



Hole Talk

Fall 2023
Published Quarterly

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ESWWDA FALL MEETING & THE GENESEE VALLEY HUNT RACES October 13-14, 2023

Geneseo, NY

The 2023 ESWWDA fall meeting is being hosted by **Dave Chugg** and the **Root Family** in **Geneseo, NY** at **Root's Tavern** located at **Dave Chugg's horse farm**. (no connection to the Root family hosting the meeting). The meeting itinerary and all directions can be found on page 2.

Accommodations are available at 2 hotels, each having a block of 10 rooms reserved for both Friday and Saturday nights. Hotels are located next door to each other. Rates at each range from \$185.00 to \$209.00 plus taxes depending on room preferences; 1 king or 2 queens size beds.

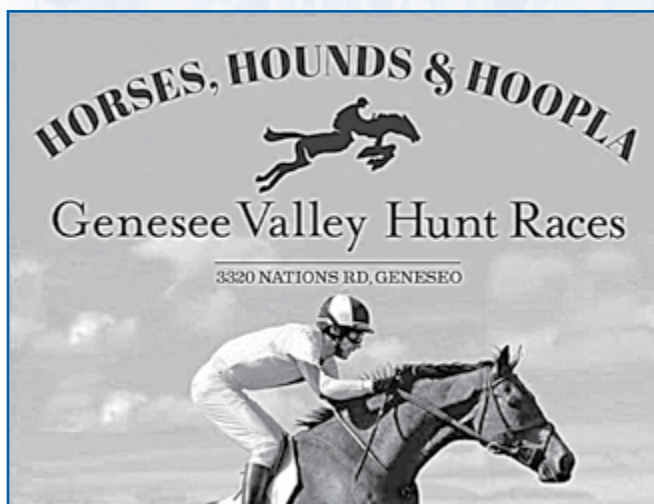
Reservations may be made by calling either hotel and stating that you are with the **Empire State Water Well Drillers' Association** group. The deadline for the group rate is September 15th. Any reservations made after that date are subject to availability.

Hampton Inn, Geneseo: 1-855-516-1090

Quality Inn, Geneseo: 1-844-895-5296

To book on-line at the **Quality Inn**
www.choicehotels.com/reservations/groups/SR42M6

Directions from the NYS Thruway to either the **Hampton Inn** or the **Quality Inn** in **Geneseo, NY 14454**: Exit the



NYS Thruway at Exit 46, follow Route 390 south for 17+ miles; take exit 8 towards US-20 A, Geneseo, turn right onto Lakeville Rd for 4.8 miles. Both hotels will be visible on the left side.

HUNT RACES

The **Genesee Valley Hunt Races** are like no other horse race in New York State. What began over 125 years ago as a grand day of picnicking with friends and neighbors has evolved into a multi-faceted

day of fun for young and old alike.

It's like an old-fashioned country fair with a race track instead of a midway, and there's something for everyone to enjoy!

Check out the **New York Food and Wine Farmers' Market**. Enjoy samples of local cheeses, wines, craft beer, spirits, and more (*and purchase some to take home while you're at it!*)

Tickets may be purchased on line at <https://gvhraces.com/> for **\$15.00** or at the event for **\$20.00**. Children are free. Parking is free.

The **Hunt Race** is located at 3320 Nations Rd. Geneseo, NY 14454. Races will be held on Saturday, October 14, 2023 beginning at 10 a.m.

Itinerary and Directions can be found on pages 2-3, and more details on page 11. 🗨️

Mission

The ESWWDA is committed to taking a leadership role in protecting our natural resources through the promotion of the ground water industry. It strives to support a spirit of cooperation, communication, and education within the industry and with the consumers and regulatory agencies. 🗨️

Visit www.nywelldriller.org

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Fall Meeting Agenda

Root's Tavern

Friday, October 13, 2023

5:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting at Root's Tavern

(Dave Chugg's Farm)

6:00 p.m. General Membership meeting at Root's Tavern

(Dave Chugg's Farm)

50/50 tickets may be purchased with the proceeds going to the **Scholarship funds**.

