The Annual MGWA Meeting with election of officers and directors will be held on Saturday, January 11, 2014. All members of MGWA are encouraged to attend and take part in this important process.

8:00 am  Coffee and Pastries
9:00 am  Speaker – David Braley – Maine Water Well Commission
David will be speaking on a new rule in effect that requires a well and leach field be labeled a structure under Shoreland Zoning. The setback is 250 feet and can be more if a town chooses. This is being addressed by Site Evaluators and could affect all of us.

10:00 am  Annual Business Meeting with election of officers and directors

Please note there will be no luncheon.

The Commission meets the first Tuesday of each month. These meetings are held at 286 Water Street, Key Bank Plaza, in Augusta. These meetings are open to the public. For questions on Commission business call Dave Braley at 207-441-5324. To send information for this newsletter or to make inquiries: Contact Jody Goodwin. Call - 225-3370, Fax - 224-7174, Email to jodyike@meagalink.net

Mark Your Calendars!
Here are the dates which have been set for various meetings. The Annual MGWA Meeting will be held on Saturday, January 11 at the Best Western, 375 Main St. (Exit 130 off Rte.95), Waterville. It begins with coffee at 8 a.m. and the speaker at 9 a.m. The MGWA Director’s calendar has not been set for 2014. The Commission meets the first Tuesday of each month. These meetings are held at 286 Water Street, Key Bank Plaza, in Augusta.

Officers:
President: Jim Innis 942-5646
VP: Joe Gallant 839-3030
Treasurer: Susan Smith 839-3293
Secretary: Pat Pratt 666-5687
Past President: Ted Rolfe 622-4018

Directors
Term expiring 2014:
Harry Hanscom 825-4983
Tom Mason - 695-2493
Mark Weeks - 465-3753

Term expiring 2015:
Frank Hegarty - 929-0274
Ted McLeod - 848-5520
Mark Taplin - 374-5447

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Annual Meeting page 12

Find Us on the Web at mainegroundwater.org
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To send information for this newsletter or to make inquiries: Contact Jody Goodwin. Call - 225-3370, Fax - 224-7174, Email to jodyike@meagalink.net
Annual Safety Meeting Held in Oct.

Occupational Safety Engineer Adela Cifelli, part of Safety Works at the Maine Department of Labor, was the featured speaker at the 2013 Safety Meeting in October.

She spoke on “How to apply proper rigging methods and increase workers safety on work sites.”

Her presentation included methods on how to prevent injuries and simple safety precautions that can be taken to decrease the number of injuries on a site.

She also spoke on safe lifting practices and programs that can be instituted at companies. When these practices are taught properly, it reduces the chances of injuries which in turn reduces a company’s Worker Compensation claims.

She also addressed and explained GHS, the Global Harmonized Systems of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals. As more and more products come in to use, so also does the possibility of problems associated with them.

A good understanding of the classification and labeling systems can go a long way to helping those who use them in understanding the various levels of problems that can be caused by a substance if misused, mishandled or present during an accident of some kind.

The MGWA would like to thank Adela for her presentation and for giving her time to make our members better educated and better informed!

We would like to draw everyone’s attention to the advertising on pages 2 through 11 which has made this newsletter possible. Please mention to the advertisers who have supported the MGWA that you saw their ads and next time you need something, Remember Their Support of Our Association!

Don’t miss your chance to get your advertising into the Maine Groundwater Newsletter. Ad renewals for 2014 began in December. To renew your advertisement or to get ad sizes and prices please contact Susan Smith at 207.839.3293 or email her at Ssmith104@maine.rr.com.

Remember - Targeted advertising works and we reach the people who need your products!!
MGWA Director’s Minutes for April, 2013

(Editors Note: These minutes from the MGWA Director’s meeting in April were inadvertently omitted from the Newsletter. They are printed here in their entirety.)

Maine Ground Water Association
Director’s Meeting
April 8, 2013
Best Western Plus
Waterville, ME

The MGWA Director’s Meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by President Jim Innis with the following present: Mark Taplin, Ronnie Taplin, Joe Gallant, Susan Smith, Mark Weeks and Pat Pratt.

A motion to approve the MGWA Director’s Minutes of March 11, 2013 was made by Mark Taplin and seconded by Susan Smith and approved unanimously with the following change (Ted Rolfe to Ted McLeod).

A motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report of April 11, 2013 was made by Mark Taplin and seconded by Susan Smith which approved unanimously with the following change (Bruce Champany).

Membership Applications:
Still waiting for information from Bruce Champany.
An Associate Membership Application from Rocky Milano, GEFCO. 63 Robbins Road, Keene, NH 03431 was unanimously approved.

Legislative Committee:
A discussion was held about the Maine Water Well Commission and their custom of listing violations on their Website. The MGWA believes that if they were going to list violations that it should be up-to-date. We are still waiting for feedback on this issue.

Education Committee:
Spring Demo is all set.

Web Site Committee:
Susan Smith reported that she would be updating the MGWA Website soon if you have not paid your dues you will be removed.

Old Business: None
New Business:
A motion to approve the renewal of the NGWA Affiliate State Membership was made by Mark Taplin and seconded by Mark Weeks was unanimously approved.

Motion to adjourn at 7:50 p.m. was made by Mark Taplin and seconded by Mark Weeks and was unanimously approved.

MGWA Director’s Minutes for October

Maine Ground Water Association
Best Western Plus
Waterville, ME
October 28, 2013

The Maine Ground Water Association Director’s Meeting was called to order by President Jim Innis at 6:15 p.m. with the following present: Rodney Pratt, John Gilbert, Mark Taplin, Ronnie Taplin, Frank Hegarty, Joe Gallant, Susan Smith, Bunny Roberts, Trevor Gould, Mark Weeks and Pat Pratt.

A motion to approve the Minutes of the September 9, 2013 Maine Ground Water Association was made by Mark Taplin and seconded by Susan Smith which was unanimously approved.

A motion to approve the MGWA Treasurer’s Report of October 28, 2013 was made by Mark Taplin and seconded by Joe Gallant which was unanimously approved.

Nomination Committee: President Jim Innis appointed Mark Weeks Chairman of the Nomination Committee, Ted McLeod was also appointed to the committee.

Legislative Committee: There is a bill in the legislature that will direct the DEP to call a well a structure that will fall in to the setback guidelines from shorelines.

Educational Committee: David Braley will be asked to speak at the Annual Meeting on setbacks that we will be dealing with under this new bill.

Old Business: None

New Business: Pat Pratt brought up the fact that as an association we do not have insurance if anything should happen at a meeting or event to cover us for liability. A motion by Susan Smith and seconded by Mark Weeks which was unanimously approved.

A motion to adjourn was made by Susan Smith and seconded by Mark Weeks at 7:10 p.m. and was unanimously approved.

The Safety Meeting followed the Director’s Meeting.

FYI Advertisers

Thanks to everyone who has paid their advertising invoices. If you have not, please help us out and do so really soon! Thanks for Your Help!
Maine Ground Water Association
Director’s Meeting
December 16, 2013
Best Western Plus
Waterville, ME

The MGWA Director’s Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Jim Innis with the following present: Rodney Pratt, Susan Smith, Joe Gallant, Frank Hegarty, Ted McLeod, Michelle Weeks, Mark Weeks and Pat Pratt.

A motion to approve the minutes of the October 28, 2013 was made by Ted McLeod and seconded by Mark Weeks and was unanimously approved.

A motion to approve the December 16, 2013 Treasurer’s Report was made by Mark Weeks and seconded by Joe Gallant and was unanimously approved.

Nomination Committee: Ted McLeod reported that he and Mark Weeks have been talking to members and will have a full slate soon.

Legislative Committee: The DEP Shoreline Zoning issue on a well and leach field being termed a structure that has to be a 250 foot setback is still being discussed at the Maine Water Well Commission. David Braley will be doing a workshop at the Annual Meeting on this subject.

Mark Weeks made a motion, seconded by Ted McLeod that Joe Gallant and Frank Hegarty suggest to the Maine Water Well Commission that in the next session of Rule Making that Bug Proof Well Caps be made mandatory.

Old Business: A motion was made by Mark Weeks and seconded by Frank Hegarty that we purchase insurance for General Liability and

News from the National Ground Water Assoc.

PA Ski Resort Uses Wastewater for Snow

The Morning Call in Allentown, Pennsylvania, reports Bear Creek Mountain Resort & Conference Center soon will be making snow for its ski slopes from wastewater.

