

NOVA SCOTIA GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION

Water



Talk

WELL DRILLERS – WELL DIGGERS – PUMP INSTALLERS – MANUFACTURERS & SUPPLIERS - TECHNICAL

Fall 2015

Who We Are

NSGWA is an Industry Association of five divisions: Well Driller's, Well Digger's, Pump Installers, Manufacturers and Suppliers and Technical. The Board of Director's consists of five volunteers and a Secretary-Treasurer. Our By-Laws, Memorandum of Association and Memorandum of Understanding with NS Environment can be found on our website: <<http://www.nsgwa.ca>>. We have a toll-free number (1-888-242-4440) to better serve you.

www.nsgwa.ca 119 Bakers Point Road, East Jeddore, NS B0J 1W0 1-888-242-4440

Message from the President

Hi everyone ... Here we are with the leaves changing already and winter just over the horizon. Hopefully you have had a great season!

New construction has been up and down in my area and I expect it is like that everywhere although I have dug more wells this year than normal. I have been finding that more people are looking for and requesting certified people to construct the wells. This makes it seem all worthwhile.

We had a great turnout for the AGM and regional meetings. We have had a lot of positive comments about it and hopefully we can follow a similar format next year. A special Thanks to Noreene who did an excellent job as always, without her it would not happen. The bands, "Ole Pals" were great! And how about Elvis and Johnny Cash who had everyone in stitches.

I want to welcome our new Board Members; **Greg Johnson as the Well Driller Director** and **Shawn Davidson as Director for Manufacturers and Suppliers**. Their knowledge and experience will be a great asset to our industry. I also want to thank our past directors; Steve Full, previous director for the Well Drillers and Paul Stephens, previous director for the

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Manufacturers and Directors for all their help and dedication over the past few years...! **Thanks Guys!!!**

The Fall Meeting is coming up on Saturday November 21, 2015 at the Best Western Plus Hotel and Suites, Dartmouth. This will give members and certified well contractors another chance to obtain CEP points before this year's end, which is the **end of the CEP 4 year cycle**. **If you are close on points you should attend this one**. For those who missed the regional meeting, our online session will be ready in November. Please follow up with the attachment ONLINE COURSE registration.

We are also considering adding a Water Treatment Division to the association and we would like some input on this avenue at the Fall Meeting if interested. Water treatment is the final handling of our potable water before the homeowners use and I believe it should be treated and regulated by qualified individuals. If you should have any concerns or comments on this or any other issues, you should attend the fall meeting on Saturday November 21, 2015.

John Kidson

NSGWA Chair

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Upcoming Events ...

NSGWA Fall Meeting

Saturday, November 21, 2015

Start: 1PM

Best Western Plus Hotel & Suites, Dartmouth
15 Spectacle Lake Drive, Dartmouth

Fall Meeting Agenda

(agenda subject to change)

Welcoming Remarks from NSE and NSGWA BoD

1. Review/Approval of Agenda
2. Review/Approval of 2015 AGM Meeting Minutes
3. Presentation
4. Break
5. Open floor for discussions
6. Other Business
7. Adjournment

There is **no pre-registration** for this meeting. **Blue book will be passed** around to be signed. **NON MEMBERS will be charged**

ONLINE Course – 2015 Regional's Please if you haven't already done so; send back Regional Online Form to NSGWA filled out and you will be contacted as to/how/when.

Membership login will be required for this course. If you are unsure of your membership number, please email or phone Noreene the NSGWA office.

"Lack of access to clean fresh water is considered to be one of the major threats to human health"

Groundwater: where is it?

In Canada, there is more water underground than there is on the surface. This subterranean water is known as groundwater. It collects in aquifers, formations of rock that yield water when tapped for a well. Groundwater often emerges naturally at the surface, forming a spring or flowing into a river or lake.

Who needs groundwater?

Approximately one in four Canadians (eight million people) rely exclusively on groundwater for their water needs, and about two-thirds of them live in rural areas. In addition to providing us with drinking water, groundwater is also used for livestock, irrigation, aquaculture and mineral and hydrocarbon extraction.

Prince Edward Island is entirely dependent on groundwater collected from sandstone aquifers. Municipalities that rely on groundwater are more vulnerable to water shortages than those drawing their supply from lakes or rivers.

Groundwater contamination

Groundwater is readily contaminated and extremely difficult — and, in some cases, impossible — to clean up. In Canada, groundwater-contamination problems are increasing, due to the growing number of toxic compounds used in industry and agriculture. The number of known contaminated aquifers is expected to rise in coming decades as more contaminated groundwater is discharged into lakes and rivers.

Gasoline storage tanks can leak and contaminate wells. Chemical leakage from landfills or industrial waste-disposal sites can also

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dirty groundwater. In 1990, for example, chemicals from a tire fire at Hagersville, Ont., threatened to seep into the region's groundwater. Agricultural runoff can also contaminate and in rural areas, scientists suspect that many residential wells are contaminated by chemicals from septic systems, used motor oil, road salt, fertilizer, pesticides and livestock waste, according to Natural Resources Canada.

