



MAINE GROUNDWATER ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2017 EDITION

MGWA Board of Directors

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Treasurer Susan Smith
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Term Expiring 2017

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mmmtgould@aol.com

Ted McLeod 207-848-5520
driller723@yahoo.com

Mark Taplin 207-374-5447

Term Expiring 2018

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Jim Innis 207-659-3620
jim@inniswelldrilling.com

Scott Hodgdon 207-782-4533
hodgwell@gmail.com



Ted Redstone, The Natural Hazards Planner from the Maine Emergency Management Agency attended our Director's meeting on November 7, 2016

Mark Your Calendars

MGWA Director's Meetings are at The Best Western Plus in Waterville, ME at 6:00 pm. Meeting dates and places are subject to change. All are welcome and encouraged to attend.

MGWA Annual & Directors Meeting

Thursday, February 16, 2017 at The Best Western Plus, 375 Main St, Waterville

8:00AM Coffee

9:00AM Training, basic rigging and lifting below the hook with Cliff

Berry, Occupational, Safety Engineer, Maine Dept. of Labor

10:30AM Annual Meeting with election of officers and Directors Meeting

Well Driller's Commission Meetings: The Commission generally meets at 9:00A.M., the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 17 Elkins Lane in Augusta. For questions on Commission business call David Braley at 207-441-5324.

New England Water Well Expo: March 10-11 Best Western Royal Plaza Trade Center, 181 Boston Post Road West, Marlborough, MA More info at: <http://newwassociation.org/>

National Ground Water Association: Groundwater Week December 5-7, 2017 Nashville, Tennessee More info at: <http://www.groundwaterweek.com/>

Find us on the Web at www.maine groundwater.org

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Director's Meeting Minutes from October 2016

Maine Ground Water Association

Director's Meeting

October 3, 2016

Best Western Plus

Waterville, ME

The MGWA Director's Meeting was called to order by President Mark Weeks at 6:32pm with the following present: Joe Gallant, Frank Hegarty, Scott Hodgdon, Jim Innis, Ted McLeod, Susan Smith, Mark Taplin, Ronnie Taplin and Michelle Weeks.

A motion by Jim Innis and seconded by Frank Hegarty to approve the April 4, 2016 Director's Meeting minutes was unanimously approved.

Treasurers Report: A motion by Ted McLeod and seconded by Joe Gallant to approve the Treasurer's report of October 3, 2016 was unanimously approved.

Membership Applications: None

Legislative Committee: Frank is working on a sponsor for the pump installers rule change.

As members of the Maine Well Drillers Commission, Joe Gallant and Frank Hegarty asked for input from the MGWA board regarding domestic dual use geothermal wells.

Ted McLeod made a motion to recommend not to install non NSF approved materials in domestic dual use geothermal wells. The motion was seconded by Susan Smith and unanimously approved.

Education Committee There was a discussion about the annual meeting scheduled for January. Fall protection was an idea. Next year's spring demo was briefly discussed.

Old Business: None

New Business: We are looking for delegates for the NGWA meeting on December 7 in Las Vegas. We are allowed 5. The fall newsletter has been created and sent out by Sue. The MGWA has received \$4000.00 from NEWWA this year.

A motion to adjourn at 7:42 pm made by Ted McLeod and seconded by Frank Hegarty was unanimously approved.



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Director's Minutes from November 2016

Maine Ground Water Association

Director's Meeting

November 7, 2016

Best Western Plus

Waterville, ME

The MGWA Director's Meeting was called to order by President Mark Weeks at 6:15pm with the following present: Joe Gallant, Frank Hegarty, Scott Hodgdon, Jim Innis, Ted McLeod, Susan Smith, Michelle Weeks and Thomas Redstone.

Thomas Redstone, Natural Hazards Planner from the Maine Emergency Management Agency spoke about the drought and asked for input from the directors. Drought Task Force meetings are held monthly at:

MEMA EOC, 45 Commerce Drive, Suite 2 in Augusta. The next meeting will be Friday, December 9 at 9:00 am. Information on the drought can be found at: http://www.maine.gov/mema/prepare/prepare_display.shtml?147337 or you can google Maine Prepares Drought. The task force is asking people to call 211 to notify them of dry wells.

A motion by Ted McLeod and seconded by Frank Hegarty to approve the October 3, 2016 Director's Meeting minutes was unanimously approved.

Treasurers Report: A motion by Ted McLeod and seconded by Scott Hodgdon to approve the Treasurer's report of November 7, 2016 was unanimously approved.

Membership Applications: None

Legislative Committee:

The Water Well Commission will have an opening on the board when Joe Gallant's term runs out at the end of this year. Please contact Joe if interested or with any questions. Ted McLeod made a motion to nominate Frank Hegarty and Ike Goodwin to keep their seats on the board. Susan Smith seconded the motion, with all approving except Frank Hegarty who recused himself.

