



NH Water Works Association Newsletter

Issue 111

June 2016

Charity Ross Appointed as New Hampshire Water Works Association's New Executive Director



Charity Ross joined NHWWA as the new executive director on April 11, 2016, replacing long time executive director Steve Del Deo. Charity and Steve worked closely together for several weeks to facilitate a smooth transition.

Charity is a Concord, NH native who has been employed in the Washington, DC area for the past 5 years. Previously, she was

working in human resources at Host Hotels & Resorts in Bethesda, MD where she developed and managed the company's employee programs.

Prior to that, she was the Director of Communications & Marketing for the Greater Manchester/Nashua Board of Realtors. During her tenure with the board she developed social media platforms, managed the design and content of newsletters, and administered the website content. She also coordinated details for membership meetings, banquets and special events with specific attention to fundraising efforts.

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Construction Day 2015—Pennichuck's Merrimack River transmission main.

Construction Day 2016

Construction Day/Field Day 2016 will take place on Wednesday, August 3. The 50 passenger bus will leave the Concord terminal at 8:45 a.m. for a full day of exciting visits at a number of drinking water related construction projects.

Construction stops this year will include; a booster station in Londonderry, Manchester Water Works' two new pre-stressed concrete storage tanks, and the Merrimack River angle collection well. The event also includes several stops in Concord, including water main work in Penacook, the construction of the new Sewalls

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Wishing Steve the Best in his Retirement

On May 31, 2016, Steve Del Deo officially retired after spending 37 years serving NHWWA. Steve began working for the Association in 1979, in a very part-time (5 hours per week) voluntary way. He did this while working for the New Hampshire Water Supply and Pollution Control Commission (NHWSPPCC) in the drinking water division.

Prior to working for the NHWSPPCC, Steve spent time land surveying during and after college. He also spent time as a parts manager for a Datsun/British Leyland Dealership (remember MG's?). He also spent 5 years as a junior high school science teacher, basketball, baseball, wrestling, and gymnastics coach.

In 1986, Steve left NHWSPPCC to work as Water Resources Manager for Southern NH Water Company, the NH Division of Consumer Water Company, then a large investor owned water company with holdings throughout the US. During this time he continued to manage NHWWA, still a very part-time endeavor.

In late 1987 Steve started a business managing community water systems, and providing consulting services for municipal, investor owned utilities and smaller community water systems, as well as design and construction services. During this time Steve also managed NHWWA as its first executive secretary and then its first executive director.

Around 1990 the NHWWA Board of Directors decided that the Association needed to become active in the legislative process and asked Steve if he would be willing to become involved in that effort.

In 2004 Steve retired from his business. At that time the Board of Directors asked Steve if he would be willing to grow the Association and to provide members with additional training opportunities and other services, such as the Annual Trade Show/Expo. The office was then moved from Steve's house to its present location in downtown Concord.

During the past 12 or so years NHWWA has grown from a very part-time organization to a viable association employing a full-time executive director, a half-time office manager, a trade-show coordinator, and a number of contract trainers.

Steve would like to thank NHWWA's Board of Directors (past and Present), its members, employees and contractors for their continued support of NHWWA, and of Steve during the past 37 years. He asked that the following be printed in this newsletter:

"I truly and deeply appreciate all the support I've received over the years, and I very much value the many friendships that have resulted from my work in this field. I strongly believe that going forward NHWWA's best years are yet to come with the dedication and passion of NHWWA's staff including Charity Ross, Susan Kowalski, Patricia Beavers, and the many trainers, Board of Directors, and with the continued support of all its valued members! Thank you all!"

Charity Ross continued from page 1...

In the early 2000's, Charity was a legislative assistant for the New Hampshire House of Representatives. She conducted legislative research, responded to constituent requests, and attended legislative hearings. She was also a member of the Disabilities Access and Voting Systems Task Force enacted by the Help America Vote Act of 2002. Charity was instrumental in the passage of House Bill 1188 (2006) which strengthened the privacy rights of condominium owners.

Charity holds a BA degree in English Journalism and Communications with a Spanish minor from the University of New Hampshire, and a certificate in Small Business Management from the New Hampshire Institute of Technology. In 2014, she achieved faculty status with the Wellness Council of America (WELCOA).

