



**Waste Water Nova Scotia**  
60 Kyle Road  
Greenwood  
Pictou Co., NS, B2H 5C7  
Phone: 902-246-2131 Fax: 902-246-2130  
Email: wastewaterns@eastlink.ca

---

*May 2017*

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

---

Over the past year, WWNS and its Board of Directors continued to work hard to ensure the professionalism of your industry. Some of the things we have been involved in are as follows:

1. **Delivery of Regional Meetings:** January, February and early March of 2017, WWNS held a total of 14 Regional meetings in a number of locations around the province to inform Industry of proposed changes to the onsite program and revisions to the delivery model used by Nova Scotia Environment. These meetings continue to be well attended by all members of the industry and are a great forum to provide the membership with updates, coming changes and general discussion of current issues seen in the field.
2. **Participation in the Home Show:** WWNS once again set up an educational booth at the Halifax Home Show in late March 2017. This gave WWNS the opportunity to promote the QP, Installer, Septic Pumper, Portable Restroom Operator and Septic Bed Flusher programs as they are delivered across the province. It also provided an opportunity to educate the public at large regarding on-site services. Hundreds of people attended the display.
3. **Training:** During 2016 there continued to be a great demand for training within the industry. 56 applicants attended the Installer training course, and a number of septic pumpers and portable restroom operators received training. WWNS coordinated a training course for the re-inspection of existing onsite septic systems which saw 24 individual complete this program. WWNS also completed the new Pumper training material and is now ready for distribution to new entrants.
4. **Newsletter:** WWNS compiled and distributed three newsletters to members over the past year. The purpose of the newsletters was to keep industry informed on what is going on and to solicit feedback from industry on any concerns seen within the industry.
5. **Bursary Awards:** 2016 saw the expanded WWNS Educational Bursary program award all three available WWNS bursaries.

6. **Septic Pumping Expo:** The septic pumping expo continues to grow and provides another forum for discussion and learning. We are always looking for suggestions to provide better and broader information, so if anyone has suggestions please advance them to WWNS, while it may look easy to come up with topics it is not. Suggestions are greatly welcomed.
7. **WWNS Board of Directors and Executive Director:** Over the past year your Board of Director's and your Executive Director continued to work in your best interest and have provided me with the support to carry out my job as Chair of WWNS. To all of them a hardy Thank-you and I look forward to continuing to work with all of them.

In closing, the association has come a long way in the last 20 years or so, and the changes and upgrades continue to be applied to the program in consultation between the NSE and WWNS. We continue to strive for the betterment of the industry and protection of the public and environment but it takes a great effort by all. Involvement of the membership is imperative to continue to move forward with positive changes. Your suggestions and ideas are all welcomed so please get involved.

Thank you.

Steven R. Williams, P.Eng  
Chair, WWNS

### **SEPTIC PUMPING EXPO**

WWNS held its third annual Septic Pumping Expo at the Best Western Glengarry on April 07. Septic Pumpers, Portable Restroom Operators and other industry members from across Nova Scotia along with guests from New Brunswick, PEI, and Ontario were treated to presentations on **Workers Compensation – Jennifer Clarke**, **Halifax Water Septage Receiving Program – Shawn Rowe** and **Options for Septage Disposal in NS - Bob Rowe**, along with time to network with others in the industry and view the displays provided by the suppliers.

### **2017 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Waste Water Nova Scotia closed out the year with its Annual General Meeting, held in Truro on April 08. Discussions were held on septic system monitoring by *Kelly Galloway - **Septic Sitter***; a solar powered waste water treatment system, **REGEN**, being tested in Truro – *Becca Connolly*, **Island Water Technologies**; as well as a reminder to work safe from the **NS Trucking Safety Association – Linda Corkum & Gary Hunt**

Thank you to all the **Exhibitors** who participated in the trade show portion of our Expo & AGM this year. We were happy to welcome a number of new Exhibitors as well as those returning Exhibitors who continue to support WWNS and its membership. We look forward to seeing you again next year.

Congratulations as well to the winners of the many door prizes which were donated by the Exhibitors and WWNS.

If you have any suggestions for speakers or topics for either of these events in the future or would like to be part of a planning committee, please contact the office of WWNS or your area representative.



