



Waste Water Nova Scotia
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April 2020

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

2020 SEPTIC PUMPING EXPO and AGM

Due to the precautions being taken to prevent the spread of the corona virus, it was necessary for WWNS to cancel our Septic Pumping Expo and AGM which were to be held on April 17 & 18th. The restrictions on social gathering continues to evolve but it looks like we are in it for the long haul. Once the dangers have passed, WWNS will look at how we proceed in regards to our Annual Meeting, points, etc.

Many people renew their WWNS membership each year when they attend Expo / AGM. The WWNS listing of current members resets automatically in May to include only those who are members for the current year (2020). We are unfortunately unable to extend the timing of this reset as the person who does our computer programming has been very ill with Covid-19. If you have not already renewed your membership for 2020 and would like to remain on the listing of current members beyond May, a membership form can be found on our website at http://wwns.ca/UserFiles/file/WWNS_membership_form_2020.pdf

If you have renewed your **2020** membership in WWNS, please take a moment to ensure that the information displayed on the Members page of the Waste Water Nova Scotia website is correct.

CERTIFICATION RENEWALS FOR 2020

If you are a Qualified Persons or a Septic Tank Cleaner with a certification expiring at the end of May 2020, Nova Scotia Environment (NSE) will be automatically renewing your certification until September 30 because of the COVID-19 pandemic. You will receive correspondence soon on this extension.

In August of 2020, those persons with enough points under the PDP program will receive a renewal notice as usual. When you apply at that time you must submit all the materials you would normally submit for renewal, including a completed application form, proof of insurance, disposal agreements (if required), and payment. The certification will be valid from Oct 1, 2020 until May 31, 2024.

Qualified Persons are required to have accumulated 100 points during the 2016 to 2019 cycle in order to remain qualified to renew their Certification in 2020. Point totals for this period will be available on the WWNS website until the end of April.

QP's can check your point totals at <http://wwns.ca/pdppoints.php?category=QPII>

Septic Pumpers and Portable Restroom Operators are required to have accumulated 50 points during the 2016 to 2019 cycle in order to remain qualified to renew their Certification in 2020. Point totals for this period will also be available on the WWNS website until the end of April.

Septic Pumpers can check their point totals at:

<http://wwns.ca/pdppoints.php?category=Septic%20Tank%20Pumper>

Portable Restroom Operators can check their point totals at:

<http://wwns.ca/pdppoints.php?category=Portable%20Restroom%20Operator>

NOTIFICATIONS AND APPROVALS

Currently the province is allowing construction work to continue and NSE is still processing Notifications and Approvals.

As you go about your daily work, please remember to practice safe social distancing and take all precautions necessary to protect yourself and others.

NSE has issued the following communication:

- NSE is still processing onsite sewage notifications and approvals.
- If things change, we will communicate that to the Wastewater Nova Scotia board.
- To help slow the spread of COVID-19, please send any documents to your local regional office by mail or fax.
- Please use the generic office email addresses for submitting **Notifications and 24-hour alert Forms**.

NSE Regional Offices Email Addresses:

- Yarmouth.office@novascotia.ca
- Bridgewater.office@novascotia.ca
- Kentville.office@novascotia.ca
- Bedford.office@novascotia.ca
- Truro.office@novascotia.ca
- Amherst.office@novascotia.ca
- Pictou.office@novascotia.ca
- Antigonish.office@novascotia.ca
- Porthawkesbury.office@novascotia.ca
- Sydney.office@novascotia.ca
- Please submit the notifications and alerts to the office location you would normally deal with for the site location. For correspondence on a specific file, please reach out to your regional office.
- Even though our offices remain open, we strongly encourage industry to use email submissions for notifications and 24-hour alerts.
- For program related questions email onsite@novascotia.ca or call Stefan Furey at 902-225-0704.

COVID 19 PRECAUTIONS

The following is a link to an article in the publication Onsite Installer which discusses health and safety risks.

https://www.onsiteinstaller.com/online_exclusives/2020/03/are-septic-system-professionals-at-a-greater-risk-for-covid-19

INSTALLER AND QUALIFIED PERSON TRAINING

An installer training course had been tentatively planned for early June but due to social distancing rules, this date may not still be a possibility. We will be following the direction of the Nova Scotia government and the health authority regarding gatherings and will send out registration for a course as soon as we are able to confirm a date. If you are interested in the Installer or Qualified Person training and have not yet submitted your Training Information Form to WWNS, please do so at your earliest convenience.

BURSARY PROGRAM

The Bursary program will be offered by WWNS again this year to support active members of WWNS and their family members with post-secondary education. Three bursaries will be offered for students enrolled in University, College or trades related courses. Bursaries will have a value of \$1000 each. All applications will be accepted but preference will be given to students studying in a field related to the on-site sewage industry.

Applications are available through the WWNS office or online in the Members section of the WWNS website at www.wwns.ca . **Applications must be received by August 15.**

ON-SITE SEWAGE PROGRAM TIDBITS

1. 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. Those who purchased their 2020 WWNS membership should check to make sure their contact information is displayed correctly on the webpage. If you notice any discrepancies, please advise.
2. We continue to receive questions about insurance at the Office of WWNS. If you are dealing with septic, be sure your policy includes "**Pollution Inclusion**".
3. The latest **newsletter** can always be found on the WWNS website.
4. Occasionally, WWNS is made aware of training being offered by suppliers about their products. This information is posted in the news section of our website as it becomes available
5. A list of certified (licensed) persons is available on the NSE webpage at: <http://www.gov.ns.ca/nse/cms/Search.asp>
6. On-site Sewage Disposal Systems Regulations: <https://www.novascotia.ca/just/regulations/regs/envsewage.htm>
7. Activities Designation Regulations: <https://www.novascotia.ca/just/regulations/regs/envactiv.htm>

8. On-site Sewage Disposal Systems Standard and Q&A:
<https://www.novascotia.ca/nse/wastewater/on.site.sewage.disposal.asp>

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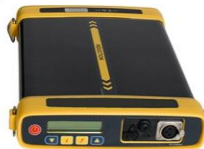
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