With an amended permit from the Pennsylvania DEP issued in November, the Longswamp Township resort is poised to become the third ski area in Pennsylvania, and one of only a few in the country, to use highly treated liquid effluent to make snow for use on trails.

Since 1999, Bear Creek has invested nearly $800,000 building its own wastewater treatment plant and water recycling infrastructure to serve its 116-room hotel and day visitors.

While snow-making season is right around the corner, Bear Creek won’t implement the plan until the 2014-15 ski season when extra money is in the budget.

The wastewater treatment system includes mechanical separation and biological treatment before the liquid portion is sent as clear water to a PVC-lined holding pond at the base of the ski mountain.

Nashville was Big Event

More than 3700 attended the NGWA® 2013 Groundwater Expo and Annual Meeting, December 3-6 in Nashville, Tennessee.

"Although numbers are still being verified, Nashville 2013 looks like it will place in our top three shows from Las Vegas," said NGWA Chief Executive Officer Kevin McCray, CAE.

"Fresh ideas promised a memorable experience and it looks like folks found that to be true. We hope all of our guests leave happy and renewed and ready for a new and prosperous year."

Nearly 300 companies exhibited at the 65th Expo, with more than 30 first-timers.

Shortfalls in Future Water Supplies Studied

Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Michael L. Connor released the Lower Rio Grande Basin Study that evaluated the impacts of climate change on water demand and supply imbalances along the Rio Grande along the United States/Mexico border from Fort Quitman, Texas, to the Gulf of Mexico.

"Basin studies are an important element of the Department of the Interior’s WaterSMART initiative and give us a clearer picture of the possible future gaps between water demand and our available supplies," Commissioner Connor said.

“This study of the lower Rio Grande basin will provide water managers with science-based tools to make important future decisions as they work to meet the region’s diverse water needs. In addition, the study will help inform water management discussions between the U.S. and Mexico through the International Boundary Water Commission.”
Water Well Commission Minutes for October

Well Driller’s Meeting Minutes
Date: Wednesday, October 9, 2013
Location: 286 Water Street, 3rd Floor

Attendees:
Commission Members: Donald Robbins, Certified Geologist, Public Member, Chairman; Frank Hegarty, Master Pump Installer; David Braley, Senior Geologist, Maine CDC and Prevention; Joe Gallant, Master Driller; Ike Goodwin, Master Driller (arrived late due to road construction delay); Tom Weddle, Hydrogeologist; Dwight Doughty, Jr., Hydrogeologist, Maine DOT.


Minutes prepared by: Doris Labranche, Commission Clerk

Procedures
Don Robbins - Meeting called to order at 9:02 a.m.

TOPIC: Approval of August 2013 Minutes
Discussion: Eds to the September minutes were provided to Doris. It was motioned to approve the revised minutes as amended. The vote was unanimous. Doris will update the September minutes and distribute to Commission members.

TOPIC: Well Reports
David Braley distributed a revised matrix of a “Policy to Determine Casing or Liner & Seals Required for Specialty Well Applications.” The Commission voted to approve. Vote was unanimous, minus Ike’s vote due to his late arrival.

TOPIC: Complaints
No new complaints.

TOPIC: Complaint Update
Regarding Ms. Lolisa Windover of Peru regarding Goodwin Well & Water Company: Complaint has been rescinded.

TOPIC: Specialty Well Applications (SWP)
Ed Gallant of Stanley Hillock WDC – Margaret Kramer, Homeowner, Windham, Maine (Joe Gallant recused himself.)
Proposed well to be located no closer than 92 feet from the onsite leach field and 86 feet from the onsite tank; no closer than 100 feet from neighbor’s leach field and 100 feet from the other neighbor’s tank. Proposed well to be completed and constructed in surficial materials to the depth required by the site specific overburden conditions. Annual water testing is recommended.

TOPIC: 1 Exam Application
Michael Austin – Journeyman Well Driller Exam Application; (Ike Goodwin recused himself.) Based on review of the above application, it was determined that the applicant is eligible to sit for the above listed exam. Doris to send letter regarding eligibility to sit for the exam. Vote was unanimous less Ike Goodwin.

TOPIC: Public Comments
None at this time.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 10:12 a.m.

