



WWNS NEWS

Waste Water Nova Scotia
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December 2011

For the latest of happenings at WWNS, read on....

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Once again our season is coming to a quick closure and everyone seems to be pushing to get the last systems installed before the onset of the snow and ice.

WWNS has had a busy year starting with the focus groups in January and February followed by a very successful two day annual convention in April. This year the WWNS Board of Directors initiated a substantial project to undertake the production of an on-site septic system installation video. Scripts were developed and filming proceeded throughout the summer and early fall. It is anticipated that a final product will be available early in the new year for use at 2012 WWNS winter regional meetings held throughout the province. I would like to thank all that offered their time and expertise to this project as it was a tremendous undertaking.

Nova Scotia Environment has now confirmed that Blake McDonald, P.Eng., will be the permanent NSE On-Site Services Program Coordinator/Operator Certification Administrator. Blake will be responsible for our programs along with a few other items including new technologies. In this position continuity will be very important and we wish Blake all the good luck and our support needed to function in his new position.

For those of you who don't know, Nova Scotia Environment has approved their new policies with respect to Wetlands. The document can be obtained from the government website at www.gov.ns.ca/nse/wetland/. I would recommend that everyone familiarise themselves with it as it now the policies we must work from.

The NSE Minister's On-Site Advisory Board has been reinitiated with their first meeting being held in June. As Chairman of this Board it is my hope that we can initiate a few changes to the system for the betterment of our industry. Our next meeting will be held in late November at which time I anticipate the Board to make some recommendations to the Minister regarding our program.

As Christmas is fast approaching, which also signals the closure of another construction season, I would like to wish all of you and your families a very Merry Christmas and hope that you all have a very safe and prosperous New Year.

Steven R. Williams, P.Eng.,
Chairman, WWNS

****With this Issue: Regional Meeting Registration Form & 2012 WWNS Membership Application****

Message from the Administrator of the On-Site Services Program

The province is conserving Nova Scotia's wetlands through a new policy, released Oct. 14.

The new policy's goal is to prevent the net loss of wetlands. It protects wetlands of special significance, promotes wetland protection and stewardship, encourages a long-term net gain in wetland types that have experienced high losses, and raises awareness on the benefits of maintaining buffers near wetlands when developing new areas.

There is also an updated application process that clarifies what is required before altering a wetland.

More than 700 Nova Scotians participated in consultations on a draft wetlands policy in late 2009. The consultation period was extended to accommodate the high level of interest.

The release of the wetland policy meets a goal of the Environmental Goals and Sustainable Prosperity Act, provincial heritage strategy and the Water Resources Management Strategy – Water for Life.

The Nova Scotia Wetland Conservation Policy is available at www.gov.ns.ca/nse/wetland/.

Blake McDonald P.Eng.
On-site Service Coordinator, NSE

Qualified Persons II and Septic Pumper / Portable Restroom Operators Professional Development Points

This is the fourth year in the cycle for the professional development points program for QPII and Septic Pumper / Portable Restroom Operators (2008 – 2011). **Those with a total of 100 points or more at the end of 2011 will remain qualified to be licensed in the next cycle.**

If you have a total of 80 points, but less than 100 points, you may be able to have additional points assigned by the PDP Review Committee, for other industry related training you have taken during the 2008 – 2011 cycle. If you have educational material that you would like to submit to the Committee for review, please send it to the office of WWNS and it will be forwarded to the committee members.

Recording everyone's PDP's is a big job. While we are confident we have not left anyone out, I would ask that you check your PDP points on the WWNS website and if you note any discrepancies, please let us know.

Installation Video

During Focus Group meetings held last winter across the province, there was overwhelming support for Waste Water Nova Scotia to begin producing training videos showing the installation of different types of on-site sewage systems.

Planning for the first in the series, *The Selection and Installation of a Raised C2*, took place throughout the summer with filming taking place in late summer to early fall. The installation of chambers as well as a gravel and pipe system will be covered in the Video. Many thanks to those who participated in the project!

The finished product is expected to be available for everyone to see during the Regional Meetings in 2012.



