4. Which are two principal chemicals that cause water hardness?

- a. Aluminum and manganese.
- b. Calcium and iron.
- c. Iron and manganese.
- d. Calcium and magnesium.

5. The two most important factors impacting the effectiveness of chlorination are:

- a. pH of the water and the content of foreign substances in the water.
- b. Concentration of chlorine and the content of foreign substances in the water.
- c. Concentration of chlorine and contact time.
- d. pH and temperature of the water.

Answers
1. c, 2. d, 3. b, 4. d, 5. c.



Tim Haskell's Retirement Party

York Sewer District recently celebrated Tim Haskell's career and contributions to the District and the wastewater industry. Good luck on the next chapter Tim!



Side notes...

(cont'd from page 23)

Message in a Bottle



About 20 years ago GAUD decided to deliver their first Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) to each of their drinking water customers. The CCR is a document that EPA requires public drinking water utilities to send annually to their customers so they can better understand their water quality. GAUD was excited to talk about drinking water and had the clever idea to do a 'message in a bottle.' The plan was to purchase thousands of water bottles proudly emblazoned with 'Augusta Water District' – and on the inside, a copy of the CCR, all to be dropped off at customers' homes.

Of course, managing all of those bottles was difficult, it took up lots of room and time. Luckily, Scott Minor, the GM at the time, had a handy workforce at his disposal (school aged kids) and he was happy to put them to work stuffing bottles and a copy of the printed CCR into the little bags that could be hung on doorknobs.

Once bags were stuffed, GAUD only needed to deliver the bottles. One of their meter readers, Lee Cumber, got the honor of trotting around Augusta, dropping off water bottles to happy customers. Since the bottles hardly weighed a thing, Cumber could pack about 100 of them in a big plastic bag. Cumber, with the bag thrown over his shoulder, looked for all the world like a thirty-something beardless Santa, working hard to deliver his presents in the middle of August. Not everyone thought he was Santa though, and a wary citizen called the police to report a strange man stealing water bottles. Augusta PD promptly dispatched an officer to put a speedy end to this wanton plastic larceny. As young Cumber rounded a corner, he was surprised to be met by a stern member of our stalwart law enforcement community, who said, "Hey, what's the big deal stealing these bottles!" Cumber flashed his ready grin at the officer and replied "Stealin'? I'm not stealing, I'm dropping them off! You want one?" The cop was thoroughly taken aback as Cumber handed him one of GAUD's 'messages in a bottle' with a warm smile.

He chuckled as he walked back to his cruiser, shaking his head and muttering "I'm dropping them off... What am I gonna tell the chief?"

(cont'd on next page)

Side notes...

Not everything has to do with water

Some years back GAUD got a call from the Augusta PD that one of our pickups was found idling about a mile from our office, with no driver in attendance. (This sometimes occurs when one of our crew needs to jump out quickly and check on a manhole or something similar. But the patrol officer felt the truck had been there too long and called it in. After checking in with staff, GAUD realized that no one had been deployed to the area overnight and concluded that the truck must have been stolen from the garage.

According to GAUD, "Of course, we lock up our garages every night, but apparently the prior evening one of the doors was left unlocked. And as we tried to figure it out, we noticed a second truck was uncharacteristically muddy but otherwise in good condition."

Augusta PD conducted a thorough investigation and here's what they learned:

1. Apparently, a patron of a local pub had enjoyed a few too many libations downtown and decided to walk home to his apartment, located across the river. The GAUD office was conveniently located between the bar and this individual's apartment. He wasn't keen on stumbling home, so he meandered by our garages and found one of the doors to be unlocked.
2. He then hit the button for the garage door, slid into a pickup (the keys were left inside so they can be moved quickly in an emergency) and off he went... directly into a nearby ditch.
3. Needing to extract the vehicle, he walked back to GAUD's garage and selected a second truck, onto which he hooked a chain and proceeded to drag out the stuck vehicle.
4. The perpetrator then drove the now muddy vehicle back to GAUD's garage, parked it inside, turned off the engine and lights, and closed the doors behind him.
5. He continued back to the originally stolen, recently 'un-stuck', truck, drove it home and parked it on the sidewalk near his apartment.
6. He went inside to sleep it off, leaving the truck's engine running and the lights on. The still running truck was found by local PD some hours later...
7. The truck was returned to GAUD's garage unscathed, albeit, with a bit less gas in the tank. These days we double check the doors are secure.