Susan Smith made a motion to revise the recommendation for the Commission to read as follows: not to allow non approved (NSF or equivalent) materials or devices to return water to a domestic well. The motion was seconded by Ted McLeod and unanimously approved.

Education Committee There was a discussion about the annual meeting scheduled for the second week in January. Information will be sent out as soon as it is available.

Nominating Committee: Please contact Ted McLeod if you are interested in holding a position on the board. Elections will take place at the annual meeting in January.

Old Business: None

New Business: Ted McLeod made a motion to pay insurance premiums when due without discussion.

This motion was seconded by Mark Weeks and unanimously approved.

A motion to adjourn at 8:12pm made by Ted McLeod and seconded by Frank Hegarty was unanimously approved.

MGWA Officer & Director

Nominations Slated

President: Mark Weeks

Vice President: Frank Hegarty

Secretary: Michelle Weeks

Treasurer: Susan Smith

Three Two Year Directors: Trevor Gould, Ted McLeod & Mark Taplin

Nominations from the floor will also be done. If you're an active member of MGWA and are interested in being a Director please contact Ted McLeod 848-5520.

In Memory

Hazen "Larry" Oakes,

Passed away suddenly and peacefully at home in Boothby on January 4, 2017. Larry took over his father's business, Ace Well Service, in 1972 and ran it for 43 years before retiring in 2015 and turning it over to his sons, Peter and Jason. If you would like to make a donation, in his memory, it can be made to the Lincoln County Animal Shelter, PO Box 7, Edgecomb, ME 04556. It was Larry's wish to have no funeral services at this time. Halls of Boothbay has care arrangements and online condolences at www.hallfuneralhomes.com.

Meet Julia Kimball, MWDC Clerk

Julia Kimball

Maine Well Drillers Commission Clerk. Julia has worked at the Drinking Water Program for a little over a year where she serves as the Commission clerk and Water Operator Board Clerk. She is able to assist you in administering licensing exams, complaint questions, specialty well applications and general Commission information. Julia is currently attending University of Maine at Augusta where she is finishing her Public Administration Degree. In her free time she enjoys camping, boating and spending time with friends and family. Please contact Julia with any questions about the Well Drillers Commission at [207-287-5699](tel:207-287-5699) or by email at Julia.Kimball@maine.gov



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Contact Ed, Andy, Rob, Gary, Pat
or Howard with any questions

Proposed Legislative Acts

We need to be aware that there are at least a dozen Acts potentially heading to the Legislature.

Some of the acts are:

- LR # 42 An Act To Promote Lead Testing of Drinking Water for Maine Families by Brooks
- LR # 392 An Act To Ensure Safe Drinking Water for Maine Families by Ackley
- LR # 553 An Act To Create the Maine Water Trust To Regulate and Protect Maine's Water Supply and Ensure the Quantity and Quantity of Maine's Drinking Water by Sylvester
- LR # 1019 An Act To Ensure Safe Drinking Water for Maine Families by Cooper
- LR # 1037 An Act To Protect Clean Water by Hickman
- LR # 1448 An Act To Increase Affordability of Safe Drinking Water for Maine Families by Maker
- LR # 1673 Ac Act To Protect Maine Families by Enhancing Maine's Well Water Regulations by Fredette

There was an article in the Portland Press Herald on December 1st stating that there is a bipartisan group of legislators that are going to introduce the bill. ([http://](http://www.pressherald.com/2016/12/01/bill-aims-to-spread-the-word-about-arsenic-levels-in-maine-well-water/)

www.pressherald.com/2016/12/01/bill-aims-to-spread-the-word-about-arsenic-levels-in-maine-well-water/) The article stated that funded will be through laboratory water tests and the money would be directed to a new fund within Maine's Center for Disease Control and Prevention, to educate well owners to test their water.

The State of Maine has a website for Private Well Water Safety and Testing at:

www.wellwater.maine.com

or use the following link:

<http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/mecdc/environmental-health/eohp/wells/mewellwater.htm>

The State of Maine recommends to test your well water once a year for bacteria and nitrates and every 3 to 5 years for arsenic, fluoride, uranium, radon, lead, and manganese. A comprehensive test is recommended for first time testing or if you've never had your water tested before.

We need to promote to our customers to test their well water.

FYI...