Figure 1: Chamber Installation



Figure 2: Installation of Gravel and Pipe Trench

Regional Meetings

As 2012 rapidly approaches, it is once again time to register for the yearly Regional Meetings. The meetings are worth 15 PDP points and even those not collecting points are encouraged to attend to see what is new and innovative in the industry. You will find registration forms attached. Choose a date and location that are good for you and return the form to the office at your earliest convenience. **Please register early as there is limited space seating at each meeting.**

Training

During 2011, there continued to be a great demand for Installer training. WWNS coordinated four Installer training courses. The courses were held in AgriTech Park with a total of 54 persons successfully completing the training.

A Qualified Person II course was held in June at AgriTech Park in Truro. 15 persons successfully completed the 5 day course.

The new self-study training program for Septic Pumpers/Portable Restroom Operators seems to be working well, allowing persons to continue to work under supervision, while they work toward becoming certified. Anyone wishing to obtain the study material can contact the office of WWNS.

Anyone who would like to receive training should make an application to Amy Russell at NSE in Bedford. She can be reached at (902) 424-8130.

Pumping Two Chamber Septic Tanks

WWNS has received some feedback from home owners with two chambered septic tanks that only the first chamber was cleaned out during a pumping. This could potentially create a problem if there are solids or an effluent filter in the second chamber of the tank. If you cannot access both ends of a two chamber tank to completely clean it out, WWNS recommends that you notify your supervisor and / or the home owner to advise that both ends of the tank should be uncovered for future cleanouts.

Newly Available Technologies

Tire Derived Aggregate (TDA)

Nova Scotian on-site sewage Installers are now able to use processed tire shreds (TDA) as an alternative for crushed rock in residential on-site sewage disposal fields. Tire-derived aggregate (TDA) is a newly available construction material now produced in the HRM from recycled vehicle tires. TDA has been approved as an alternative to stone aggregate in leach fields in Nova Scotia since 2009. Approved TDA material is now available as of July, 2011.

To date, Halifax C&D Recycling in Goodwood, Nova Scotia is the sole supplier of TDA in Nova Scotia. They can be reached at: (902) 876-8644 or <http://www.halifaxcdrecycling.ca> . Material can be obtained directly from the supplier.

The approval process is the same for systems using TDA as for those using stone aggregate. The presence of some protruding wire in TDA requires that installers take basic construction safety precautions such as use of protective shoes and gloves, and remove excess material from the site through the use of magnetic nail sweepers or rakes.

Crushed Glass

“Crushed Glass” has been approved by Nova Scotia Environment as an alternative to filter sand in on-site sewage disposal fields. The “crushed glass” is manufactured from recycled glass and is required to have permeability between 0.0001 and 0.0005 m/second.

To date, there is only one approved manufacturer / supplier in Nova Scotia - Truro Sanitation Limited. For more information contact Jeff Traver at Truro Sanitation Limited (902) 880-1856 or email jeff.traver@millergroup.ca .

2012 Annual General Meeting

This year’s Annual General Meeting will be held at the The Best Western Glengarry in Truro on April 14, 2012. Registration forms will be included with your next newsletter. To book a hotel room, you may reach the Glengarry at 902-893-4311.

Review of Nova Scotia Environment Act

Nova Scotia Environment (NSE) is undertaking a review of the Province's Environment Act (Act). The Environment Act is required to undergo a review every five years to determine how well it is working and what changes are needed to make it work better. As part of the review process, NSE conducted a public consultation from July 23 to September 06, 2011 to gather public input for the review.

NSE is proposing a number of changes including introducing an administrative penalty scheme to the Act.

On-Site Sewage Program Tidbits

1. The purpose of the newsletters is to keep the industry informed on what is going on and to solicit feedback from industry on any concerns. It is our hope that we can expand the use of email to provide this service in order to cut down on postage costs. If your postal or email address changes, please let us know, so that you do not miss any mailouts.
2. We have had some questions recently regarding CGL insurance coverage for Installers. You should check your policy to be sure that you have pollution inclusion coverage **not** pollution exclusion, as sewage is considered a pollutant.
3. Please find included with this newsletter, your 2012 Waste Water Nova Scotia membership application and registration form for the 2012 Regional Meetings.

