2023 State MATHCOUNTS Team Heads to Orlando

The New Hampshire State MATHCOUNTS competition was held on March 11, at the NH Technical Institute in Concord. The competition's top performers will form a team to represent New Hampshire at the national MATHCOUNTS competition in Orlando, Florida, in May. The team members are Anirudh Pulugurtha (Academy for Science and Design), Ameya Kharade (Academy for Science and Design), Coach Karen Legault (Academy for Science and Design), Arjun Puninchittaya (Ross A. Lurgio Middle School), and Benton Zhang (Hollis Brookline Middle School).

MATHCOUNTS is a national mathematics competition designed to provide engaging math programs to middle school students of all ability levels to build confidence and improve attitudes towards math and problem solving. The state competition is sponsored by the New Hampshire Society of Professional Engineers and the New Hampshire Teachers of Mathematics. National sponsors include BAE Systems, who is the lead sponsor for the northeast states, as well as other companies and agencies. This year, approximately 80 middle grade students from 22 schools participated. Read more about the state competition and the top student performers.
Study: Some of the Nation's Best Roads Run Through New Hampshire

Moneygeek's study, "Road Conditions & Spending By State: Does More Money Mean Better Roads?," says New Hampshire is tops in the nation for having the best roads. At the same time the state has the lowest capital outlay per mile for those high-ranking roads, *The Center Square* reports.

The report analyzes US Department of Transportation and US Census Bureau data, according to the release. Governor Chris Sununu said the state has invested wisely when it pertains to highway spending. "New Hampshire has made smart investments in our infrastructure, and we've returned over $100 million to cities and towns across the Granite State for roads and bridges," Sununu said in a statement. "It's with that sense of smart fiscal management that we've paved the way to be ranked the No. 1 state for taxpayer return on investment."

New Hampshire not only has the best roads and the smallest cost per mile for construction, but the Granite State is also tops in New England for quality of roads, as well.

New Hampshire spends just $9.82 per mile for highway construction, while Vermont spends $10.64, and Maine $10.84. Massachusetts spends $21.03 per mile and Rhode Island $42.37. Read more.

New Hampshire to Receive Funding for Clean Water Projects, to Address PFAS
The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is providing $23,186,000 to New Hampshire for clean water infrastructure upgrades. Approximately half of the funding will be in the form of grants or principal forgiveness loans. Pursuant to the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, the EPA will distribute the funds to New Hampshire's Clean Water State Revolving Fund. These funds will bolster the state's wastewater and stormwater infrastructure projects. The funds are also intended to protect waterways that many communities rely on, JD Supra reports.

Of this funding, $2.1 million is dedicated to addressing per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and other emerging contaminants across the State. New Hampshire has already established maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for the following PFAS: PFOA, PFOS, PFHxS, and PFNA. These MCLs represent enforceable limits for public water suppliers and recommendations for private well users. Read more.

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**TVA Engineer Named 2023 FEYA Winner**

Stephen Craven, Ph.D., P.E., was named NSPE's 2023 Federal Engineer of the Year for his innovative work securing Tennessee Valley
Authority (TVA) substations and developing improved communication architecture. Now in its 44th year, the Federal Engineer of the Year Award is the only one of its kind to solely recognize outstanding engineers employed in the federal government. Federal agency winners were honored during a ceremony held at the National Press Club in Washington, DC, on February 24.

Stephen Craven is a third-generation TVA engineer, serving at the agency’s Power Service Center in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Among his accomplishments, Craven has helped secure substations against cyber-attacks, designing ways to keep critical equipment disconnected from external attackers and yet still be remotely monitored for anomalies. He was also instrumental in the development of a new communication architecture that is faster, more reliable, and less expensive than previous schemes. Read more.

FEYA ceremony photos can be accessed on the NSPE Flickr album.

WORKability Wednesdays Are Back!

NSPE offers a live webinar series free to members—“WORKability Wednesdays”—to support members with their professional development goals. The series covers topics impacting the industry and helps to enhance your competencies in the profession. The spring season sessions kicked off on March 8 with Understanding the New Requirements for Cybersecurity Insurance. Register now at NSPE’s PE Institute and invite a colleague to attend.

Upcoming webinars

- **March 22**—Using Construction Manager at Risk Project Delivery to Manage the Current Challenges in Constructing Projects

- **April 12**—Doing Bad Things for Good Reasons: An Examination of Unethical Pro-Organizational Behavior Among Professional Workers

- **Save the date for webinars on April 26, May 17, and May 31**

Take the Milton F. Lunch Ethics Challenge!
Match your wits and knowledge of engineering ethics with experienced professional engineers and engineering students throughout the country! All current NSPE individual members and NSPE chapters (including student members) are invited to participate in the 2023 NSPE Milton F. Lunch Ethics Contest. Contest submissions are due by May 12. View past contest winner entries.

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