Weather permitting, horses will be on site for your enjoyment most of the day along with a riding demonstration. *Please dress weather appropriate.*

Happy hour to follow the general membership meeting at **Root's Tavern**.

A cocktail hour will be provided for your pleasure with assorted sandwiches and salads.

Saturday, October 14, 2023

9:00 a.m Travel to the **Hunt Races**, parking is free.

Dave Chugg will have 2 tailgate areas set up with light snacks and libations, water and ice. Food vendors are available throughout the site as well.

Just a reminder, mid October's weather can be either very warm or very cold so plan to dress accordingly and think sunshine ☺

Directions to Root's Tavern

(Dave Chugg's Farm), from either hotel:

Go NE on US-20A Lakeview Rd towards Ryan Rd. (0.9 mi)

Turn left onto Country Club Rd. (1.7 mi)

Turn right onto NY-39E (2.1 mi)

Turn left to 4222 Roots Tavern Rd.

Dave Chugg has generously offered his property to anyone who would like to put their camper or trailer there as an option to booking a hotel room. He does NOT have electrical hookups or potty facilities but the offer is there if you are interested. ☺

2023 Officers and Directors

President

Dave Rosick, CWD/PI, Rosick Well Drilling LLC
1175 Farley Road, Hudson Falls, NY 12839
(518) 746-0173 • Rosickdrilling@yahoo.com

Vice President

Chris Root, CWD/PI, Root Contracting
(585) 593-4304 • Rootwaterwell@gmail.com

Past President

Tyler Wills, MGWC, Smith Well Drilling
PO Box 585, Niverville, NY 12130
(518) 758-6142 • Driller1234.tw@gmail.com

Secretary/Treasurer

Charles W. Crover, CWD/PI
Roarke Well Drilling, Inc.
431 Scotchtown Ave., Goshen, NY 10924
(845) 783-9355 • Chuck@RoarkeWellDrilling.com

ESWWDA Correspondence Manager

Julie Boyd
1054 Route 52, Carmel, NY 10512
(845) 225-3196 • Jewels2564@aol.com

ESWWDA Assistant Correspondence Manager

Susan Bates
900 N. James St., Rome, NY 13440
(315) 225-3060 • Gramsue67@gmail.com

3 - Year Directors

William Frey, MGWC, Frey Well Drilling Inc.
(716) 937-7977 • DrillerFrey@aol.com

James Utter, Utter Well Drilling
607-582-7436 • jimdrilling@yahoo.com

2 - Year Directors

Mike Palleschi, CPG, CWD
Senior Geologist, Alpha Geoscience
(518) 348-6995 • mpalleschi@alphageoscience.com

Richard Tompkins, Reliable Pump & Well
845-629-8301 • reliablepumpandwell@gmail.com

1 - Year Directors

Jeremy Baldwin, MGWC, Hawk Drilling Co., Inc.
(518) 885-7952 • hawkdrilling@aol.com

Daniel Boyd, DNA Well Maintenance
(772) 626-4515 • Daniel.Boyd70@gmail.com

Supplier Directors

Alan Dretel, D&S Pump and Supply
845-279-3785 • alddretel@aol.com

Bernie Kistner, Group One Northeast, Inc.
(845) 473-1969 • bckistner@aol.com

Dave Keough, Blake Equipment
(845) 258-7867 • Dave.keough@blakeequip.com

Dillon Sickler, DrillMax/Geoprobe
484-467-1582

Values

The Board of Directors and membership of E.S.W.W.D.A. believe in the promotion of the ground water industry through:

**Professional Standards • Communication
Education • Integrity • Affordability**

The President's Thoughts

Summer Notes

As I am writing this newsletter, it is hot and muggy here. It seems like although today is nice, heavy rains come a few times each week. I am lucky in my area as no major washouts have occurred as it has in neighboring counties and states. I do not think a drought will be an issue this year for sure.