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It's important to protect groundwater everywhere, because groundwater can travel hundreds of kilometers underneath the Earth's surface and eventually empty into lakes and rivers. Once contaminated, an aquifer may be spoiled for decades. Statistics Canada reports that mineral-extraction industries discharge 16 percent of their waste water into groundwater, and more than half that waste water is left untreated.

taken from "Protect your watershed" Canadian Geographic
canadiangeographic.ca

Letter from a Homeowner

Thank you very much for the conversation we had last week. I was very happy to have found the NS Ground Water Association website and to have been able to ask a few questions to you with regard to the drilling of our well. I am very pleased with our discussion and further realize how important the service your association offers. Before I had spoken with you, I was quite concerned about what our up-and-coming experience would be when we drill our well this year on Kennedy Hill Road in Central New Annan. I am certainly not an expert in this regard however I looked at the well log database and did some research around this particular area with regard to well water quality and depth to find.

We had been witness to unethical business practises to a neighbour in close vicinity who had a well drilled in 2014.

My conversation with you, Marie, has revived my hope we will have a great experience and not be faced by those who put this wonderful industry in disrepute. I commend you and your association for all the work you are doing for our communities. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jane and Brian

(emailed to NSGWA earlier this year, she mistook my name for Marie)



ATLANTIC WATER INVESTIGATIONS Est. 1993
LIMITED awil.ca
dean.walker@awil.ca

• Well Water & Septic Inspection
• Pipeline Video Inspection

829-2922
DEAN WALKER M.A.Sc., P.Geo.

In-Situ Geothermal Conductivity Earth Energy Testing
Drill/Dug Well Water Quantity & Quality Tests/Cleaning
QP2 Septic System Dye Test/Tank Locate/Smoke Blower
Water Leak Detection • Well Video Inspection
Radon Gas Monitors • Locate Buried Well Cables/Lines

2015 Awards Recipients*

A big round applause for the 2015 recipients who were recommended and received these awards...

WELL DRILLER: Jordan Rogers – Waterville, NS

WELL DIGGER: Robert MacFarland – Porter's Lake, NS

PUMP INSTALLER: Kevin Walsh – Antigonish, NS

FOUNDER'S: Heather Cross, Dartmouth, NS

Congratulations!!

****If you know of a water industry professional that has exceeded expectations or did a "good deed" for a homeowner in need, please contact the NSGWA and give the name of the professional for nominations for next year's Awards.****

On-Site Services Advisory Board Positions

The Province is currently seeking Nova Scotia's interested in serving on a number of Agencies, Boards and Commissions, including the Minister's On-Site Services Advisory Board (OSSAB). For more information on this opportunity or to submit an application, please contact Shawn Mosher (424-6654) or visit www.gov.ns.ca/exec_council/abc

Morning Chuckle

The Natives asked their Chief in Autumn if the Winter was going to be cold or not.

Not really knowing an answer, the chief replies that the Winter was going to be cold and that the members of the village were to collect wood to be prepared.

Being a good leader, he then went to the next phone booth and called the National Weather Service and asked, "Is this winter to be cold?"

The man on the phone responded, "This Winter is going to be quite cold indeed."

So the Chief went back to speed up his people to collect even more wood to be prepared. A week later he called the National Weather Service again, "Is it going to be a very cold winter?"

"Yes", the man replied, "it's going to be a very cold Winter."

So the Chief goes back to his people and orders them to go and find every scrap of wood they can find. Two weeks later he calls the National Weather Service again: "Are you absolutely sure that the Winter is going to be very cold?"

"Absolutely," the man replies, "the Natives are collecting wood like crazy!"

Board of Directors

The **Board of Directors of the NSGWA** are certified professionals and a dedicated group of individuals who volunteer their time to work with you "our members"; the Nova Scotia Environment and the Municipalities to ensure that your way of life and our most precious resource "**water**" is preserved and protected.

Your current Board of Directors are:

John Kidson, Chair; Director for the Well Diggers
Mark Verge, Vice; Director for the Pump Installers
Greg Johnson, Director for the Well Drillers,
Christopher Smith, Director for Technical

and last but not least

Shawn Davidson, Director for the Manufacturers and Suppliers

FOR SALE...

now that I have your attention

Do you have water industry related items for sale? Why not post in our newsletter? And in turn these items will be posted on our website for the rest of the world to see. Contact the NSGWA office to find out how...

Maritime Provinces 888-242-4440

Outside calls 902 845 1084

For Sale - 18 lengths of 3" stainless steel threaded drop pipe and couplings, new in crate: George Rudderham Well Drilling Ltd., Point Edward, N.S., B2A 4R3: Price on request

Your company ad could go here....

If interested in advertising please contact the NSGWA office for more information.