

Highlights

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ITLA

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Laboratories Association
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President's Message

By Dan Falcone

Hello ITLA members,
The executive committee invited all members to the ITLA Executive Committee's planning meeting in November. An additional attendee, Michael Erickson of ConTest, came to the luncheon and helped plan our December 2013 ITLA members meeting. Thanks, Michael

Our next member's meeting will be held on December 11th at the Doubletree in Milford and will include a hot breakfast buffet. This breakfast seems to be a great hit and makes getting to the meeting easier—no prepping of breakfast at home, but good eggs, bacon, fruit, juice, and coffee at and during the presentations. I know I find it efficient and time saving.

We will be having some interesting & timely presentations. This members meeting will be a week after the MADEP Lab Advisory Committee meeting. You can expect some timely information about Lab Certification changes, regulatory changes, as well as guidance on air

emissions audits upcoming from the MADEP and EPA.

Reminder: ITLA is seeking candidates for officers. I have found the ITLA extremely rewarding from both a professional and personal perspective. I have met & worked with intelligent & professional individuals that are not a part of my usual realm. Although these individuals might be considered competitors, they are also my friends.

Please consider becoming an officer of the ITLA.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving and see you on December 11th.

MWRA Items

By Mike Delaney

(mike.delaney@mwra.state.ma.us)

Clarification on the Applicability of the Satellite Accumulation Rule to Laboratories

Recently MassDEP audited MWRA's Deer Island Treatment Plant, including its Central lab, specifically addressing air emissions and hazardous waste handling. The auditors brought to our attention a DEP memorandum that provides

Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday., November 11, 2013, DoubleTree Hotel in Milford, MA.

Feature Presentation: "Waters Corporation Presentation"

clarification on the applicability of the satellite accumulation rule to labs in Massachusetts. Specifically addressed by this agreement between EPA & MassDEP are “working containers”, which includes “the elutriate from analytical instruments such as liquid chromatographs & atomic absorption spectrometers, as well as containers used on bench tops or in fume hoods to collect wastes from chemical procedures.” This requirement will be discussed at the next ITLA meeting.

Artifacts from 19th Century Beacon Hill Reservoir now on Display at the Waterworks Museum

Recently there was a ceremony to mark the installation of two granite tablets that are the last remaining artifacts of the Beacon Hill Reservoir, which served the Beacon Hill area from the 1840s to the 1880s.



The Beacon Hill Reservoir, 1852.

October 25th also marked another important anniversary for the region’s water system. On this date in 1848, residents from all around New England gathered together on Boston Common to celebrate the completion of the Cochituate Aqueduct, which brought much-needed fresh water 15 miles from Lake Cochituate in Natick into the City. According to accounts, nearly 300,000 people were in attendance as the fountain at the Frog Pond was turned on and water shot 80 feet into the air.

The Metropolitan Waterworks Museum is located near the Chestnut Hill Reservoir at 2450 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02467. www.waterworksmuseum.org.

MWRA Water Again Named “New England’s Best,” Wins Taste Test at New England Water Works Association Conference

The Massachusetts Water Resources Authority took home the 2013 award for “New England’s Best” drinking water in a contest held at the [New England Water Works Association’s](#) annual conference in Manchester Village, Vermont.

This is the second time MWRA [has won](#) the contest. Samples from competing New England water utilities were tasted at room temperature by an impartial panel of judges and scored on a 1-10 scale. The winner of the annual contest, now in its fourth year, receives bragging rights, a trophy and the opportunity to enter the national water taste test in June, 2014.

New Stormwater Wetland in Cambridge Opens, Improving Water Quality and Providing New Public Recreation Facilities

CAMBRIDGE – Tuesday, Oct. 15, 2013 - Massachusetts Energy & Environmental Affairs (EEA) Secretary Rick Sullivan & Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) Ex. Director Fred Laskey, in partnership with the City of Cambridge & the Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR), today announced the completion of a new 3.4-acre wetland that will store & treat stormwater runoff and improve water quality in the Little River & the Alewife Brook.

“This project is a prime example of the Patrick Administration’s goal of improving the quality and safety of our infrastructure and increasing the open space in our urban communities,” said Secretary Sullivan. “The completion of the Alewife Reservation Wetland represents years of state agencies working with the local community to achieve our common goals.”

