

## **2020 Executive Committee**

### *President*

Mike Guethle  
Wright-Pierce

### *First Vice President*

Phil Tucker  
York Sewer District

### *Second Vice President*

Dave Beauchamp  
Ted Berry Co.

### *Immediate Past President*

Stacy Thompson  
Saco WRRD

### *Secretary/Treasurer*

Jeff McBurnie  
Casella Organics

## **Committee Chairpersons**

### *Awards*

Paula Drouin  
LAWPCA

### *Collection Systems*

Kevin Eaton  
York Sewer District

### *Communications*

Mo Dube  
Mo Dube Septic Inspections  
Bryanna Denis  
Wright-Pierce

### *Convention*

Phil Tucker  
York Sewer District

### *Government Affairs*

Tim Haskell  
York Sewer District

### *Laboratory*

Andy Wendell  
Clear Water Lab

### *Membership*

Rob Pontau  
Brunswick Sewer

### *Treatment Plant Operators*

Alex Buechner  
Biddeford

### *NEWEA State Director*

Jeff McBurnie  
Casella Organics

### *Personnel Advancement*

Scott Firmin  
Portland Water District  
Ryan Wadsworth  
Wright-Pierce

### *Pretreatment*

Terry Tucker  
York Sewer District

### *Public Relations*

Paula Drouin  
LAWPCA

### *Residuals Management*

Jeff McBurnie  
Casella Organics

### *Safety*

Tom Connolly  
Yarmouth, WPCF

### *Stormwater*

Gretchen Anderson  
Windham  
Zach Henderson  
Woodard & Curran Inc

### *Young Professionals*

Maxwell Kenny  
Woodard & Curran Inc



# 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](http://www.mewea.org)

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

**December 28, 2020**

There is certainly a lot to reflect on as we approach the end of the year. We have spent well over 9 months working through COVID protocols and continue to develop new best practices for workplace safety and training opportunities. 2020 has brought several new and unexpected challenges, and I want to thank you all for your dedication to help keep Maine's clean water resources safe and protected throughout a very difficult year, personally and professionally. MEWEA has been successful as an association this year developing virtual meeting and training methods, continuing our legislative advocacy efforts, advancing the professional committees at the board level, and have continued to work through new COVID-related outreach with other state associations and regulatory groups.

2021 will bring new and continued challenges, with opportunities to perpetuate our ongoing efforts. We invite interested members to volunteer to assist as able. Some of these opportunities are included below:

- Legislative outreach for emerging contaminants, nutrient criteria, utility accommodation, state-level funding, stormwater permit renewal, licensing items, and COVID relief.
- Committee chair openings, such as Personnel Advancement and Laboratory.
- Virtual presentations, new memberships, and involvement at the committee level.

Phil Tucker at York Sewer District is graciously taking over as MEWEA president on January 1, 2021. I am confident Phil, as well as Vice Presidents Dave Beauchamp and Tim Wade, will all do an excellent job in leading MEWEA throughout the next several years. In the last month we have had several e-mails and phone calls to ensure a smooth transition of responsibilities, and I will remain a member of the board through 2021 as Past President. As always, please feel free to continue to call or e-mail me should you have any questions, this week and throughout 2021.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS (all virtual)**

NEWEA Annual Convention: January 26 & 28; February 2 & 4 2021

MWUA Annual Convention: February 2-4, 2021

MEWEA/MWUA Legislative Breakfast: February 2, 2021

*Please note – MEWEA is aware there is an overlap for the MWUA and NEWEA conventions. NEWEA sessions will be held in the afternoon, and wastewater and stormwater-specific sessions at MWUA will be in the morning. Members are encouraged to attend either or both conventions.*

## **UPDATED CORONAVIRUS INFORMATION FOR WATER PROFESSIONALS**

WEF, NEWEA, and the CDC continue to inform clean water professionals about the Coronavirus (COVID-19). Whereas we are aware this information is continually developing, we find it prudent to provide a link to this information from the MEWEA Website, <https://www.mewea.org/>

As always, please feel free to reach out with any MEWEA-related questions.

Best,

Michael Guethle, P.E.  
2020 MEWEA President

[michael.guethle@wright-pierce.com](mailto:michael.guethle@wright-pierce.com)