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Maine Water Environment Association

Local Government Center

60 Community Drive • Augusta, ME 04330

1-800-452-8786 (in Maine) • 207-623-8428 • Fax 207-624-0128

www.mewea.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

MARCH 12, 2020

The COVID-19 virus outbreak has gathered substantial media attention over the past weeks, with several organizations taking additional precaution over the past day. As such, MEWEA finds it prudent to update the membership on our current conversations regarding upcoming MEWEA events; we find it equally prudent to forward the general guidance from WEF, our parent association, for specific safety protocols for clean water facilities and water professionals, as well as general safety guidance from the Center for Disease Control.

UPCOMING MEWEA EVENTS NOTIFICATION

As of today, March 12, 2020, MEWEA has not cancelled the upcoming Ski Day and Spring Conference events. We are in close coordination with the event venues, and other similar Maine organizations, to determine the best path forward. Individuals directly involved in the planning of these events are meeting next week to review recommendations of health officials.

I will be sending an updated President's Message by March 23, 2020, highlighting any additional precautions, policies, or postponements we determine as necessary at this meeting.

INFORMATION FOR WATER PROFESSIONALS

The Water Environment Federation (WEF) has released materials to inform and update water professionals about the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

WEF produced and broadcasted a webinar last week, providing the most up-to-date information on the virus and featuring a variety of infectious disease control and emergency response professionals as speakers. A [recording of the webinar is now available online](#).

Additionally, WEF has developed a [written guide on Coronavirus for water professionals](#). The guide provides a summary of current information known about the virus, including the origin and history of this pathogen, how it is transmitted, and how this affects clean water facilities and the professionals working at these facilities.

GENERAL INFORMATION FROM THE CENTER FOR DISEASE CONTROL

The Center for Disease Control (CDC) provides a level of information regarding general best practices for general day-to-day activities. For more information on formal statements from the CDC as this topic develops, please find additional information at the following link:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Please feel free to be in contact should you have additional information on this item.

Michael Guethle, P.E.

2020 MEWEA President

michael.guethle@wright-pierce.com