The wetland incorporates both conventional and bioengineered structures designed with a natural look and feel that has won praise from stakeholder groups.

“This new wetland constructed in Alewife Reservation is an extraordinary example of what can be accomplished when new methods of stormwater management are undertaken with creative design & effective

ITLA Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday, December 11, 2013

DoubleTree by Hilton Boston - Milford
11 Beaver Street, Milford, MA 01757
(508) 478-7010

8:30 a.m. Breakfast Buffet and Networking

9:00 a.m. Committee Reports

- **Regulatory**
- **Ethics**
- **Finance**

9:45 a.m. Break

10:00 a.m. Vendor Presentation

Ted Palashis, Overbrook Support Serv.

10:45 a.m. Break

11:00 a.m. Presentation

Al Ramsay, Waters Corporation

11:45 a.m. Meeting Adjourns

funding,” said EkOngKar Singh Khalsa, Ex. Director of the Mystic River Watershed Assoc. “The project is a testament to strong leadership & vision provided by the MWRA & City of Cambridge & consistent advocacy from local residents to support environmental restoration.”

Together with the separation of stormwater from combined sewers, the basin will increase historically low flows in the brook and enhance the health of adjacent natural wetlands, providing a significant improvement over the existing degraded habitat caused by many decades of neglect.

“This innovative wetland is one of the crowning jewels in the MWRA’s billion-dollar program to control combined sewer overflows,” said Executive Director Laskey. “And like the beaches in South Boston, people are able to really see and enjoy the results.”

The wetland includes plant and wildlife habitat, natural flood control, wetlands treatment, recreational and educational benefits and is consistent with DCR’s Alewife Reservation Master Plan.

“This newly constructed wetland not only improves water quality in the Little River and Alewife Brook, but also provides a new and unique recreational and educational open space for the community to enjoy,” said Cambridge City Manager Richard C. Rossi.

The site also provides recreational amenities, including a boardwalk and scenic overlooks, environmental

education opportunities, an earthwork amphitheater designed with seating for student classes, interpretive signage and links to the Alewife Greenway Extension’s bike and pedestrian paths.

DCR worked closely with Cambridge Public Works Department & the MWRA on the design of the project, which will also improve the health of Little Pond, located within the agency’s Alewife Reservation

“DCR’s mission is to provide Massachusetts with access to the wealth of open spaces and recreational opportunities we are so fortunate to have,” said DCR Commissioner Jack Murray. “The work we have done at the Alewife Wetlands will have significant environmental benefits, and will quickly become a recreational asset for the Cambridge community.”

The wetland is located behind the MBTA’s Alewife Station. Exit Alewife Station to Alewife Station Access Road and turn right going north under the parking structure overpass, approximately 500 feet. Turn left to cross Alewife Station Access Road heading west to the Alewife Greenway Extension.

Visit our www.mwra.com for more Information

We have a wealth of information for both the public and for experts on our water & wastewater activities. This includes monthly updates on drinking water quality testing, information on lead, our most recent Consumer Confidence Report, and many technical reports associated with the Deer Island Treatment Plant and our extensive Harbor & Outfall Monitoring program.

Regulatory Update

By Bob Bentley, bob@h2otest.net

The next meeting of the ITLA is scheduled for Wednesday, the 11th of December at the Doubletree Inn in Milford. It will be after the Laboratory Advisory Committee meeting so it will have items of interest to all of the Laboratory community including:

- An update on eDEP - are you appalled at the fact that we now have to answer security questions for EVERY upload?? Come to this meeting to hear what ITLA members have been doing and suggestions about speeding up the process!
- An update on manganese in drinking water. Did you know that this is in all of your local Ob/Gyn doctors' hands and do you know why?? Do you know how to best explain this to your customers??
- An update on the revisions to the Laboratory Certification Regulations. This has just begun but **now** is the time to get our voices heard in terms of the changes.
- An update on the Safe Drinking Water Act meeting including Cyanobacteria, Puredex' "grading system" for public water supplies, etc.

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Possible Speaker for our December Meeting

ARE YOUR SERVICE CONTRACTS SENDING YOU TO THE POORHOUSE??

We have invited Ted Palashis from Overbrook Scientific to speak to all of us regarding their service department and the probability that they can cut your costs and provide that elusive one stop shop for instrument maintenance.