

PUMP CLOGS IN MAINE: A HISTORY



2005

Portland Water District (PWD) is one of first utilities in the nation to use public outreach to address pump clogging issues caused by wipes and similar materials.

November 2010

JETCC/MWWCA sponsor first of several 6-hour training session on "Emerging Issues with Flushables". Legislation (LD 781) is written, asking industry to comply with own guidelines.

March/ April 2011

Municipalities, septic haulers, and plumbers testify in support of LD 781. Bill moves into Work Session. MWWCA begins to meet regularly with INDIA.

November 2012

INDA implements large survey to gather consumer data. NEWEA, NACWA, APWA are engaged in issue; disagree w. INDA on key points.

January 2013

MWWCA helps develop NEWEA Position Paper. MWWCA and INDA update Maine legislature on progress, goals.

January 2012

LD 781 voted "Ought Not to Pass".

NACWA
A Clear Commitment to America's Waters

Water Environment
Federation
the water quality people®

2005

2009

2010

2011

2012

2013

Ongoing
Advocacy



APWA

July 2009

Maine communities report increased pump clogs caused by non-dispersible consumer products. INDA releases revised Flushability Guidelines.

April 2010

MWWCA features its first "Pump Clogging" technical session at Spring Conference.

January 2011

MWWCA sends member survey. 90% of the 58 responses indicate that "wipes" cause problems in their systems.

Aug/Sept 2011:

WEF, other states support MWWCA. INDA and MWWCA begin study at PWD Pump Station

April 2012

MWWCA rolls out Pump Clog SOP-gathers data on pump clogs from across the country. Articles published in two national journals.

February 2013

MWWCA, INDA develop plans for 2013 Outreach, confirm to Maine legislature. Panel session planned for WEFTEC in Chicago, October 2013.

With our partners in Maine and around the country, Maine WasteWater Control Association (MWWCA) advocates for consistent labeling and marketing of wipes and similar consumer products to reduce the burden on municipal wastewater departments and districts.