



Maine Department of Environmental Protection

Bureau of Land & Water Quality

O&M Newsletter

October 2008

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

Index

Documentary on Nations Deteriorating Water & Wastewater Infrastructure	Page 1
Clean Water State Revolving Fund Bond Issue Vote	Page 2
Fall Exam	Page 2
For Practice	Page 3
Approved Training	Page 3
Answer to For Practice	Page 4
Emergency Planning Community Right to Know Act Reporting	Page 5



Documentary on Nation's Deteriorating Water and Wastewater Infrastructure to Air on MBPN - Sunday, November 2nd 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm

It is out of sight and out of mind, but America's (and Maine's) aging water and wastewater infrastructure is in dire need of an overhaul. A new 90-minute documentary from Penn State Public Broadcasting, ***Liquid Assets: The Story of Our Water Infrastructure,*** tells of America's distressed essential infrastructure systems: drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater and of the looming crisis underneath our feet and how communities are trying to meet this challenge.

As you know, these complex and aging systems—some in the ground for more than 100 years—are critical components for public health and safety, economic development, and environmental protection.

"The goal of this public service media project is to stimulate community discussion and bring this issue into the public consciousness using television as a catalyst," said executive producer of the documentary, Tom Keiter. "We want *'Liquid Assets'* to be more than just a broadcast."

Accompanying the documentary is an online companion toolkit, intended to help facilitate discussions that extend beyond the broadcast. The community toolkit, available at <http://liquidassets.psu.edu>, includes an outreach guide and other resources to complement the documentary.

"Liquid Assets" is also available on DVD on through Penn State Media Sales for \$24.95 plus shipping and handling. It can be ordered by calling 1-800-770-2111 or from <http://liquidassets.psu.edu>

The DVD includes three versions of the documentary: the full length 90 minute version, a 16 minute overview, and a 4 minute preview. The four-minute preview is available for viewing on the website.

I encourage everyone in the wastewater field to watch this documentary on MBPN - Sunday, November 2nd 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm.

More importantly, I encourage everyone in the wastewater field to encourage others to watch this documentary. This is a great way to educate the general public, municipal officials, and legislators on the importance of maintaining critical wastewater infrastructure. In addition, the DVD and the outreach tool kit can be great tools to stimulate local discussions and provide education on this important issue.

On a somewhat related note, there are two good JETCC training opportunities coming up the end of October. **“Out of Sight, Out of Mind: How Healthy is Your Collection System?”**

Tuesday, October 28 2008, Bangor Elks Club, Bangor, ME and Wednesday, October 29, 2008, Westbrook Public Safety Building, Westbrook ME

This course will cover capacity, management, operation and maintenance (CMOM) programs, preventative and predictive maintenance, criticality and condition assessment, and priority setting. It will be particularly valuable for collection system managers, public works directors, municipal planners, and other decision makers responsible for evaluating collection system infrastructure for repair and replacement. Workshop topics will include state reporting requirements, emergency response procedures, and the first-hand experiences of several municipalities in confronting various collection system problems. The presenters will discuss the causes of different types of condition deterioration, some that have led to sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs). They will also fully explain the strategies that can be followed to preserve a collection system’s infrastructure, prevent unauthorized discharges, and put sustainable programs in place. An introduction to EPA tools and assistance in this area will be provided. Presenters: Jack Healey and Gina Snyder, EPA Region One; others TBA. See the JETCC website at <http://www.jetcc.org/> for more details.

Brian Kavanah
Director, Division of Water Quality
Management

Clean Water State Revolving Fund Bond Issue Vote on Nov. 4

There will be a bond question on the November 4 ballot for \$3.4 million as State match for the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan programs. The actual question #3 is:

Do you favor a \$3,400,000 bond issue to support drinking water programs, to support the construction of wastewater treatment facilities and to leverage \$17,000,000 in other funds?

The Clean Water SRF managed by the DEP will receive \$1.7 million in state funds, which will bring in an additional \$8.5 million in matching federal capitalization grants for the program. These funds will continue the increase the amount of available low interest loans for wastewater design and construction projects. Since 1990, the CWSRF has loaned almost \$500 million for wastewater infrastructure improvements. The CWSRF’s subsidized interest rates save municipalities and sewer districts about 20% compared to the interest rates of the Maine Municipal Bond Bank’s regular loan program.

Contact person: Steve McLaughlin, DEP
287-7768
Steve.a.mclaughlin@maine.gov

Fall Exam

The Fall Exam for all operator grades will be at the usual locations (Portland, Bangor and Presque Isle) on November 19, 2008. If you didn’t get your application to JETCC by October 3, 2008, you’ll have to wait until the Spring exam in May.

