

2021 REGIONAL QUESTIONNAIRE ANSWERS

1. WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IMPROVE WITH NOVA SCOTIA GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION?

- **More pump installer information / interaction**
- **More guest speakers**
- **More product information**
- **More meetings**
- **Try working with DOT for move permits**
- **Easier/more ways to get points**
- **Benefits for members**
- **Monthly newsletter**
- **Two year membership at a reduced rate**
- **Quarterly newsletters reports and zoom meetings**
- **Stickers**
- **More well digging films**
- **Website upgrades (more interactive)**
- **Have meetings during road closures or late winter**
- **Change name to reflect who we are**
- **More representation on board of directors**
- **More events**
- **A forum to share member successes and innovations or difficulties**

2. WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE IMPROVE WITH NOVA SCOTIA ENVIRONMENT?

- **Better enforcement of uncertified installers**
- **More public awareness on well regulations/importance of certification**
- **Better communication and Quicker response times**
- **More responsive to complaints**
- **Relax the number of hours required by pump installers for certification**
- **Follow up on Well log reports for pump installations**
- **More information on provincial environmental concerns**
- **Extend the expiration of licensing to five years**
- **Ensuring Nova Scotia Environment follows through on complaints**
- **More inspections on installations and more inspectors (better trained)**
- **Annual emailed report**
- **A list of contact names for groundwater specialists that they have on staff**
- **Stricter rules for infilling around wetlands and ocean/lake frontage**
- **Ability to contact inspectors more easily (usually rings to voice mail with no response)**
- **Review regulations on dug wells and contamination (concrete issues)**
- **Push for more products with less environmental impact**
- **To enforce home inspectors to be certified in order to open up wells or septics**
- **Faster at processing on permits and certifications**
- **More communication with NSGWA on erosion of coastlines and rivers**
- **Education on challenges of the future**
- **Show up to meetings for Q and A's**

- **Have a presence for onsite evaluations**
- **Interprovincial communication on best practices**

3. WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE NOVA SCOTIA GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION TO BE MORE INVOLVED WITH?

- **Water treatment**
- **Promote more public awareness of safe practices for homeowners water supply systems (proper certifications, materials, practices, etc.)**
- **Enforcement of certification**
- **Advocate for groundwater more, wetlands drainage Etc**
- **Groundwater conservation, protection of Brooks and streams**
- **Get well construction recognized as a trade with the Department of labour**

4. WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE NOVA SCOTIA ENVIRONMENT WORK WITH NOVA SCOTIA GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION ON?

- **More control of pump sales to end user**
- **Enforcement**
- **Developing different water storage systems**
- **Online course of water filtration**
- **Notification system to help eliminate unlicensed people**
- **Stopping cso (combined storm overflows) from municipal raw sewage entering streams and rivers**
- **Requirement of well report for occupancy permit**
- **More courses and films for well diggers**
- **Inquire about the use of hdpe pipes**
- **Conserving wetlands**
- **Regulations**

5. WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO HAVE AS COURSES FOR REGIONALS?

- **Pump installation courses slash/refreshers**
- **Water treatment**
- **Safety courses**
- **Online courses**
- **Rules and regulations refresher**
- **Local geology course with a nod to hydrogeology**
- **Pump sizing and diagnostics**
- **New products in the industry**
- **Constant pressure systems**
- **Selecting a proper pump/ head dynamic pressures / friction loss**
- **Chlorination, retrofitting old wells**
- **New pumping equipment**
- **Water quality/ chemistry**
- **Confined spaces and fall arrest**
- **Variable speed drives?**
- **The effects of cso on our groundwater**
- **Basic septic system course**
- **New technology in well operations**
- **Issues concerning Wells and climate change such as flooding and forest fires**
- **Onsite demos**
- **Casing systems; downhole tools**
- **Transportation of dangerous goods**
- **Solar pumps**
- **Maintenance on hammers**

6. WHAT DON'T YOU LIKE ABOUT NOVA SCOTIA GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION?

- **Meetings in the same regions**
- **The logo**
- **Feeling that the drillers have the most representation**
- **Web updating**
- **We need a stronger voice for NSE**

7. IF YOU COULD CHANGE ONE THING WITH NOVA SCOTIA GROUND WATER ASSOCIATION, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

- **Online options**
- **Group events, parties**
- **More courses for points**
- **Change from point system**
- **Separate pump installers from well installers**
- **Increase executive size**
- **Fewer but more impactful meetings**
- **More eastern meetings**
- **More involvement with pump installers**
- **Online training videos**
- **Access to experienced people for guidance**
- **Implement actions and plans to ensure best use and protection of our water**
- **The return of the conventions**

8. IF YOU COULD CHANGE ONE THING WITH NOVA SCOTIA ENVIRONMENT, WHAT WOULD IT BE?

- **No points needed once certified**
- **More inspections / inspectors**
- **More fines for uncertified pump installs**
- **A newsletter**
- **Updated Website list of changes made relating to groundwater**
- **More user friendly website / license renewal glitched fixed**
- **More involved in regional meetings**
- **Come up with a permit that is posted at work site that shows the work being done is certified**
- **All NSE officials associated with wells required to be present for installation of well (Dug and drilled) at some point**
- **One license (Digger license) for all machines**
- **More guidelines on building around streams and wetlands**
- **Better wallet card and 8.5 X11 certificate**
- **Better trained inspectors**

9. ANY ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS OR SUGGESTIONS?

- **Conditional licenses /fees for part-time or semi-retired pump installers / diggers**
- **Change class one pump installers prerequisites since these pumps are few and far between; lean more into course related qualifying**
- **Drillers should avoid extending casing too far into bedrock possibly blocking good water flow in earlier sections**
- **Not enough pre drilling in new subdivisions or new phases of subdivisions**
- **Certifying water treatment**