Winter 2012 Regional Meeting Registration Form for Septic Installers & QP11's

The following are the 2012 Regional Meetings. All sessions **start at 9 am**, arrival by 8:45 is encouraged to register and take your seat. Please pick the session which best suits your work, travel, or vacation plans. It does not matter which session you attend, but **pre-registration is necessary**. Attendance at the Regional Meeting is valued at 15 points. Even if you are not collecting points, you are welcomed and encouraged to attend to find out what is new in the industry.

Please register early as seating is limited for each session. Your response, ASAP will allow for efficient planning. Please keep a copy for your records. The dates can also be viewed online at www.wwns.ca .

- Jan 16, Best Western Hotel. 527 Hwy 10, Exit 12, Bridgewater
- Jan 17, Quality Inn & Suites, HRM, Exit 2 off the 102, Kearney Lake Road
- Jan 18, Quality Inn & Suites, HRM, Exit 2 off the 102, Kearney Lake Road
- Jan 31, Delta Sydney Hotel, 300 Esplanade Street, Sydney
- Feb 01, Maritime Inn, Port Hawkesbury, 717 Reeves Street
- Feb 02, Green Way Claymore, Antigonish, Exit 33
- Feb 07, Pine View Inn, Coldbrook, Exit 14
- Feb 08, Annapolis Basin Conference Centre, Angel Building, 268 Marine Drive
- Feb 09, Rodd Grand Hotel, Yarmouth, 417 Main Street
- Feb 10, Best Western Hotel. 527 Hwy 10, Exit 12, Bridgewater
- Feb 28, Wandlynn Inn, Amherst
- Feb 29, Best Western Glengarry, Truro, 150 Willow Street
- Mar 01, Quality Inn & Suites, HRM, Exit 2 off the 102, Kearney Lake Road
- Mar 02, Quality Inn & Suites, HRM, Exit 2 off the 102, Kearney Lake Road

From the list above, check off the location you wish to attend and mail to:
WWNS Box 4, RR#4 New Glasgow, N.S. B2H 5C7 or fax to: **(902) 246-2130**

Name: _____

Installer # _____ **QP11#** _____ **QP1#** _____

Telephone # _____ **Fax #** _____

E-mail Address: _____

For Office Use Only
Posted _____
Points _____

Winter 2012 Regional Meeting Registration Form
For Septic Tank Cleaners, Portable Restroom Operators
& Septic Bed Flushers

The following are the 2012 Regional Meetings. All sessions **start at 9 am**, arrival by 8:45 is encouraged to register and take your seat. Please pick the session which best suits your work, travel, or vacation plans. It does not matter which session you attend, but **pre-registration is necessary**. Attendance at the Regional Meeting is valued at 15 points. Even if you are not collecting points, you are welcomed and encouraged to attend to find out what is new in the industry.

Please register early as seating is limited for each session. Your response, ASAP will allow for efficient planning. Please keep a copy for your records. The dates can also be viewed online at www.wwns.ca.

_____ Mar 05 --- Delta Sydney Hotel. 300 Esplanade St, Sydney

_____ Mar 06 --- Best Western Glengarry. 150 Willow Street, Truro

_____ Mar 07 --- Rodd Grand. 417 Main Street, Yarmouth

_____ Mar 08 --- Best Western Hotel. 527 Hwy 10, Exit 12, Bridgewater

_____ Mar 09 --- Quality Inn & Suites. Exit 2 off the 102, Kearney Lake Rd, Halifax

From the list above, check off the location you wish to attend and mail to:

WWNS Box 4
RR#4
New Glasgow, N.S.
B2H 5C7

or fax to: **(902) 246-2130**.

Name: _____

Septic Tank Cleaner # _____ **Portable Restroom Operator #** _____

Septic Bed Flusher # _____

Telephone # _____ **Fax #** _____

Email Address: _____

For Office Use Only

Posted _____

Points _____