In Summary...

Below is a summary of some of the main topics in this issue:

Greater Augusta Utility District – Check out this issue's featured community on [Page 20](#)

Hot Topic! PFAS – Included in this issue is a lot of information on PFAS. See PFAS Update on [Page 28](#) and the Biosolids Alert on [Page 27](#).

MWUA Committee Reports – Interested in what MWUA committees were up to in 2021? The reports are included and start on [Page 9](#)

Are you enjoying the One Water content? If so, let us know! If there is a topic or issue you'd like us to highlight, [send us a message](#). We want to ensure we're providing valuable content to our members.

Thank you to Our Partners

Many of the initiatives we have are possible because of supporting partners like the ones featured here. Let's support them back!

Water Treatment, Storage & Distribution

Hoyle, Tanner & Associates, Inc.
www.hoyletanner.com

Planning | Design | Construction Services

TI SALES

800.225.4616
www.tisales.com

More Maine water utilities are turning to TI-SALES for their metering needs.

FIND OUT WHY

Call Steve Clements | 207.215.4678 | sclements@tisales.com

Water, wastewater, and civil infrastructure services.
wright-pierce.com

Our home since 1947.

MAINE

WRIGHT-PIERCE
Engineering a Better Environment

Tighe & Bond

Offices throughout the Northeast

2 Monument Square, Suite 302
Portland, ME 04101

www.tighebond.com

Let us help you find your "YES."

Machias Savings Bank has been helping Maine Businesses find solutions for their unique needs since 1869. When other banks say "no," we work hard to find your YES!

>MOVING MAINE FORWARD
MachiasSavings.Bank | Member FDIC

Machias Savings Bank

A & L LABORATORY
A DIVISION OF GRANITE STATE ANALYTICAL SERVICES, LLC

155 Center Street, Building C Auburn, Maine 04210
Phone: 207 784 3300 | Website: www.allaboratory.com

Services
Disinfection By-Products
Inorganic Contaminants
Total Coliform / e.Coli
Copper & Lead
Volatile Organics
Radiologicals
Herbicides
Pesticides
and More!

We make staying in compliance easy!
If it is on your schedule we can get it done accurately and on-time.

Free Shipping Locations Throughout Maine! Fully Accredited Laboratory

frma E.R. Mahony & Associates Inc.

273 Weymouth Street
Rockland, MA 02370
(781) 982-9300
darylcppolla@frmahony.com

Process Application Engineers - Water and Wastewater Treatment

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| E/One Sewer Systems | High Tide SCADA |
| Ozone | HDPE Tanks |
| Membrane Filters | Lightnin Mixers |
| Deep Bed Filters | Sewage Grinders |
| Odor Control | Screening |

Amphidrome® Advanced Treatment Systems
www.frmahony.com -- www.amphidrome.com

ClearWater Laboratory
(207) 368-5700
diane@clearwaterlab.com

153 Main Street, Newport, ME 04953
»» A Maine Accredited Laboratory ««

Drinking Water & Wastewater Testing Services
Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET), Bacteria (Coliform/E.coli/fecal), BOD/TSS, Chlorophyll-a, Nutrients (incl. low-level Phosphorus), Environmental Studies, WWTP Troubleshooting, DW/WW Training

TEAM EJP

WATER · WASTEWATER · STORMWATER SOLUTIONS

1-800-EJP-24HR
EJPRESCOTT.COM

Interested in becoming a sponsor?

You can still sign up and be featured in upcoming newsletters! As a joint sponsor you'll reach both the MWUA and MeWEA audiences.

Limited spots available!
For more information, contact cwade@mwua.org