Connecticut Environmental Health Association

THE ENVIRONMENTALIST

Volume 48, Issue 2 Summer 2021

President's Message

Kevin Elak

Happy Summer! I hope that everyone is taking some much needed time off to renew and refresh.

It was great seeing a big crowd at the CEHA Summer Meeting on July 16th. We had over 70 people attend the free event this year! I saw many familiar faces and several new ones as well! Kristin DeRosia-Banick from the CT Department of Agriculture Bureau of Agriculture presented informative and interesting information about Connecticut's shellfish program. CEHA's Education Chair, Dianne Harding, hosted an environmental health themed version of *Jeopardy* ! There were also several creative haiku's submitted and shared with attendees. And most importantly, thank you to everyone who brought a dessert item! Despite the heat and humidity, we all agreed that it was better than spending a day at the office.

Registration will begin soon for the Yankee Conference. The conference will take place at Foxwoods Resort and Casino from September 22-24, 2021. There is an amazing lineup of speakers, special events and vendors planned for the event. Look for information soon!

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Jeff Polhemus/Ryan McCammon, Subsurface Sewage
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Don Kendrick, Private Well
Newsletter Editing by Lisa Yu/Michelle Blackall

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- Board Members/ Committees Updates
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Education Committee – Dianne Harding, Chair

The CEHA summer meeting at Hammonasset was a very well attended event. The aquaculture presentation by Kristin DeRosia-Banick (CT DOA, Aquaculture) was interesting & informative. Liz Kavanaugh (Hartford) “won” the environmental Jeopardy game and Miranda Arnold (FVHD), Bianca Maiorino (PSHD) & John Saffioti (TAHD) were the other valiant contestants. Time was well spent in conversations with new and old friends. Plenty of sunshine, food & desserts prevailed.

The next exciting event is the 2021 Yankee Conference to be held at Fox Tower at Foxwoods Resort Casino on September 22 -24th. Find all the details and registration on our CEHA website. The educational agenda is bursting with an assortment of topics, appropriate for the theme of “The Herculean Effort of Environmental Health”.

Since my tenure will be ending, please consider volunteering as the CEHA Education Chair beginning in November 2021. I’m sure there are many members that would excel in this position. Contact me for details at 860-989-9582.

“Volunteers don’t get paid, not because they’re worthless, but because they’re priceless”

Kristin DeRosia-Banick
Supervising Environmental Analyst
State of Connecticut Department of Agriculture
Bureau of Aquaculture

Our CEHA Jeopardy Game

Diane Harding, our Education Chair and Chief Sanitarian of the Farmington Valley Health District put together two games of Jeopardy. Members tested their Public Health and CEHA knowledge!

Sanitarians Just Want to Have Fun!

Sonia Marino, Guilford Director of Health and Mindy Chambrelli, Registered Sanitarian with the Darien Health Department.

Lauren Grandy, of the Manchester Health Department and Erica Mikulak of the Bristol-Burlington Health District.

Bristol-Burlington Health District staff enjoying the meeting.

Our dessert contest winners!

CEHA Summer Meeting at Meig's Point July 16, 2021

Thank you Munchies Food Truck for the unlimited food!

Connecticut Environmental Health Association

!! CEHA NEEDS YOU !!

Please consider joining the CEHA Executive Board or nominating a colleague for one of the following positions.

We are accepting nominations for the position of Vice President and Secretary for 2020-2021. The position of Vice President is a 3 year commitment.

The Secretary position is a two year term. This is an opportunity for both new and experienced Sanitarians in CT.