## FRIEND OF THE INDUSTRY AWARD

Each year, WWNS looks to recognize someone for their contribution towards the betterment of the on-site sewage industry in Nova Scotia.

WWNS was pleased to present the 2017 Friend of the Industry award to **Allan Baird**, recognizing his effort and dedication to the on-site sewage program.

Allan has volunteered his time to serve on many Boards over the years including WWNS, SPANS, On-site Services Minister's Advisory Board and Portable Sanitation Association International to name a few.

Please see the thank you note below from Allan to WWNS.

### *Baird's Septic Tank Pumping Ltd*

45 Old Tatamagouche Rd South,  
Upper Onslow, Nova Scotia, B6L 5K1  
902-895-8559 ~ baird@seasidehighspeed

April 11, 2017

Waste Water Nova Scotia Society  
60 Kyle Rd.,  
Greenwood, NS  
B2H 5C7

Dear Members of the Board,

I am a person of few words....until you get me cranked up! If someone was to speak out of term about any of my fellow Pumpers or Restroom Operators in our Industry, I will speak up to protect anyone in our Industry.

I wish to THANK YOU for the Prestigious Honour of being awarded the Friend of the Industry Award. Thank you Gary for your kind words. I am very honoured.

I am not resigning, however it is time for younger blood to fill my place at the board table. I kindly ask that if any of our Pumper or Portable Restroom members think they are willing to fill my boots. My feet are tired, we need someone with new boots that can run faster than me!

If you are interested call me and I may even nominate you.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Allan Baird".

Allan R Baird  
WWNS Director,  
representing Pumpers and Portable Restroom Operators

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Three Board seats were offered for election at the AGM resulting in a change of Director for the HRM area. The Board of Directors welcomes **Emery Peters** to the table as they continue to work for the betterment of the on-site industry in Nova Scotia. WWNS would like to thank outgoing Director **Gary Hines** for 20 years of service volunteering and adding his expertise to the Board.

## **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. Along with the University and College Bursaries, the program was expanded last year to include a third award for students attending a trades related course. 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](http://www.wwns.ca) . Applications must be received by August 15.

## **INSPECTION, COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT**

### **2016 Statistics related to Notifications / Approvals**

Number of Approvals issued in 2016	642
Number of Notifications	1145
Number of subdivision reviews	711
Totals	2498**

(\*\* Notification available as of May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016)

Number of Audits related to Approvals	334 (19%)
Warnings	19
Directives	16
Summary Offence Tickets	3
Long form/Ministerial Audits	7

### **2016 Compliance and enforcement not related to Approvals**

Inspections Completed	283
(141 related to malfunctions/release of substance)	
Warnings	13
Directives	62
Summary offense tickets	3
Long form/Ministerial Audits	7

## CHANGES TO THE ON-SITE PROGRAM (Source NSE)

### **Reminder: On-site Sewage Systems Standard changes**

- Minor revisions to the On-site Sewage Disposal Systems Standard came into effect **May 1, 2017**.
- The changes were made to improve clarity, confirm applicability and simplify some requirements of the Standard.
- One of the most significant revisions was to remove the requirement for septic tank and pump chamber riser covers to be installed a minimum of 100 mm (4”) above finished grade. The revised Standard allows risers to be installed at or above finished grade to maintain ease of location and access for pumping and maintenance.
- Please refer to the, “Onsite Sewage Standard table of revisions” for a detailed list of the revisions including implications and justification @ <https://novascotia.ca/nse/wastewater/docs/Onsite-Sewage-Standard-table-of-revisions.pdf> .
- The revised Standard is available online @ <https://novascotia.ca/nse/wastewater/On.site.Sewage.Disposal.Standard.asp>

### **Subdivision process change**

- NSE is improving consistency related to the subdivision process and submission documents for subdivision proposals under the *On-Site Sewage Disposal Systems Regulations*.
- Although subdivision proposals including an on-site system require NSE’s comment, they’re approved by Municipalities under the *Provincial Subdivision Regulations* (available @ <http://www.novascotia.ca/just/regulations/regs/mgsubdiv.htm> )
- **Municipal Development Officers (DOs)** have been asked to submit the **complete subdivision package to NSE**, including:
  - QP or P.Eng. lot assessment report (sketch of lot(s) including test pit information, lot layout including clearance distances, etc.)
- **Qualified Person’s & Professional Engineers:**
  - Please **submit your lot assessment report** to the **Municipal DO**.
  - **Do not submit your subdivision lot assessments directly to NSE.**
  - Use **submission details form** (available @ <http://novascotia.ca/nse/water/docs/Onsite-submission-details-for-applications-for-approval.pdf> ) or your own template provided all required information is included.
  - If you want to receive a copy of NSE’s return correspondence, please request return correspondence as part of your submission, including your contact information (email or mailing address).