For Practice

1. The precision of an instrument used to perform a laboratory test is a measure of:
 - a. The repeatability of the average measurement
 - b. The precision of the median measurement
 - c. The accuracy of the smallest or largest measurement made
 - d. The values of all measurements repeatedly.
2. The basic unit of electrical current is:
 - a. the watt
 - b. the ohm
 - c. the volt
 - d. the ampere
3. If water in a channel is passing a given point at 1.25 cubic feet per minute, how many gallons of water will pass that point in 1/2 hour?
 - a. 2,250 gallons
 - b. 1,865 gallons
 - c. 281 gallons
 - d. 33.75 gallons
4. Which disease is not caused by a waterborne pathogen?
 - a. Polio
 - b. Cholera
 - c. Hepatitis
 - d. AIDS

Approved Training

October 15, 2008 in Farmington, ME - Facility Managers - How to Get Started Saving Energy – Sponsored by Efficiency Maine – Approved for 4 hours

October 16, 2008 in Fairfield, ME – Process Control Math – Sponsored by JETCC – Approved for 3 hours

October 21-23, 2008 in Yarmouth, ME – Operation & Maintenance of Collection Systems – Sponsored by JETCC – Approved for 6 hours

October 22, 2008 in Presque Isle, ME – BOD Review and Use of Luminescent DO Probes – Sponsored by JETCC – Approved for 6 hours

October 22, 2008 in Bangor, ME - Facility Managers - How to Get Started Saving Energy – Sponsored by Efficiency Maine – Approved for 4 hours

October 22, 2008 in Caribou, ME – Budgeting for Maximum Information - Sponsored by MRWA – Approved for 4 hours

October 28 or 29, 2008 in Bangor/Westbrook, ME – Out of Site, Out of Mind: How Healthy is your WWCS – Sponsored by JETCC – Approved for 6 hours

October 29, 2008 in Gray, ME – Budgeting for Maximum Information - Sponsored by MRWA – Approved for 4 hours

October 30, 2008 in Fairfield, ME - Facility Managers - How to Get Started Saving Energy – Sponsored by Efficiency Maine – Approved for 4 hours

October 31, 2008 in Kennebunkport, ME – Nitrification and Settability Problems with Loss of Solids – Sponsored by JETCC – Approved for 6 hours

November 5 & 6, 2008 in Portland, ME – Introduction to National Incident Management Systems and Incident Command System – Sponsored by JETCC – Approved for 6 hours

November 6, 2008 in Presque Isle, ME – HDPE Piping with practical applications for Trenchless Technologies – Sponsored by JETCC – Approved for 6 hours

November 6, 2008 in Caribou, ME - Facility Managers - How to Get Started Saving Energy – Sponsored by Efficiency Maine – Approved for 4 hours

November 13, 2008 in Vassalboro, ME – Microbiology Methods for Compliance Testing with Review of EPA Approved Bacteria Test Methods – Sponsored by JETCC – Approved for 6 hours

November 20, 2008 in Wells, ME – HDPE Facility Operation in Cold Climates – Sponsored by JETCC – Approved for 6 hours

December 4, 2008 in Ellsworth, ME – Pump Rebuild & Maintenance Workshop – Sponsored by JETCC – Approved for 6 hours

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

Efficiency Maine is a program of the Maine Public Utilities Commission - 18 State House Station, Augusta, ME 04333-0018
Tel: 207-287-8350

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

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

Answers to *For Practice*:

1. a. The precision of an instrument is that instrument's ability to display the same measurement for a given sample repeatedly.
2. c. The ampere is the unit used to express electrical current.
3. a. $1.25 \text{ CFM} \times 7.5 \text{ gallons/cubic foot} \times 60 \text{ minute/hour} \times 1/2 \text{ hour} = 281 \text{ gallons.}$
4. d. AIDS, which is caused by the human immunosuppressant virus (HIV) can only be transmitted by and exchange of bodily fluids.

Emergency Planning Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) Reporting Workshops

This 3-hour workshop is for facilities that are required to report extremely hazardous substances and/or hazardous materials above reporting quantities.

If you attend this workshop, you will have an understanding of:

- o EPCRA Federal Law Public Law 99-499, Oct. 17, 1986: 42 U.S.C. 11001 et seq.
- o EPCRA Maine Law Public Law 464, Title 37-B, M.R.S.A., Chapter 13.
- o What chemicals do or do not need to be reported and why
- o How to use Tier 2 Submit to complete and submit chemical inventory reports
- o How to fill out the Fee Worksheets
- o Use the List of Lists
- o Updates in the program
- o Questions about EPCRA answered

This workshop will be offered at the dates, times, and locations. Please take advantage of this training and register early or at least 5 business days prior to the scheduled date.

January 15,2009
Time: 8:30 – 11:30 am

Caribou Inn and Convention Center
19 Main St.
Caribou, ME 04736

January 29,2009
Time: 1:00 – 4:00 pm

Jeff's Catering
East West Industrial Way
15 Littlefield Way
Brewer, ME 04412

February 4,2009
Time: 8:30 – 11:30 am

Quality Inn
65 Whitten Rd.
Augusta, ME 04330

February 10,2009
Time: 8:30 – 11:30 am

Verillo's Restaurant & Banquet Center
155 Riverside St.
Portland, ME 04103
Time: 8:30-11 :30 am

Registration:

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Name and Date of Workshop Attending:

Email, Fax, or Mail Registrations to:

Maine Emergency Management Agency

72 State House Station

Augusta, ME 04333-0072

Phone: 207-624-4400 or 800-452-8735

Fax: 207-287-3178

Email: maine.serc@maine.gov