Please contact me with any questions at: phyllisamodio@bristolct.gov or any CEHA Executive Board Officer

The nomination application is available on our CEHA website:

https://ceha.wildapricot.org

THANK YOU

Phyllis Amodio Nominations and Elections Chair

CEHA Members:

Just a friendly reminder to please renew your 2021 CEHA membership. You should have already received an invoice from CEHA. The renewals can be done by:

Logging into your CEHA account online: https://ceha.wildapricot.org/ and paying online, or mailing a copy of the invoice and a check payable to CEHA, or

Complete the membership paper application along with the appropriate fee and mail it to:

Maryam Hosseini
Mashantucket Pequot Tribe
Regulatory Affairs Dept.
550 Trolley Line Blvd.
Mashantucket, CT 06338-3202

***If you cannot remember your login password, click on "forgot password". Please do NOT open a new account. If you are interested in participating in a committee, please log into your account and choose the committee(s).**

Thank you to our members for photo submissions!

Water Sampling done at Stony Creek Beach in Branford.

Photo courtesy of Heather Soko.

Crystal Lake, Middletown

Save the Date

CEHA Onsite Training for Septic System Inspections

Tuesday, October 19th (Rain Date Wednesday, October 20th)

8:30am-4:00pm

Courtney Drive, Ellington, CT

$125 per Person (lunch included), limit of 35-40 registrants

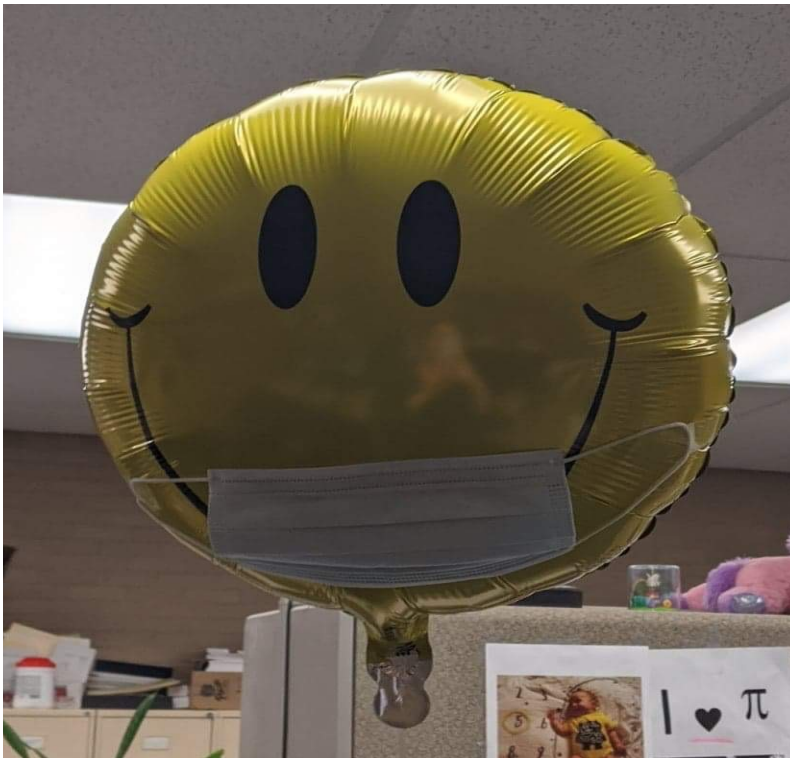
Registration will go live in late July

Minimum Requirements:

Completed Connecticut Phase I On-Site Septic Training
Priority to those working for or seeking employment with CT local health departments, with an emphasis for those conducting or preparing to conduct septic activity
Be prepared for an entire day outside

Topics Covered Will Include:

Observing how a test pit relates to septic system elevations and how to conduct a staking inspection
Determining horizontal separation distances
Using lasers and transits to check vertical separation distances (elevations)
Hands-on observations and explanations of various type of septic products (couplings, cleanouts, piping, tanks, pumps, risers, safety devices, distribution boxes, vents, inspection ports and leaching systems)
Documenting field observations for compliance with CT Health Code



Health Department Spotlight

Do you want to have your Health Department featured in the next issue of the CEHA newsletter? Contact Lisa Yu for more information!

See you next newsletter!