## MEMBERSHIP

If you have purchased a **2017** membership in WWNS, your name and contact information will be displayed on the Members page of the Waste Water Nova Scotia website. **Please take a moment to ensure the information is correct.** If you did not yet renew your 2017 membership, the form can be printed from the website or is available from the office. (*Please note – your membership in Waste Water Nova Scotia is not a license.*)

As a member of WWNS, you are now able to create your own webpage which will be linked to your contact information on the WWNS website to provide more details about your business and the services you offer. The login address is: <http://wwns.ca/members/login.php>

To login, you will be asked to provide your member number which is the 5 digit member id # (Mbr Id) on your **2017** membership receipt and a password which is your last name. Login, fill in the information, and click the **UPDATE** button to activate your page.

## 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 2017 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. Look for the next edition, including *upcoming meeting dates*, to be out by December 2017.
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>
9. The new fillable forms can be found at <http://novascotia.ca/nse/wastewater/regulations.tech.guidelines.asp>

## WATERCOURSE ALTERATION CERTIFICATION TRAINING

Maritime College of Forest Technology has announced additional workshops for Nova Scotia Watercourse Alteration Certification for Sizers and Installers. These sessions will be held in Truro at the Best Western Glengarry Hotel.

The Sizers training will take place from June 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Class will begin at 8:30 AM on June 19<sup>th</sup> and end at noon on June 21<sup>st</sup>. Course info is available at:

[http://mcft.ca/attachments/NSWAC\\_Sizers-TR\(Jun\\_19-21\).pdf](http://mcft.ca/attachments/NSWAC_Sizers-TR(Jun_19-21).pdf)

The Installers training will take place from June 21<sup>st</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017. Class will begin at 1:00 PM on June 21<sup>st</sup> and end at noon on June 23<sup>rd</sup>. Course info is available at:

[http://mcft.ca/attachments/NSWAC\\_Installers-TR\(Jun\\_21-23\).pdf](http://mcft.ca/attachments/NSWAC_Installers-TR(Jun_21-23).pdf)

For more information or to register, contact **Todd MacPherson**, Supervisor of Continuing Education, Maritime College of Forest Technology at (office) 506 458 0649 (cell) 506 476 8294 or visit their website at [www.mcft.ca](http://www.mcft.ca).

**Waste Water Nova Scotia Society**  
**Annual General Meeting Minutes (April 08, 2017)**

- Discussion - issues with enforcement of QP & Engineer's responsibility related to the 24 hour construction alert
  - Questions re: QP role in program and Engineers NS allegations
  - Larry Deveau thinks Engineers on the WWNS Board of Directors are in conflict of interest
  - Emery Peters raised concerns regarding conflict that's being created within WWNS membership because of Engineers NS allegations directed at the QP. Emery emphasized the need to continue to work together as an association that represents all certified people including QPs and Engineers equally.
  
  - Friend of the industry award for 2017 was presented to Allan Baird.
1. Approval of minutes – Fred Dunphy motion to approve, seconded by Ed Weaver, approved
  2. Business arising from minutes? – No response
  3. New Business arising? – No new business
  4. Financial report review by Gary Cameron, no questions, Paul Sinclair motion to approve, seconded by Emery Peters, approved
  5. Appointment of auditors – Matt Collins motion to approve, seconded by Allan Baird, approved
  6. Terms of Reference & Code of Ethics, show of hands, no one against. Accepted.
  7. Nomination of directors – Emery Peters nominated by Lawrence MacDonald for Halifax Co, Gary Hines stepped down, Emery Peters appointed. No other nominations
  8. Chairman's annual report read by Gary Hines
  9. Bursary program updates
  10. Pumper/cleaner expo
  11. Looking for collaboration on next year's events!
  12. Door prizes

Respectfully submitted by Leah Boutilier