- Joe Gallant and Frank Hegarty from the Commission are asking for your input on dual use geothermal wells.
- Joe Gallant's term is up at the Commission and he is not going to do another term.
- If you're interested in being on the Commission, please contact Joe Gallant, a MGWA board member or the Commission.
- Do you have an idea for our Spring Demo or Annual Meetings? Please contact a board member or email us.
- Is there an active or affiliate MGWA member that you think should be voted in as an Honorary Member? If so please contact a board member or email us.
- MGWA's Website: If you would like to be added or need changes on our website please contact us at info@mainegroundwater.org.
- The Maine Geological Survey Water Well Database is a tool that you can access for well information. It's located at: <http://www.maine.gov/dacf/mgs/pubs/digital/well.htm>

Las Vegas was Big Event

Almost 5200 attended the 68th annual NGWA 2016 Groundwater Expo and Annual Meeting, December 5-7, 2016 in Las Vegas making it the sixth most attended show. There were 50 more State Delegates than last year and 200 more members in the Contractors Division. There were 292 exhibitors. Groundwater Week combined with the Irrigation Association for the first time.

Patrick and Susan Smith attended the Delegates Meeting on December 7.

2017 Groundwater Week

Nashville, Tennessee Decem-

Tom Redstone

Natural Hazards Planner

On page 7 is a document with some potential drought resources. Most of the available resources are for the agricultural community, but it will hopefully allow members of the Maine Groundwater Association to focus on residential customers. Please let me know if you have any other questions

or if there is anything the Drought Task Force can do to help.

Tom Redstone

Natural Hazards Planner

Maine Emergency Management Agency

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Our newsletter will be issued at least four times a year.

Drought Resources

As of November 9, 2016

11 Counties are currently approved for ECP:

York, Oxford, Franklin, Androscoggin, Kennebec, Knox, Lincoln, Sagadahoc, Waldo, and Penobscot

11 Counties are eligible for DAP:

York, Cumberland, Oxford, Androscoggin, Kennebec, Lincoln, Knox, Sagadahoc, Waldo (contiguous), Franklin (contiguous), and Somerset (contiguous)

Members of the agricultural community should contact their local FSA office to determine if they should apply for assistance.

7 Counties (Androscoggin, Knox, Lincoln, Oxford, Sagadahoc, Cumberland, & York) are in Primary Disaster Counties and 4 (Franklin, Knox, Somerset, & Waldo) are contiguous.

No assistance through MSHA is available at this time.

United States Department of Agriculture

Farm Service Agency (FSA)

Emergency Conservation Program (ECP)

- Provides emergency funding and technical assistance to farmers and ranchers to rehabilitate farmland damaged by natural disasters and to implement emergency water conservation measures in periods of drought.
- Participants may receive cost share up to 75 percent of the cost to implement emergency conservation practices. Qualified producers may receive up to 90 percent of the cost to implement approved emergency practices.
- Eligible practices include providing water for livestock during periods of severe drought.

Disaster Assistance Programs (DAP)

- Secretary of Agriculture is authorized to designate counties as disaster areas to make Emergency Loans (EM) available to producers suffering losses in those counties and in counties that are contiguous to a designated county.
- Fast Track Secretarial Designations – if any portion of a County has experienced Severe Drought (D2) for 8 consecutive weeks.
- DAP's include Livestock Forage Program, Livestock Indemnity Program, Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm Raised Fish, and Tree Assistance Program

Rural Development

Water and Environmental Grant and Loan Funding

- Rural communities can obtain technical assistance and financing necessary to develop drinking water and waste disposal systems.
 - o *Emergency Community Water Assistance Grants* – Rural towns with 10,000 or fewer residents are eligible
 - o *Household Water Well System Grants* – Non-profit organizations may apply for grants on behalf of residents in rural areas to help construct, refurbish, or service individually owned household water well systems.

United States Small Business Administration

Disaster Loans

- SBA provides low-interest disaster loans to businesses, private non-profit organizations, homeowners, and renters. Loans can be used to repair or replace the following items damaged or destroyed in a declared disaster: real estate, personal property, machinery and equipment, and business assets.

Maine State Housing Authority

Home Repair & Improvement Services

- MSHA may offer grants, low cost, or no cost loans to help with home improvement needs.
- If you have a dry well, please report it to 2-1-1

MGWA

Annual Meeting

Thursday, February 16, 2017

Best Western Plus

375 Main Street, Waterville, ME

- 8:00 AM Coffee
- 9:00 AM Training, basic rigging and lifting below the hook
with Cliff Berry, Occupational Safety Engineer,
Maine Dept. of Labor
- 10:30 AM Annual Meeting with Election of Officers &
Director's Meeting

Contact Us

MGWA

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Susan Smith Treasurer

207-839-3293

Michelle Weeks
Secretary

207-465-3753

info@mainegroundwater.org

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www.mainegroundwater.org

Maine Groundwater Association

Mark Your Calendars!
MGWA Annual Meeting is
Thursday, February 2017

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