

NHDES WATER DIVISION

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Bureau updates:

1. Dam Bureau
2. Land Resources Management
Alteration of Terrain
Wetlands Bureau
Subsurface Systems Bureau
3. Wastewater Engineering Bureau
4. Watershed Management Bureau
5. Drinking Water Ground Water Bureau
6. Winnepesaukee River Basin Bureau

DAM BUREAU

The 2,600 New Hampshire jurisdictional dams are regulated by the NH Code of Administration Rules, Sections Env-Wr 100 - 900. These rules were recently updated to reflect current design practices and data sources.



Highland Lake, Stoddard
July 2023

DAM BUREAU

With the passage of SB 549, the Dam Bureau will be working with a legislative committee on funding the operation, maintenance and repair of the 276 state-owned dams.



Current estimates indicate \$414 million is needed to repair those state-owned dams, of which \$300 million alone is needed for 64 high hazard dams.

Highland Lake, Stoddard
August 2021

DAM BUREAU

In 2022, the Dam Bureau received \$30 million in ARPA funding from the Governor's Office for Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR) for state-owned dam repairs. These funds will be used for the following reconstruction projects:

- Goose Pond Dam, Canann, shown (\$6.4 million)
- Mendums Pond Dam, Nottingham
- 2 dams in Odell



LAND RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Subsurface Systems Bureau

Records Digitization Update

- **Years of Records: 1967 - 1986**
- **Rough Quantity: 300,000 Septic Systems Records**
- **Budget: \$2.3 million**
- **Expected Project Timeline: 2023 - 2027**
- **Benefits: Self-service, immediate access, efficient archives**
- **There are 31,578 files now available digitally. This is ~10% of the total estimated files for the entire project.**

LAND RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Paperless Permitting Transition Update: Shoreland and Wetlands



Seasonal dock notifications, voluntary dock registration, Shoreland Permits by Notification and Standard Shoreland Permit Applications.



Ability to upload attachments, pay by credit card or electronic check, and opt for email communication.



Wetland Permit Applications, Septic System Designer and Installer Permit Renewals.



Standard Dredge and Fill and Wetland Expedited Minimum Impact

WASTEWATER ENGINEERING BUREAU

NH's Current NPDES Regulatory Universe

- 71 Municipal & 21 Industrial Permits
- 33 Hydros, 2 NCCW, 6 DRGP, 4 Potable WTF GP & 5 Aqua GP
- 13+ GBTNGP

Recently issued General Permits (GP)

- 2024 Non-Contact Cooling Water GP – Effective 4/18/24
- 2023 Potable Water Treatment Facility GP – Effective 10/1/23
- 2023 Hydroelectric Generating Facilities GP – Effective 4/1/23
- 2022 Dewatering and Remediation GP – Effective 8/31/22
- Combined Dewatering GP and Remediation GP
- 2021 Small WWTFGP – Design Flow <1MGD
- Covers 39 NH facilities between the final permit (effective 12/1/21) and the 2023 modification.

Upcoming General Permits (GP)

- Medium WWTFGP – Design Flow 1 to 5MGD
- Future: Estimate will cover 18 NH facilities



WASTEWATER ENGINEERING BUREAU

Compliance Schedules PFAS Monitoring Adaption Plan

Component 1:

Identification of Vulnerable Critical Assets to include both baseline and future.

Due 24 months from effective date of permit.

Component 2:

Adaptative Measures Assessment.

Due 36 months from effective date of permit.

EPA's Climate Resilience Evaluation and Awareness Tool (CREAT) Risk Assessment Application for Water Utilities, found on EPA's website Creating Resilient Water Utilities (CRWU) (Identification of Vulnerable Critical Assets to include both baseline and future. Due 24 months from effective dat), or methodology that provides comparable analysis.

Component 3:

Implementation and Maintenance Schedule.

Due within 48 months from effective date of permit.



WATERSHED MANAGEMENT BUREAU

Stormwater

- **Statewide Non-point Source plan –**
 - Sets goals for NPS contaminant work
 - Identifies priorities for the next 5 years of EPA funding
 - Includes priority watersheds for water quality restoration and protection
- **Salt Reduction program**
 - Municipal program launched
 - BMP manual in the works
 - over 600 certified applicators in 2023/24



Restoration projects

Lake Kanawatka Alum Treatment

- 153 acres treated with 60K gallons of alum and 30K gallons of aluminate
- \$493,000 grant from DES, over \$300k from other sources



Bowers Brook (S. Acworth) Stream restoration

- Stream blew out its banks in 2023, threatened structures and state road.
- ARPA grants \$375,000 to restore the brook.
- Volunteer effort to plan, permit and manage the project.

DRINKING WATER & GROUNDWATER BUREAU

Lead and Copper Rule

- **Lead service line inventories due October 16, 2024**
- **All lead service lines must be replaced in the next 13 years**
- **Lower action level for lead – 10 ppb**
- **Substantially more public notification/publicity required beginning in October 2024**

Major cybersecurity initiatives are underway for water and wastewater utilities.

DRINKING WATER & GROUNDWATER BUREAU

New Federal PFAS MCLs

- Impacts over 200 additional sources of water for public water systems.
- Public notification is required for exceedances beginning in June 2027.
- Enforcement of the new MCL is required in June 2029.

PFAS Litigation

- State opted into class action lawsuits for public water systems with 3M & Dupont.
- Litigation pending for natural resources and private wells.

Funding

- In year three of a five-year temporary federal funding surge.
- Much of our historic source of federal funding has been diverted to earmarks by Congress.
- There may be significant funding issues in 2-3 years.



Winnepesaukee River Basin Bureau



State Owned & NHDES-Operated Regional Wastewater Collection and Treatment System

- 10 Communities (co-permittees) served
- 57 miles of regional sewer lines
- 14 pumping stations
- Laconia Maintenance Shop
- Franklin Wastewater Transfer Facility (WWTF)
- \$10M Operating Budget
- \$20M+ Capital Budget
- 100% Other Funds + federal grants or loans + Energy Incentives
- 3/10th of a penny/gallon treated
- 2.4 billion gallons treated/year
- 1M million gallons septic/year

WRBP created RSA 485-A:45-54 (1972)

Winnepesaukee River Basin Bureau

2024 Outstanding Energy Efficiency Project Award

- 3-phase aeration upgrades yield 40%+ power reduction saving \$132K/year
- 95% of project costs from grants and utility incentives

July 2024 NPDES Permit Renewal

- New PFAS testing requirements for some industrial/commercial sewer users in EPA Region 1 starting in 2025.