In her spare time, Charity enjoys exercising, arts and crafts, travelling and spending time with family at their lake house in Maine.

Charity's educational background, work experience, and skillset, along with her enthusiasm will be instrumental in moving NHWWA in new directions and ensuring its vitality and success for many years to come.

Welcome aboard Charity!

Construction Day continued from page 1...

Falls Bridge which includes the stringing of water main to cross the river, and the Main Street Project.

Construction/Field Day includes morning and afternoon refreshments, lunch, bus fare, parking, all tours, and opportunity to share ideas with fellow travelers, water works camaraderie, and of course lots of fun – and it's all very affordable.



2016 Legislative Program

As NH's 2016 Legislative Session begins to wind down, we can report that it has been a most successful session with regard to drinking

water legislation. Below is the status of some of the more important bills.

One very important piece of legislation which had overwhelming support in both the House of Representatives and the Senate and which has already been signed into law by the Governor is [Senate Bill 380](#), Chapter 0011. This legislation establishes the drinking water and groundwater trust fund and the NH Drinking Water and Groundwater Advisory Commission. The trust fund will be kept "distinct and separate" from all other funds, and moneys will be used to remediate damages resulting from MTBE contamination. Funding will be "through cost-sharing grants to municipalities, municipally-owned water utilities, and water utilities regulated by the Public Utilities Commission for the design, construction and extension of public water systems, and the establishment and expansion of well-head protection areas where they provide the most cost effective method for providing safe and clean drinking water."

[HB 1428](#) establishes the clean water state revolving fund non-program fund account in the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES). The purpose of this is to fund eligible and completed wastewater projects under the state aid grant program. These are projects that have been on the "Delayed and Deferred" list under the State Aid Grant Program, and have not yet received anticipated funding by the state. Although all these projects are wastewater projects, in the future this legislative concept may be applied to completed drinking water projects yet to be funded. This bill has passed the House and the Senate with an amendment. The House did not concur with the Senate's amendment and the bill will be going to a committee of conference.

[HB 1461](#) and [HB 1595](#) both address in-stream flow issues. [HB 1461](#) extends the advisory committee to study the impact of water withdrawals on instream flows. Two major components of this bill are: 1) it changes the definition of "Protected Instream Flow" to "a pattern defined in terms of flow magnitude, duration, frequency, and timing that occurs within the

stream's natural range and variability". In existing statute, it is simply "flow"; 2) the second major change to existing statute is that it requires NHDES to conduct a public hearing jointly with the Senate committee and House committee with jurisdiction over river management issues and to provide a report within 30 days prior to beginning a protected instream flow study on a designated river. This bill passed the House, and the Senate with an amendment. The House concurred with the Senate's amendment and the bill will now be sent to the Governor's office.

[HB 1595](#) also makes several changes to existing statute language, including adding definitions to aquatic connectivity, fluvial geomorphology and more. It expands the criteria for nominating a river to the Rivers Management and Protection Program. And it changes the mechanism by which members of the Rivers Management Advisory Committee are selected, and now a representative of public water suppliers to be "nominated by the New Hampshire Water Works Association". This bill also passed the House, and the Senate with an amendment. The House concurred with the Senate's amendment and the bill will now be sent to the Governor's office.

NHWWA has worked with Senators and NHDES and stakeholders on changes to some of the language in both [HB 1461](#) and [HB 1595](#). Specifically with regard to riparian rights, NHWWA has advocated that "respect" riparian rights be changed to "protect" riparian rights. The following pieces of legislation were found to be inexpedient to legislate.

[HB 1133](#) would have limited the amount that a utility could charge as a deposit to a residential customer. The deposit would have been limited to \$250. NHWWA opposed this bill.

[HB 1155](#) would have given a customer a choice of meters. NHWWA opposed this bill.

[HB 1533](#) related to the noise limitations on permanent machinery. NHWWA opposed this bill.

[HB 1693](#) would have abolished fluoridation in water.