As summer seems to fly by, we should all take the time to think about our future with our companies. Things seem so hectic at times, but we should prepare for the slower times we may encounter.

Our summer meeting went well. The presentation by **Josh Oppenheimer** from our lobbyist company talked about some of the upcoming legislation regarding geothermal drilling and bore depths. This will be interesting to see how it goes in Albany. I would like to thank **Janice Baldwin** and her team for keeping up with other issues our association has to deal with in Albany.



Julie Boyd did an excellent job hosting the plan of action and milestones meeting. Really is an eye opener on where we want the association goals to be in the future. One thing we pressed upon is that this association is for all members. Please try to come to a meeting or two. Give us your thoughts and input. Everyone is important and it sure is nice to see a new face every now and then. We are planning for some more interaction and different educational classes at the annual meeting at **Turning Stone**. That is one meeting we would love to have record breaking attendance.

The fall meeting will also be a fun and educational time. I am looking forward to it. If you are in the western part of the state this one will be more in your area as we try to move around to different parts of the state. Thanks to **Dave Chugg** and the **Roots** for taking this on.

David Rosick, *ESWWDA President* 🗨️

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Quality Inn, Geneseo: 1-844-895-5296



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Reservations may be made by calling either hotel and stating that you are with the **Empire State Water Well Drillers' Association** group. The **deadline for the group rate is September 15th**. Any reservations made after that date are subject to availability.

Directions to The **Genesee Valley Hunt Races** are located at 3320 Nations Road, off of County Route 39, just north of the Village of Geneseo.

If you're using GPS or Google Maps, enter "3320 Nations Rd., Geneseo, NY 14454", or "Intersection of Nations Rd. and Roots Tavern Rd, Geneseo, NY 14454"

Directions from Rochester and points north: Take I-390 to Exit 9; turn left on Route 15, then right on Triphammer Rd. all the way to the end; then turn left on Rt. 39 and follow directions below to your parking area.

Directions from the south: Take I-390 to Exit 8; turn left onto Rt. 20A to Geneseo; turn right onto Rt. 39 through village, then follow the directions below to your parking area. 🗨️

ESWWDA Summer Meeting

July 21, 2023

President Dave Rosick called the summer meeting of the **Empire State Water Well Drillers' Association** to order at 9:45 am on **July 21, 2023**, with 20 members in attendance. President Rosick thanked **Joshua Oppenheimer** from **Greenberg Taurig** for the legislative update. **Carol Lawrence** sold the 50/50 tickets.

A roll call of officers showed the following Board members to be in attendance:

Dave Rosick, *President*

Chris Root, *Vice President*

Tyler Wills, *Past President*

Chuck Crover, *Secretary/Treasurer*

Julie Bullock, *Correspondence Manager*

Sue Bates, *Assistant Correspondence Manager*

William Frey, *Director*

James Utter, *Director*

Mike Palleschi, *Director*

Jeremy Baldwin, *Director*

Daniel Boyd, *Director*

Alan Dretel, *Director*

Bernie Kistner, *Director*

Dave Keough, *Director*

Henry Boyd made a motion to wave the reading of the minutes as they appeared in **Hole Talk**. The motion was seconded by **Jim Wild**, and the motion carried.

Chuck Crover read the Treasurer's report. Even though the report appeared to have a deficit, the Treasurer reminded us that most of our income comes in the second half of the year from advertising and membership. At this time there is no reason to consider raising membership dues. Copies are available of the reports upon request. **Chris Root made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report** as read. The motion was seconded by **Henry Boyd** and passed unanimously.

President Dave Rosick hoped everyone was having a busy and productive summer so far. He noted that the first half of the year was really busy with phone calls and emails with the government affairs committee. Now it has slowed down.

