

# MAINE



# WATER

# NEWS

March 2009

A Publication of the Maine Water Utilities Association

Number 144

## Maine WARN & Other Updates

John B. Storer, P.E., President

Got WARN??? Would you like to join? Ever heard of it? A hot topic for both water and wastewater utilities should be Maine's WARN effort. 'WARN' is an acronym for Water and Wastewater Agency Response Network, which is basically an intrastate mutual aid system based on the premise of "utilities helping utilities".

Events such as 9/11, Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005, and severe flooding throughout the country in 2007 demonstrated that, during times of crisis, water and wastewater utilities should look to one another, instead of the federal government, for assistance. EPA specifically stated that "*the mission of WARN is to provide expedited access to specialized resources needed to respond to and recover from natural and human caused events that disrupt public and private drinking water and wastewater utilities.*"

So where do things stand in Maine? A Steering Committee was formed in late 2007, tasked with bringing a Maine WARN system to life. The Committee immediately got to work and even received an Environmental Merit Award from EPA Region 1 in April 2008 for their efforts. A Mutual Aid Agreement (MAA) was developed and subjected to intense legal review to identify any issues or liability concerns for a utility to leave their territorial boundary to go provide assistance to another location. The State Attorney General's Office even weighed in to make sure we understood how Maine's Tort Claims Act would cover utilities. I don't claim to be an attorney, but all those legal issues were finally addressed and Maine ended 2008 as the 36<sup>th</sup> State to formally adopt a WARN MAA.

To date the Steering Committee has finalized the MAA and an Operational Plan; now our goal is to develop a website and get the message out to all the utilities. It's important to note that Maine WARN is not an association

or an organization, it's simply an agreement. You can join simply by signing on. We want you!!!

There is no cost to join the Maine WARN. If you become a member there is no commitment or obligation to implement the WARN. It is entirely voluntarily. You may ask for emergency assistance or provide assistance at your discretion. If assistance is provided or requested, the operational plan predetermines how costs, responsibilities, etc. are shared.

Some key highlights or features are:

- Get help from other utilities when an emergency occurs;
- No obligation to respond – voluntary program;
- Cost reimbursement will be provided for assistance provided to another water or wastewater utility;
- Streamlined FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) reimbursement for covered damages and emergency response activities;
- Quick and organized access to additional resources (heavy equipment, generators, personnel, etc.);
- An online database of other utilities' resources; and
- Private and public water and wastewater systems may participate.

By the time of this publication we should have developed a "Welcome Packet" for new utilities. Keep your eyes peeled for [www.MEWARN.org](http://www.MEWARN.org). But until that site is up and running please check in with the MWUA home office or website. You will have several training opportunities in 2009 on Maine WARN through MWUA, MRWA, and MWWCA.

Special thanks need to go to Norm Labbe from Kennebunk, Kennebunkport & Wells Water District and Andrea Powers from the Town of Washburn. They were the first two Maine WARN chairs, and we wouldn't have reached this point without their guidance and leadership.

On to a few other items. Please keep your eyes peeled for MWUA's inaugural Drinking Water Week newspaper supplement. Drinking Water Week 2009 is scheduled to run May 3 thru May 9, and our newspaper supplement should start to appear in all 7 of Maine's daily

Maine Water News  
is published bimonthly by  
Maine Water Utilities Association  
Jeffrey L. McNelly, Editor  
P.O. Box P  
Waldoboro, Maine 04572-0917  
(207) 832-2263  
(207) 832-2265 FAX  
website: www.mwua.org

Material of interest to the water supply profession will be considered for publication. Copy deadline is the 15<sup>th</sup> day of month preceding publication.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**President**