Office, Director
Nominations Slated
The annual election of Officers and Director’s will be held at the MGWA annual meeting on Jan. 11.
The following are being nominated by the Nominating Committee. Members are reminded that all nominations remain open and People may be nominated from the floor:

President - Joe Gallant
Vice-President – Mark Weeks
Secretary – Pat Pratt
Treasurer – Susan Smith

Three (3) Two Year Directors: Harry Hanscom, Scott Hodgdon and Marc Stevens.
Director’s with one year remaining are Frank Hegarty, Ted McLeod and Mark Taplin.
If you are an Active MGWA Member and are interested in being a Director please contact Mark Weeks a 465-3753 or Ted McLeod at 848-5520.

Commission Meetings are open and the public is welcome!
TOPIC:  Complaints

Ms. Windover voiced her concerns over a recently drilled well on her property. Don Robbins, as well as David Braley, informed her that the Commission would find any violations. David also stated that he is not certain the Commission would find any violations even if the Commission took several months to investigate the complaint. Normally, an inspector would be sent out to inspect the well, a camera placed inside to view, and then the inspector would report back to the Commission at a subsequent meeting with a determination if a violation had been made or not.

David Braley informed her that if promises were made between a driller and the homeowner, they are not part of the Commission’s rules.

TOPIC: Approval of August 2013 Minutes

DISCUSSION: Edits to the August minutes were provided to Doris. It was motioned to approve the revised minutes as amended. The vote was unanimous. Doris will update the August minutes and distribute to Commission members.

TOPIC: Other

If dry well ground water system remains, then the proposed well to have a minimum of 120 feet of 6 inch steel casing sealed into bedrock with a solid 4 inch liner installed with top and bottom Jaswell type steel core seals with bottom seal a minimum of 90 feet below grade and top seal up inside 6 inch steel well casing. Bottom and top seals shall be water tight. Annual water testing is recommended.

James Innis, WDC – Rebecca Wood, Homeowner:

2nd attempt – Last month driller drilled 610 feet and hydrofracked. No fractures were found or developed in the process.

According to the driller, there is a fracture zone at about 15 feet which the driller would like to access by perforating the casing. The proposed well is to be located no closer than 70 feet from the onsite leach field, and 70 feet from the onsite septic tank. The Commission approved his request to perforate the casing near the top to let in near surface water. Annual water testing is recommended.

Gary Gould, WDC – Patricia Roberts, Homeowner:

If dry well ground water system remains, then the proposed well to have a minimum of 120 feet of 6 inch steel casing sealed into bedrock with a 10 inch borehole, or as an alternative, a minimum of 20 feet of 6 inch steel casing shall be sealed into bedrock with a solid 4 inch liner installed with top and bottom Jaswell type steel core seals with bottom seal a minimum of 90 feet below grade and top seal up inside 6 inch steel well casing. Bottom and top seals shall be water tight. Annual water testing is recommended.

Ike Goodwin stated that he was not made aware of the complaint until just recently. (*No notification had been forwarded to the drilling company.) Ike discussed the homeowner’s concerns regarding a written statement he provided of “basically a dry well” and informed her of the two types of drilled wells – bedrock and gravel. Ike discussed what the driller encountered during the process, why casing was not installed at that time, and why the driller did not believe he had found a suitable gravel formation.

TOPIC: Specialty Well Applications (SWP)

TOPIC: Public Comments

None at this time.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 10:42 a.m.

TOPIC: Well Reports

David Braley distributed a revised matrix of a draft “Policy to Determine Casing or Liner & Seals Required for Specialty Well Applications.” Additional recommendations were made, will be included in the policy, and a final review performed at the October meeting.

TOPIC: 3 Exam Applications

Phil Bisson – Master Well Driller Exam Application;
Jason Bisson – Master Well Driller Exam Application, and
Michael Bessler – Journeyman Pump Installers Exam Application.

Based on review of each of the above applications and based on information contained in each of their files, it was determined that each of the above applicants are eligible to sit for the above listed exams. Doris to send letters to each individual informing them of their eligibility to sit for the exams.

TOPIC: Other

David Braley made a request for the Commission to purchase (for a fee of $73.00), the latest edition of a water system manual. The vote was unanimous.

TOPIC: Approval of August 2013 Minutes

DISCUSSION: Edits to the August minutes were provided to Doris. It was motioned to approve the revised minutes as amended. The vote was unanimous. Doris will update the August minutes and distribute to Commission members.

TOPIC: Other

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TOPIC: Specialty Well Applications (SWP)

TOPIC: Public Comments

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