



**Maine Department of Environmental Protection  
Bureau of Land & Water Quality  
O&M Newsletter  
February 2007**

A monthly newsletter for wastewater discharge licensees, treatment facility operators, and associated persons

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**The Joys of Holiday Sampling**

There seems to be a bit of confusion surrounding a Permittee’s obligation for sampling on holidays. You **must** sample your effluent on holidays unless your facility’s Permit or License specifically exempts it. So, if you are required to sample for settleable solids (and/or any other parameter) on weekdays and a holiday falls on the weekday then you **do not** get to forego monitoring for that day. If your permit or license dictates 5/week for settleable solids monitoring (and any other parameter with the same sampling frequency) and you are willing and able to do

some monitoring on the weekend then you can schedule your monitoring requirement around the holiday as long as you still meet the 5/week requirement. In addition, make sure you plan your composite sampling schedule to work

around or accommodate any sampler set up, take down, sample holding time or analysis that might have to be done on a holiday. If you have questions about this issue, feel free to contact your inspector.

*Clarissa Trasko*

**Notice of Agency Rule-making Proposal**

AGENCIES: Maine Department of Environmental Protection and Maine Municipal Bond Bank

RULE TITLE OR SUBJECT: Chapter 595, State Revolving Fund

CONCISE SUMMARY: These proposed amendments would update the rule, originally adopted in 1990, to allow the use of the fund for additional water improvement practices, add flexibility for borrowers, pay for administration of the program and reflect changes to federal requirements regarding the program.

THIS RULE WILL NOT HAVE A FISCAL IMPACT ON MUNICIPALITIES.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Title 30-A, Maine Revised Statutes Annotated Section 5959

**PUBLIC HEARING:** No public hearing is planned. If you wish to request a public hearing, you must do so in writing. A request for a public hearing should be directed to both agency contact persons listed below and must be received before the deadline for comments.

**DEADLINE FOR COMMENTS:** March 16, 2007 at 5:00 p.m.

Written comments must be submitted to both agency contact persons by mail at the addresses below, by fax at (207) 287-3435 (DEP) and (207) 623-5359 (MMBB), or by email at [Steve.A.Mclaughlin@maine.gov](mailto:Steve.A.Mclaughlin@maine.gov) and [kla@mainebondbank.com](mailto:kla@mainebondbank.com). To ensure consideration, comments must include your name and the organization you represent, if any. Please be aware that the risk of non-delivery associated with submissions by fax or email is on the sender. A copy of the rule is available upon request from the contacts below, and on the web at: <http://www.maine.gov/dep/blwq/rule.htm> and <http://www.mmbb.com/CWSRF.aspx>.

**AGENCY CONTACT PERSONS:**

Stephen A. McLaughlin	Karen L. Asselin
Maine Department of Environmental Protection	Maine Municipal Bond Bank
17 State House Station Augusta, ME 04333-0017	3 University Dr. P.O. Box 2268 Augusta, ME 04338-2268
PHONE: 207-287-7768	PHONE: 207-622-9386

**ANALYSIS AND EXPECTED OPERATION OF THE RULE:**

The proposed rule changes will accomplish the following:

1. Updates definitions allowing the SRF to loan money for expanded uses that improve or protect water quality.
2. Allows more flexible terms for borrowers for refinancing existing debt for pollution control facilities.
3. Allows for more extensive public comment for the annual Intended Use Plan and Project Priority List in compliance with current federal rule and policy.
4. Allows the Department to establish, jointly with the Maine Municipal Bond Bank or separately, fees for project management and administration of the SRF program. The interest rate for loans using SRF money will be adjusted down to accommodate the fees so there is no increase in cost to the borrowers.
5. Removes federal requirements that sunset in 1994 and no longer apply to the SRF program.
6. Revises the progress payment retainage clause so as not to conflict with rules of other funding agencies when projects are co-funded.
7. Revised rule formatting to comply with current rulemaking standards.

## FISCAL IMPACT OF THE RULE:

We anticipate no additional fiscal impact on municipal government or the regulated community as any fee for administration will be offset by reduced interest on loans using SRF money to the regulated community. We anticipate no additional fiscal impact on state government as the SRF is an existing program under current state law.

*Steve McLaughlin*



### *For Practice*

1. The jar test is used to determine the proper dosage for which chemical?
  - a. chlorine for disinfection
  - b. activated carbon for absorption of organic chemicals
  - c. polymer for sludge coagulation.
  - d. lime for pH control.
2. Which of the following is most resistant to disinfection?
  - a. Fecal Coliform
  - b. Salmonella
  - c. Protozoa
  - d. Spores
3. An operator who normally wastes 1875 gallons of sludge with a concentration of 2.5% is now able to pump sludge with a 4.5% concentration. How many gallons should be pumped to remove the same amount of sludge solids?
  - a. 897 gallons
  - b. 1042 gallons
  - c. 1208 gallons
  - d. 1537 gallons
4. You notice a sour, septic odor coming from your secondary clarifiers and when you examine the return sludge, it is black. What would you do to fix this problem?
  - a. increase the number of times the clarifiers are cleaned.
  - b. reduce the return rate to prevent septic sludge from harming the aeration basins.
  - c. increase the return rate to reduce the sludge detention time in the clarifiers.
  - d. do nothing; this is a normal operating condition.

