

SRPC Planning Board UPDATE

08/07/2018



1 The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) recently announced that funding is available through its 2019 Local Source Water Protection program. The funding supports the development and implementation of programs to protect existing sources of public drinking water. The grants are available to water suppliers, municipalities, regional planning agencies, non-profit organizations, educational institutions, conservation districts, and state agencies.

Applicants can receive up to \$20,000 for projects that protect drinking water sources, including watershed planning, delineation of protection areas, assessment of threats to water supply sources, “on the ground” implementation projects, and source security.

SRPC encourages communities looking to take advantage of this funding source to contact principal regional planner Kyle Pimental. SRPC has successfully partnered with multiple municipalities throughout the years to use funding through this program for a variety of projects. Most recently, staffers worked with Rochester and Dover to update water use restrictions and landscaping regulations, respectively.

Grant applications are due Nov. 1. Application packets are available online at:

https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/dwgb/dwspp/lswp_grants.htm

2 Save the date for the New Hampshire Municipal Lawyers Association/New Hampshire Municipal Association (NHMA) Governmental Meeting Disruptions workshop. The event, which takes place on Thursday, Sept. 6, from 2 – 4:15 p.m. at the NHMA offices in Concord, will address the national tenor of protest and disruptions that may manifest itself during local government meetings.

The seminar will allow for a discussion of conflicts between First Amendment rights and the need for governmental bodies to conduct their affairs efficiently and effectively. The workshop will include a presentation on legal and practical concerns, along with interactive discussions on the public’s right to speak, petition, and assemble at local government meetings and the proper nature of governmental body responses, such as postponement of the meeting or ejection of individuals. RSA 642:1 on Obstructing Government Administration will also be explained, and suggestions for practical guidance on handling disruptions will be discussed.

Interested parties can register at <https://nhmunicipal.wufoo.com/forms/governmental-meeting-disruptions/>.

Learn more at <https://www.nhmunicipal.org/Resources/Event/976>.