**John Storer**  
*Auburn Water & Sewerage District*

**First Vice President**

**Kathy Moriarty**  
*Bangor Water District*

**Second Vice President**

**Steve Cox**  
*Aqua Maine, Inc.*

**William G. Alexander, Jr.**

*Brunswick and Topsham Water District*

**Jeffrey LaCasse**

*Kennebec Water District*

**Education and Operations Committee**

*Chair: Dan Wells*  
*Winthrop Utilities District*

**Legislative and Regulatory Affairs Committee**

*Chair: David Parent*  
*Sanford Water District*

**Nominating Committee**

*Chair: David Parent*  
*Sanford Water District*

**Program Committee**

*Chair: Jefferson Longfellow*  
*Kennebec Water District*

**Public Awareness Committee**

*Co-Chair: Mary Jane Dillingham*  
*Auburn Water & Sewerage District*  
*Co-Chair: Kirsten Ness, Portland Water District*

**Water Resources Committee**

*Paul Hunt*  
*Portland Water District*

**Water use Efficiency Committee**

*Co-Chair Ryan Lynch*  
*York Water District*  
*Co-Chair Jim Wallace*  
*Portland Water District*

*(continued from Page 1)*

papers beginning Friday, May 1. Thanks to the Public Awareness Committee for educating people to the importance of safe drinking water. They are definitely meeting their mission by making the 'public aware'.

We just successfully completed our 83<sup>rd</sup> February Meeting and Trade Show. A few 'tweaks' were implemented this year with the addition of a well-attended Energy Conclave on the second day. Education sessions continue to be well-attended and provide diverse opportunities for our operators to pick up valued TCH's. Please rest assured that work is already well underway to make the 84<sup>th</sup> Show even better. You may notice that "February" was omitted when referring to the 84<sup>th</sup> Show. There is a chance the date could be moved. MWUA continues to seek partnering opportunities for training with our wastewater brothers and sisters and perhaps a joint show is in the future!?! Stay tuned!

Lastly, some numbers seem to be coming forward on the drinking water front from President Obama's stimulus package, more formally known as the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). According to Andy Begin, Chief Engineer at the Maine Drinking Water Program, the DWP received an extra \$18.72 million for their SRF in 2009 through the ARRA. Of this amount, \$9.75 million must be in the form of principal forgiveness. Combined with their regular 2009 Capitalization Grant & State Match of \$7.4 million, and the 'revolving' money of \$12 million, they expect to have access to approximately \$38.1 million for 2009 SRF projects.

**The February Meeting**

Once again, the trek was made to Portland for the annual February Meeting and Trade Show. With the economy being what it is there was a good deal of speculation and even some angst as to how things might go. The format of the conference had been changed and the Program Committee and Directors were curious to see how successful that might or might not be.

The conference changes included an adjustment of trade show hours, and splitting the two days up so that there was opportunity for attendees to avail themselves of training and the trade show on either day. There was a conscious and focused effort to bring substantive information to the profession on the infrastructure and energy fronts.

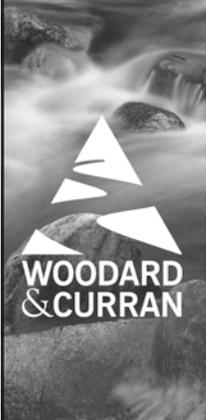
The verdict? Some people liked it and some people were not so enamored with it. The February Meeting needs to meet the needs of the members – and those demographics are changing. Things that were learned this year will be incorporated and the foundation will be built on. The committee and Directors are already well underway in this effort. Watch for developing news.

### Third Legislative Breakfast a Success

On February 4<sup>th</sup> the Maine Wastewater Control Association, the New England Water Environment Association and MWUA sponsored a breakfast for members of the Maine Legislature. The focus of the meeting was the need for water and wastewater infrastructure upgrade and replacement and, specifically, the gap between the need and current funding levels. MWWCA President Tom Wiley, NEWEA Government Affairs Chair Adam Yanulis and MWUA President John Storer each did an excellent job of describing the activities the organizations are involved in to move this important initiative forward.

Paul Rodriguez, who played a large role in organizing the event and served as moderator, fielded a variety of questions from Maine's lawmakers. It was obvious, from the dialogue, that the legislators appreciate the importance of Maine's water and wastewater facilities.