*Dick Darling*

### *Approved Training*

February 14, 2007 in Portland, ME - Cured in Place Pipe - Sponsored by JETCC - approved for 6 hours

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February 15, 2007 in Brewer, ME - Care of Emergency Generators - Sponsored by JETCC/NEIWPCC - approved for 6 hours

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February 15, Mar 1, 15 & 29, 2007 in Wells, ME - Basic Chemistry Series - Sponsored by JETCC - approved for 6 hours

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February 27, 2007 in Presque Isle, ME - Chasing the Thermal Demons & Comparing Alternative Disinfection Systems - Sponsored by JETCC - approved for 6 hours

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March 1, 2007 in North Vassalboro, ME - Comparing Alternative Disinfection Systems for Water/Wastewater Operations - Sponsored by JETCC - approved for 3 hours

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March 2, 2007 in Saco, ME - True Confessions of a Water/Wastewater Operator & Jar Testing to

Determine the Proper Chemical Dose - Sponsored by JETCC - approved for 6 hours

March 5&6, 2007 in Boston, MA - '07 Asset Management Excellence Exchange - Sponsored by NEWEA - approved for 12 hours

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March 6, 2007 in Kennebunkport, ME - PVC Valves & Joining Overview - Sponsored by JETCC – approved for 6 hours

March 8, 2007 in Bangot, ME - Facility Operation in Cold Climates - Sponsored by JETCC – approved for 6 hours

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March 14, 2007 in Augusta, ME - Maine DEP issues Briefing - Sponsored by JETCC – approved for 6 hours

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March 21, 2007 in Winthrop, ME - Chemical Feed System Design, Operation & Maintenance - Sponsored by JETCC – approved for 6 hours

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March 22, 2007 in Worcester, MA - Water Reuse in New England: Drivers, Technologies & Examples – Sponsored by NEWEA – Approved for 4.5 hours

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April 10, 2007 in Lewiston, ME - Using Corrosion Control Technologies to Extend the Life of your Equipment - Sponsored by JETCC – approved for 6 hours

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April 18, 2007 in Seal Harbor, ME - QA/QC of laboratory Instruments - Sponsored by JETCC – approved for 3 hours

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April 18, 2007 in Seal Harbor, ME - Asset Management - Sponsored by JETCC – approved for 3 hours

April 26, 2007 in Winthrop, ME - In-House Process Control Test and Working with Your Contract Laboratory - Sponsored by \*\*\*\*\* JETCC – approved for 6 hours

May 1 & 2, 2007, in North Conway, NH - Advance Process Control for Activated Sludge - Sponsored by NEIWPC – approved for 12 hours

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Note: JETCC stands for Joint Environmental Training Coordinating Committee – PO Box 487 – Scarborough, ME 04070-0487 – Tel (207) 253-8020

MRWA stands for Maine Rural Water Association - 14 Maine Street, Box 36 - Brunswick, ME 04011 – Tel (207) 729-6569

MWWCA stands for Maine Wastewater Control Association – c/o MMA - 60 Community Drive - Augusta, ME 04330  
Tel (207) 623-8428

NEIWPC stands for New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission – 116 John St. – Lowell, MA 01852-1124 – Tel (978) 323-7929

NEWEA stands for New England Water Environment Association 100 Tower Office Building, Suite K, Woburn, MA 01801 – Tel (781) 939-0908



## Spring 2007 Exams

The spring exam will be given in the usual locations on Wednesday, May 16, 2007. Your application must be postmarked to JETCC by March 26, 2007 or hand delivered to their office in South Portland by March 30 2007.

*Dick Darling*

### Answers to *For Practice*:

1. c Jar tests are typically used to determine the optimum dose of a polymer or other coagulant for sludge conditioning or removal of a metal.
2. d Some bacteria and protozoa can form spores or cysts that can resist disinfection by chlorine. *Giardia* and *Cryptosporidium* are examples of pathogenic protozoa that form cysts that are not usually killed by chlorine disinfection and can cause human health problems.

3. b The total sludge wasted at 2.5% concentration is:  $1875 \text{ gal} \times 0.025 \times 8.34 \text{ lb/gal} = 390.1 \text{ lbs.}$   
To waste 390.1 pounds of sludge at 4.5% concentration, the number of gallons is calculated as:  
 $390.1 \text{ lbs.} \div (0.045 \times 8.34 \text{ lb./gal}) = 1041.7 \text{ gallons.}$   
This can be simplified as:  $[1875 \times 0.025 \div 8.34] \div [0.045 \times 8.34] = 1041.7 \text{ gallons}$
4. c The sour, septic odor means that the sludge is becoming anaerobic because it is sitting too long in the clarifiers. Increasing the return rate will move the sludge back to the aerobic conditions in the aeration tanks and help prevent the septic conditions from happening in the clarifiers.

*Dick Darling*

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**Remember to set your clocks  
ahead on March 11<sup>th</sup>.**

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