2016 Drinking Water Festival Makes a Splash in Dover!



"I learned that a watermelon can float!" was a comment from one of 350 fourth graders who attended the Drinking Water Festival on May 4 in Dover. Students participated in a number of hands-on activities which taught them about the importance of clean drinking water and how the environment, animals and humans are all closely linked in the effort to keep our water clean. One group from NHDES had 93 empty water jugs stacked together to make a pyramid in order to illustrate the average water use by one person per day. Another activity (pictured above) included a presentation at the fish ladder on the Cochecho River. Students also got to treat water samples to remove contamination with filtration.

Dover Mayor Karen Weston announced the winners of the state-wide Drinking Water Science Fair, which culminated at the festival. Prior to the announcements, about 30 kids eagerly came forward to share what they had learned that morning. Their comments and enthusiasm made it clear that the presentations were making an impression!

This year's Drinking Water Festival was a great success thanks to the hard work of the NH Drinking Water Coalition members, Bill Boulanger and his crew from Dover, and the many volunteers and financial supporters!

NH Drinking Water Coalition Members

Kristin Conte, Manchester Water Works
Aaron Costa, Keene Water Dept.
Lara Hooper, NHDES
Susan Kowalski, NHWWA
Jill Lavoie, Merrimack Village District
Andrew Madison, Granite State Rural Water
Kathy Rodgers, RCAP Solutions
Eric Swope, Keene Water Dept.

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Meritorious Achievement Award

Neil Helberg of Lewis Engineering (second from left), was awarded NHHWA's 2015 Meritorious Achievement Award at the Joint meeting with NEWWA on January 21, 2016. Also pictured are Steve Del Deo, NHHWA Executive Director, Bruce Lewis, President of Lewis Engineering who received the Award of Merit from NEWWA, and Tammy Law, Office Manager, Lewis Engineering.

NHHWA Member Recognized by EPA for Environmental Achievements

Congratulations to NHHWA member Bill Boulanger, Superintendent of Public Works and Utilities in Dover who was recently recognized at the 2016 Merit Awards Ceremony of the US Environmental Protection Agency's New England regional office for his environmental improvements in New Hampshire.

Bill was among three dozen recipients across New England that were honored for helping to improve a local environment. He was recognized for his efforts with the Berry Brook Watershed where he was instrumental in implementing a green infrastructure for stormwater treatment.

Working with researchers at the University of New Hampshire, Bill and his crew were able to remove more than 19 tons of sediment, 710 pounds of nitrogen and 127 pounds of phosphorus from the watershed annually. As a result, the watershed's non-porous cover has been reduced more than 22 percent. The project has improved both the water quality and the habitat of the deteriorating watershed. Bill also developed a process coined the "Boulanginator" which uses porous asphalt to improve water quality and reduce volume.

With 42 years of service in Public Works, Bill was a key factor in implementing this project and he worked closely with city officials and UNH researchers to address any questions and concerns that arose. He also aided in providing a better understanding of watershed management to the community.

NHHWA congratulates Bill on his recognition and for his efforts in reducing negative effects on the Berry Brook Watershed.

Each year EPA New England recognizes both individuals and groups in New England who have worked to protect or improve the region's environment. The Environment Merit Awards have been given out since 1970 and are awarded in the categories of individual; business (including professional organizations); local, state or federal government; and environmental, community, academia or nonprofit organization. The awards honor individuals and groups who have shown particular ingenuity and commitment in their efforts.

NHHWA Calendar of Events

Here are NHHWA's summer and fall 2016 events:

<u>When</u>	<u>What</u>	<u>Where</u>
Aug. 3	Construction Day	Concord Londonderry Manchester
Sept. 8	Technical Meeting	Wolfeboro
Sept. 20-29	Small Systems Intro Course	Concord
Oct. 5	Backflow Refresher	Concord
Oct. 26	Trade Show/Expo	Concord
Nov. 3	Annual/Technical Mtg.	Concord

View upcoming meetings and events at NHHWA's website at www.nhwwa.org. Stay tuned for more events being planned.

Welcome New Members

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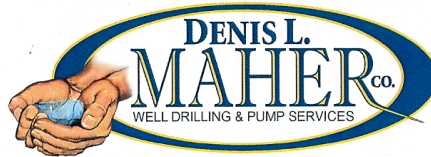
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