This opportunity to present the facts to new representatives and reinforce our message with veteran legislators will pay dividends in the future.



Proud supporters of the Maine Water Utilities Association, celebrating Woodard & Curran's 30 years of comprehensive water solutions for the Maine communities we serve.

- water treatment & design
- process management
- master planning
- wellhead protection
- watershed resource planning
- hydrogeology
- disinfection
- training/O&M services

800.426.4262  
woodardcurran.com

**COMMITMENT & INTEGRITY DRIVE RESULTS**



### Welded Steel Water Storage Tanks

**Glenn W. Rhines**  
*Sales Manager  
Northern Region*

Tel: +1 724 933 4457  
Fax: +1 724 933 4488  
Cell: +1 412 389 5868

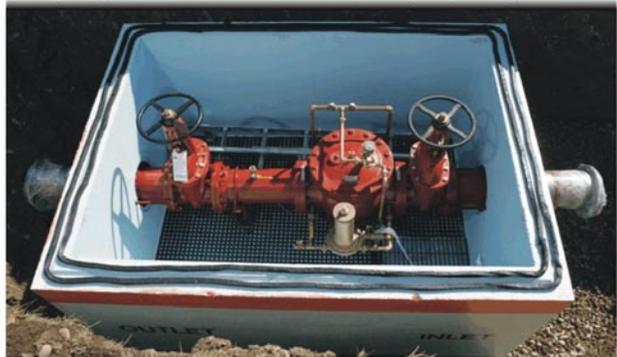
www.CBI.com  
grhines@CBI.com

CBI  
Blaymore II, Suite 201  
1603 Carmody Court  
Sewickley, PA 15143-8566  
USA



PO Box 595, Troy, NY 12180  
Phone: 518.274.0961  
WWW.ROSSVALVE.COM

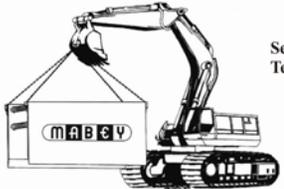
Ross Valve, the local control valve expert since 1879, now offers the quality and convenience of affordable pre-packaged vaults.



### Go Down Safely with ...Mabey Bridge & Shore, Inc.

221 SW Cutoff (Route 20)  
Worcester, MA 01604

Sean McGee Ryan McLellan  
Tel. 203-537-7485 Tel. 508-754-0300



CALL FOR:

- TRENCHBOXES
- ROADPLATES
- SITE BRIDGES
- ALUMINUM SHORING
- PIPE PLUGS
- STEEL SHEET PILING
- HYDRAULIC WALER FRAMES
- MABEY ROAD MATS



Mabey Rents A Full Range of Shoring Systems to Meet Your Needs  
**www.mabey.com 800-956-2239**

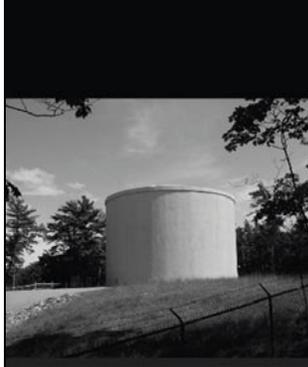
### Maine Water Works Supply Corp.

Water, Sewer & Drain Materials  
Quality Services



800-639-2209 781-878-8098  
Oakland, ME Rockland, MA

### John Hoadley and Sons, Inc.



### NATGUN

Prestressed Concrete Water Storage Tanks

Chris Hodgson • Regional Manager  
11 Teal Road  
Wakefield, MA 01880  
p: 781-246-1133  
chodgson@natgun.com  
www.natgun.com

**Redlon & Johnson**  
Partnering with Professionals

For Sales Contact Don Holley  
Commercial - Municipal Pump Div.  
Portland, Maine  
(207) 773-4755 Ext. 184  
(800) 492-0817

**Lineshaft Turbine Pumps**  
**Submersible Turbine Pumps**  
**Centrifugal Pumps**  
**Waste Water Pumps**

**GOULDS PUMPS**

### In Memoriam - Eddie J. Lapointe

Eddie J. Lapointe, 85, formerly of Sanford, died Tuesday, January 27, 2009, at Penobscot Bay Medical Center in Rockport, after a brief illness. He was born in Sanford on March 9, 1923, and was educated in Sanford schools. He was a World War II, U S Army veteran.

