



# WWNS NEWS

**Waste Water Nova Scotia**  
60 Kyle, Greenwood, NS, B2H 5C7  
Phone: 902-246-2131 Fax: 902-246-2130  
Email: [wastewatersns@eastlink.ca](mailto:wastewatersns@eastlink.ca)

---

December 2017

*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 working diligently to get the last system installed before the freeze up begins.

WWNS has had a busy year starting with the regional meetings in January and February, followed by a very successful annual convention in April. This year saw a few changes and clarifications to the NSE Standard which was implemented on May 1, 2016. The new process continues to be working fairly well with a few hiccups to overcome. The notification process continues to be well received and has resulted in very quick turnaround of approvals so that our members can commence work quicker.

Nova Scotia Environment tell us that they continue to push forward with the development of a Best Practise document which will encompass the remaining elements of the previous Technical Guidelines and will cover the non-technical elements such as recommended installation procedures etc... In addition, NSE continue to report that the production of selection tables for sloping sand filters are still on their radar but have not been able to provide us with a time frame for completion. Hopefully these two documents will be available in the near future.

Our Industry continues to be quite healthy which has resulted in continued licensing of additional Qualified Persons, Installers and Pumpers/Cleaners. However, with the new Regulations comes a more onerous set of pre-qualification requirements for applicants before being accepted into the training courses. We have also seen a reduction in the overall number of septic system installs provincially in the last number of years. Both situations will undoubtedly continue to put a downward demand on the number of training courses requested.

The NSE have concluded that the wastewater and groundwater industries have both come a very long way in the last ten years and as a result, the NSE have closed the door of the Environment Ministers Onsite Services Advisory Board. WWNS had a number of members on that Board including the sitting chairman. As the two associations, wastewater and groundwater, have expanded their roles within the industry, the Boards role diminished to a point where it became redundant in many aspects. Change continues to among us!

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: 2018 WWNS Membership Application**

## **Installer/QP Regional Meetings Cancelled for 2018**

WWNS **will not** be holding winter Installer/QP Regional Meetings in 2018. Due to this fact, all Qualified Persons and Installers will automatically be credited 15 PDP points.

## **Septic Pumping Expo & Annual General Meeting**

This year's **Septic Pumping Expo & Annual General Meeting** will both be held at the Best Western Glengarry in Truro on April 13/14, 2018. Registration forms will be included with your next newsletter. You may reach the Glengarry at 902-893-4311.

## **NSE On-Site Services Co-ordinator**

On-site Services Coordinator Leah Boutilier will be off for an extended period of time. In her absence, inquiries to NSE can be emailed to [onsite@novascotia.ca](mailto:onsite@novascotia.ca) or contact your local NSE office.

## **WWNS Bursary Program**

Congratulations to the 2017 Bursary recipients. Two awards of \$1000 were presented to children of WWNS members to assist them in their studies.

- Liam Kell, Son of WWNS member Rob Kell, who is enrolled in Civil Engineering at Dalhousie University.
- Ryan Harris, son of WWNS member Robert Harris, who is enrolled in Automotive Repair program at NSCC Burrige Campus in Yarmouth.



**Liam Kell**



**Ryan Harris (right) and WWNS Board Member Emery Peters**

## **Malfunction Replacement Design - Section 73 of the Standard Clarification**

Clarification has been provided on Section 73 of the Standard that under Notification, if a P.Eng must design a malfunction replacement system that cannot meet all clearance distances, then the design flow must not exceed the existing requirements of the property (minimum 500 litres/day). If the design flow being proposed exceeds the current requirements of the property (example 1000 litres/day for a one bedroom house) and cannot meet all clearance distances, then an application must be made for Approval.

## **Inspection, Repair and Remediation of Peat Systems**

Concerns have been raised by a Peat System Manufacturer that unauthorized maintenance or remediation of peat systems could result in substandard repairs or cause damage to the peat media.

As a best practice, anyone performing work on a peat system or other ATU (designing, installing, remediating or inspecting) should contact the manufacturer to confirm the procedures and materials they are using are correct.

## **Documentation to Support Lot Assessments for Subdivision**

As outlined in Sections 20 - 22 of the On-site Sewage Disposal System Regulations, there are a number of requirements that must be met and supported with documentation when subdividing property.

As of March, 2017 NSE has made a form available which can be submitted by a Development Officer to NSE when requesting comment. The form is available at: [http://novascotia.ca/nse/water/docs/RequestforSubdivisionComment\\_March2017.pdf](http://novascotia.ca/nse/water/docs/RequestforSubdivisionComment_March2017.pdf)

## **Installer & Qualified Person Training**

During 2017, WWNS coordinated two **Installer** training courses. The courses were held at Best Western Glengarry in Truro with a total of 36 persons attending the Installer training course. A Qualified Person course was held in April with 17 persons attending. To register for Qualified Person or Installer training, contact the office of WWNS.

*As of May 2016 to become Certified as an **Installer**, applicants must successfully complete the Installer training course and have 1000 hours of work experience in the on-site sewage industry, including the installation of at least 6 systems. **Qualified Persons** must also have successfully completed the Qualified Person training.*

## **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 continue to expand the use of email to provide this service in order to cut down on postage costs. If there are changes to your postal or email address, please let us know, so that you do not miss any mailouts.
2. New On-site Sewage Regulations can be found at  
<http://www.novascotia.ca/just/regulations/regs/envsewage.htm>
3. On-Site Sewage disposal Systems Standard can be found at  
<http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/wastewater/docs/on-site-sewage-disposal-systems-standard.pdf>
4. A list of Certified people can be found on NSE's website at  
<https://www.novascotia.ca/nse/cms/search.asp>
5. Please visit the WWNS website to check your Professional Development Point totals. Members of WWNS should verify that their contact information displayed on the Members Page is correct.
6. Please find included with this newsletter:  
**2018 WWNS Membership Application**  
[http://wwns.ca/UserFiles/file/WWNS membership form 2018.pdf](http://wwns.ca/UserFiles/file/WWNS%20membership%20form%202018.pdf)
7. The latest **newsletter** can always be found on the WWNS website.