

## RE: Water and Wastewater Management Candidate School

Dear Superintendent or Plant Manager:

We are pleased to announce the third year of an exciting training program aimed at mid-level operators who may have the potential to rise into a management position in your facility. We call the program Management Candidate School (MCS) because it will provide intensive training, networking and skill development coursework to help prepare the next generation of industry managers and leaders.

There are no guarantees that program participants will someday become superintendents, or even be promoted, however, the purpose of the MCS is to help prepare individuals to be available to continue the critical work of managing the state's water and wastewater treatment infrastructure as the cadre of water and wastewater professionals in Maine ages and our current managers retire.

The JETCC Board of Directors and the Maine Wastewater Control Association Executive Committee first led the effort to create this training program in 2009. MWWCA and DEP have provided significant financial support for the MCS. In this past year, additional endorsements from Maine Water Utilities Association and Maine Department of Health and Human Services made it possible to expand the curriculum to Drinking Water Operators. The second class of 22 water and wastewater treatment plant operators will graduate on September 15, 2011. Continued support from these organizations will make it possible to once again offer the MCS to both wastewater and water operators. Trainers and staff support for the MCS will be provided by the MWWCA, Maine Water Utilities Association, the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC), Maine DEP, Maine DHHS and other industry supporters.

The year-long program includes management courses, technical courses (such as engineering basics, and construction planning) as well as skill training in the areas of personnel management, media relations, dealing with regulatory agencies, budget preparation, etc. In total, more than 60 training contact hours will be provided over the year-long period. Both the Maine DEP Operator Certification Program and the Maine Board of Licensure of Water System Operators have agreed that anyone completing the full MCS curriculum will be able to count the training for two renewal cycles.

The cost of the full-year MCS program will be \$750.00 for each participant. Those chosen to take part in this program must also commit to attend all monthly trainings, which will usually be all-day events. If the participants took the equivalent hours of training offered during the MCS program, the cost would be well over \$1,200.00.

We are seeking recommendations for participants. The third MCS will begin with a full-day introduction to Utility Management on Wednesday, October 12. The draft schedule of the remaining classes is attached.

Superintendents should either submit candidates for this program, or allow staff to recommend themselves. Please submit the attached registration form for each individual, **before September 12, 2011**. Please use the form to describe all pertinent job-history information, with a special emphasis on why you believe the nominated individual has the potential to become a manager or superintendent in the future. Tell us about the skills your candidate brings to the field. Does your candidate enthusiastically express an interest to take part in and learn all aspects of water or wastewater treatment? Does he/she exhibit a sense of pride with their profession?

Please send the recommendation form to the JETCC, PO Box 487, Scarborough, ME 04070-0487. Should the number of candidates exceed the targeted class size of 20, the recommendation forms will be used to select the best qualified candidates for this year's program.

If you have any questions, please call Leeann Hanson - JETCC (253-8020), Teresa Trott – Maine DHHS (287-7485), or Dick Darling - DEP (287-7806). We look forward to working with you and the profession as a whole in this important endeavor.

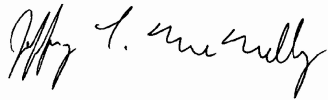
Sincerely,



Paul Rodriguez, President  
Maine Wastewater Control Association



Patricia W. Aho, Acting Commissioner  
Maine Department of Environmental Protection



Jeffrey McNelly, Executive Director  
Maine Water Utilities Association



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Joint Environmental Training Coordinating Committee

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