Eddie married Lillian C. Senechal on July 13, 1946, in Sanford, where the couple made their home until moving to South Thomaston in 2002. He worked as a Foreman with the Sanford Water District for more than 20 years.

He was a longtime member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Thomas W. Cole American Legion Post No. 19, and a 4th degree life member of the Knights of Columbus.

Eddie enjoyed playing cribbage, golfing and fishing; spending time with his family was of utmost importance to him.

He is survived by his wife of 62 years of South Thomaston, three daughters and their husbands, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and nieces and nephews.

### Maine Fish and Wildlife Magazine Now on Line

Growing up in Maine, it was always a good day when the Maine Fish & Wildlife Magazine showed up in the mailbox. This periodical, which is published four times a year by IF&W's Public Information and Education Division, is full of interesting articles on Maine's critters. Not only is it of interest to younger folks, but it contains much information that the more seasoned reader will enjoy.

Check it out at

<http://www.state.me.us/ifw/magazine/index.htm>.

### Operator Positions Open on the Coast

Currently there are two positions open for operators, one of them being at the Great Salt Bay Sanitary District in Damariscotta (GSBSD) and the other being at the Passamaquoddy Water District in Eastport.

The GSBSD opening is for a full time operator to work in both the water and the wastewater divisions. The successful candidate is required to develop competence as a licensed professional through training provided by the district.

The Passamaquoddy job is for a Class IV Plant Operator. A four-year technical degree is preferred, as is prior experience working in a water treatment plant. A valid class IV operator's license or ability to obtain one within 18 months of hire is required.

Additional specific details for both jobs can be found on the MWUA website at:

[http://www.mwua.org/employment\\_opportunity.htm](http://www.mwua.org/employment_opportunity.htm)

**Kleinschmidt**  
40 YEARS  
1966 - 2006

Providing excellence in water resource engineering, science and planning for over 40 years.

- Watershed Studies
- Wetland Studies
- Fisheries Studies
- Recreation Studies
- Civil/Site Engineering
- Permitting

Visit us online at  
[www.KleinschmidtUSA.com](http://www.KleinschmidtUSA.com)

Maine Municipal Bond Bank  
Making a Difference for Maine's communities.

WASTEWATER FACILITIES • DRINKING WATER FACILITIES

- Interim Loans
- Below Market Interest Rates
- Free Reliable Financial Advice
- Flexible Financing Schedule

**SRF**  
State Revolving Loan Fund

3 University Drive • P.O. Box 2268 • Augusta ME • 04333 • (800) 821-1113 • [www.mmbb.com](http://www.mmbb.com)

**Call to schedule your FREE, on-site, portable equipment demonstration**

efficiency MAINE

Ingersoll Rand Authorized Distributor

**TRASK-DECROW MACHINERY**  
The Power Behind Your Process

1-800-287-1538 • www.trask-decrow.com

Interest-Free Financing Available



## Our experience runs deep.

When you need to focus more on your goals and less on your obstacles, we can help you develop effective legal strategies to meet your needs, from operational to legislative. For more information, please contact William S. Harwood or James I. Cohen.

## Verrill Dana<sub>LLP</sub>

Attorneys at Law

Supporting the business of New England for nearly 150 years.

One Portland Square • Portland, ME 04112-0586  
207-774-4000 • www.verrilldana.com  
Augusta • Boston • Hartford • Washington, DC

### Introduction to Computers Sessions to be Featured in Three Locations

With increasing frequency, system operators are being asked to rely on laptops to access system records, to

record and manage data on spreadsheets and to perform other computer related functions. For a number of months the Education and Operations Committee has been discussing the need for basic computer training. This training would introduce operators and others to what can be perceived as foreign, mysterious, or even scary - and then dispel those concerns.

