The American Water Works Association is hosting a meeting to bring together partners in Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine. Participants will include representatives from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, both the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), as well as water utilities, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), state drinking water programs, conservation districts, and other entities.

The 2018 Farm Bill has a focus on source water protection. This is a great opportunity to form new partnerships to address source water protection challenges associated with agriculture and forestry practices. New England states are leaders in source water protection. The meeting will focus on how partners have been collaborating with each other, with a specific emphasis on understanding how NRCS programs can help protect drinking water supplies.

Speakers will offer advice on how they have implemented projects on the ground. The meeting will include an overview of success stories in Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine. Examples include collaborating on watershed protection, the National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI), and Regional Conservation Partnership (RCPP) projects.
The meeting will include presentations describing the structure of NRCS, an overview of NRCS programs, and facilitated discussions. Attendees will learn how to work with NRCS and other partners to utilize Farm Bill funds to protect sources of drinking water.

**Goals for the meeting:**

- Highlight how partners have worked with NRCS in Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine to promote source water protection
- Provide a roadmap for how to identify opportunities to work together
- Educate water suppliers about NRCS programs that can help protect their water supplies

**Speakers will include:**

- Rick Knowlton, President, Maine Water Company
- Laurel Jackson, Water Resources Specialist, Portland Water District
- Juan Hernandez, Maine State Conservationist, USDA NRCS
- Vicky Drew, Vermont State Conservationist, USDA NRCS
- Rick Ellsmore, NH State Conservationist, USDA NRCS
- Karl Honkonen, Watershed Forester, USFS, State & Private Forestry
- Liz Royer, Executive Director, Vermont Rural Water Association

**For more information, please contact:**

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**REGISTER FOR PROGRAM – FREE TO PARTICIPANTS**

Register at newwa.org under “Training & Certification – Upcoming Courses & Events,” or fill out the below and return via email to Mary Keating at mkeating@newwa.org or fax to (508) 893-9898:

Name(s):

Company/Organization/System name:

Mailing address:

Phone number:

Email address:

[ ] Check here if you have a disability and require accommodations to fully participate.