The committee has succeeded in their venture.

Introduction to Computers for Water & Wastewater System Operators will cover the basics and more. It is being held as a series of four, 3 - hour sessions at three of the Community College locations: in Auburn, Bangor and Calais. Completion of the course will not make one an expert, but it will provide the tools needed to drive the technology.

Each student will have access to a computer, which means space is limited. A training manual is also included and the price is a bargain. Brochures have been mailed out; the information can also be found on the website at [www.mwua.org](http://www.mwua.org).

Register early to avoid being disappointed.

RELIABLE SERVICE  
PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS

SERVING MAINE'S  
WATER AND  
WASTEWATER  
INDUSTRIES FOR MORE  
THAN 20 YEARS.

**DIRIGO ENGINEERING**

2 DIRIGO DRIVE  
FAIRFIELD, ME 04937  
(207) 453-2401

Recognized for Engineering Excellence  
Selected for Service & Value

Serving Maine water utilities for over 60 years.

Topsham & Portland  
888.621.8156

**WRIGHT-PIERCE** Engineering a Better Environment

Water Wastewater Infrastructure

Offices throughout New England | [www.wright-pierce.com](http://www.wright-pierce.com)

**Ti-SALES INC**  
**FAMOUS FOR FAST SERVICE**

NEPTUNE FORD AVK VALVES & HYDRANTS  
 Carus Phosphates LMI Pumps Manhole Risers

Look for your Account Manager Steve Clements  
 207-215-4678 / 800-225-4616  
 Email: [sclements@tisaes.com](mailto:sclements@tisaes.com)  
[www.tisaes.com](http://www.tisaes.com)

**Weston&Sampson®**  
 environmental/infrastructure consultants

call: 1-800-SAMPSON  
[www.westonandsampson.com](http://www.westonandsampson.com)

P.O. Box 189, York, ME 03909  
 1-800-SAMPSON

- water • wastewater • stormwater • solid waste • hazardous waste
- site development • geotechnical engineering • environmental engineering
- structural design & engineering • information technology
- construction management • site assessment & remediation
- landscape architecture • facility design • renewable energy

**When it's essential...it's Weston&Sampson.®**  
 Offices throughout the Northeast and in Florida

**Water Bills Dominate Legislative Happenings**

Fourteen pieces of legislation, all having to do with water, are expected to be dealt with in the Maine Legislature this session.

The bills share many similarities but, for the most part, they deal with two fundamental issues: who owns the water and who gets to use the water?

Many, if not most, of the provisions of the bills printed target efforts of Poland Spring to access groundwater supplies in Southern Maine and then transport that water to their bottling facilities.

LD 55 An Act to Prohibit the Commercial Sale of Water by a Water District and LD 238 An Act Regarding Consumer-owned Water Utilities and Contracts for Water Extraction and for the Sale of Water were recently heard by the Utilities and Energy Committee. Work sessions have been held and the committee is still in deliberations.

It appears that the purpose of LD 55 is to provide for additional review or regulation of the commercial sale of water by a water district to an entity outside of its territory.

LD 238 was specifically submitted in response to the aborted attempt of Poland Spring and the Kennebunk, Kennebunkport & Wells Water District to enter into a partnership for the sale of spring water owned by KKW. This bill would require a public hearing and majority approval of voters, through a referendum process, for any “extraordinary contract”. The definition of “extraordinary contract” would include some very ordinary customers of many water utilities.

Two other bills that have recently been printed would grant municipalities more authority over groundwater extraction. Yet another printed would place groundwater in the “public trust”, i.e. transfer ownership from the landowner to the state.

MWUA representatives recently met with both Democrat and Republican Leadership. There had been some discussion of combining the bills into one vehicle or having a study group meet between sessions and come back during the Second Session with a recommendation. Given all that is happening, it has been decided that the bills would all be referred to committee (probably the Natural Resources Committee) and that each would have a hearing.

The association will continue to follow these legislative initiatives and make every effort to minimize the collateral damage.

PIPELINE SPECIALISTS

**TEAM EJP**

Harnessing the power of water.

1-800-EJP-24HR  
 (357-2447)  
[www.ejprescott.com](http://www.ejprescott.com)

WATER, SEWER, DRAIN & STORM WATER SOLUTIONS

**Specialized Insurance Program for Water Districts**

**ENTERING**  
 A Community METROGARD  
 METROGARD

- ♦ Property
- ♦ Casualty
- ♦ Workers' Compensation

Ann Roemer, Regional Marketing Manager  
 800.444.3916 x 696  
[www.metrogard.com](http://www.metrogard.com)

Host: Richmond Utilities District, *Mike Broadbent, Superintendent*

Location: The Old Goat – 33 Main Street in Richmond. (207) 737-4628

**PROGRAM**

- 7:30 - 8:30 Breakfast and Registration
- 8:30 - 8:45 Introduction - Welcome to Richmond  
*Jay Robbins – Richmond Historian*
- 8:45 - 9:00 Regulatory update – *Roger Crouse - Director ME DWP*

**TECHNICAL PROGRAM**

- 9:00 - 9:10 History & System Overview  
*Mike Broadbent – Richmond Utilities District Superintendent*
- 9:10 -9:30 Legislative Update
- 9:30-10:45 *Current Issues with Fire Protection Systems-Manager/Operator Forum*
  - 1. Commercial Fire Protection Systems
  - 2. Residential Fire Protection Systems
- 10:45-11:00 Break
- 11:00-12:30 *Forum Continued...*
  - 3. Disconnection of Fire Protection
  - 4. Backflow Prevention and Fire Protection Systems
- 12:30 - 2:00 Lunch Buffet and Awards Presentation.

**John Storer**  
*President*

**Brian Tarbuck, Jeff LaCasse, Mike Broadbent & Rick Anair**  
*Program Coordinators*

**3.0 Training Contact Hours will be granted for this session. (Pending approval)**

**PLEASE RETURN RESERVATIONS BY WEDNESDAY, April 1ST, 2009**  
**PREPAYMENT IS APPRECIATED. RESERVATIONS MUST BE HONORED.**

-----  
**Registration form for MWUA April 9th, 2009 Membership Meeting**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

<i>Water Systems serving <u>more</u> than 4000 Customers</i>	<b>\$40</b>	
<i>Water Systems serving <u>less</u> than 4000 Customers</i>	<b>\$30</b>	
		<b>Total enclosed: _____</b>

**Note: Attendance will be limited to 70 people.**

Maine Water Utilities Association • P.O. Box P • Waldoboro, ME 04572-0917 • TEL (207) 832-2263 • FAX (207) 832- 2265



**A.E. Hodsdon**  
Consulting Engineers  
10 Common Street  
Waterville, Maine 04901  
Tel. (207) 873-5164  
Fax. (207) 872-0645

E-mail: [aeheng@prexar.com](mailto:aeheng@prexar.com)  
[www.aehodsdon.com](http://www.aehodsdon.com)

Water Systems, Storage & Treatment	Rate Studies
Hydrology/Hydrogeology	Water Operations
Construction Administration	Corrosion Control
DEP/EPA Permitting & Wetlands	Hydraulic Analysis

**Civil-Environmental Consultants**

## We've made your Water our Business

We know water, and we know the water business.  
Let Aquastore® be the only tank you'll ever need!



- Decades of experience
- Over 700 installations
- Applications from potable to leachate



**STATEWIDE**  
**AQUASTORE**

Statewide Aquastore, Inc. • 6010 Drott Drive • East Syracuse, NY 13057  
Phone: 315.433.2782 • Fax: 315.433.5083 • [www.besttank.com](http://www.besttank.com)