Communications: The association signed letters of support for The New Yorkers for **Clean Energy** and the **Westchester-Putnam Workforce** who are both looking for grants. The latter group is looking for a grant to reimburse new hires in the geothermal

industry. There was discussion that this might not assist our industry, but we would like to keep our seat at their table.


Sickness & Health: **Julie Boyd** reported that **Michael Parsons** is recovering from meningitis and has decided to retire.

Insurance & Safety: **Analisa Bastiani-Jesco** stated that the insurance industry was busy in the first part of the year. She reminded members to check their replacement costs on their inland marine. It is also time for some to apply for **CPAP (Construction Classification Premium Adjustment Program)** with NYCIRB.


Membership: **Sue Bates** reported that we have a total of 298 members with one new member this quarter. Of the contractors we have 170 members with 22 unpaid for 2023. In the supplier/manufacturer's division we have 48 with 19 unpaid. There are 74 associate members with 5 unpaid. Invoices for 2024 will go out after the fall meeting.

Scholarship: No applications at this time.

Government Affairs: **Janice Baldwin** reported that with the help

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ESWWDA Values

The Board of Directors and membership of E.S.W.W.D.A. believe in the promotion of the ground water industry through:

Professional Standards • **Communication**
Education • **Integrity** • **Affordability**

of **Sandra Baldwin** they are setting up meetings with DEC, DOH and DOT over the next few weeks. Since COVID, many people have retired and there are new people who we need to build relationships with. Our goal is to educate them about safe drinking water and have discussions on geothermal and pipelines. Everyone in NYS is keeping their agendas close to their chest.

NEWWA: The next Expo will be **March 8-9, 2024**, in Marlborough, MA. The **NEWWA Board** will be meeting in October to discuss the last expo. We are looking for feedback regarding the Friday night changes we made last year with food on the trade hall floor versus a sit-down dinner.

Budget & Finance: This report was covered during the treasurer's report.

Education: We are considering doing a class this fall depending on the location. We would like to do a geothermal class at some point also.

NGWA: **Chris Root** reported that he has been talking to **Sue Tenney**, *Education Program Manager* and **Kristen Frederick**, *Certification Manager* regarding some of our concerns with pass/fail rates and PSI. Ms. Tenney stated that there is a revised vocabulary of terms and new flow charts for jobs. There is no new study information. **Art Becker**, *Past President of NGWA*, stated that each year at the NGWA's meeting there is a group that reviews the questions that have the highest failure rating. Chris will keep in contact with them regarding the PSI testing issues.

WSC: We received an update from WSC regarding **WOTUS (Water of the United States)** and the Biden administration will be updating their

definition to comply with the US Supreme Court decision in *Sackett v. EPA*. Also, **Jesse Richardson** reported that a number of PFAS settlements and potential settlements were announced in June. Most provided relief to public water supply systems but at least one settlement also provided funds to remediate private wells.

Hole Talk: The deadline for the next issue is August 1st. For those planning ahead, the **next deadline will be November 1st**.

Public Information: **Sue Bates** asks the membership to look at the new website. It is more user friendly on phones and other handheld devices. Please let her know if you have any ideas or questions.

DOT: **Chris Root** is working on having a guest speaker on the CDL training classes at the fall meeting. DEC have been doing sniff tests on some groups such as loggers.

Continuing Education: Affidavit and accreditation points will be due this year with membership renewal.

Geothermal: **Jeremy Baldwin** stated that the industry has gotten quiet. There have been some issues with water well contamination and poor workmanship of a few contractors.

Veterans Program: The second of the three proposed jobs have been completed. A special thank you to **Danville Water** for drilling a well for a disabled veteran and his wife. Also a special thank you to **Joe Testa** for all his work and coordination. We are hoping to rotate this throughout the state.

Past Presidents: **Tyler Wills** reported that the Past Presidents were good. He also raised concerns of issues of poorly constructed geothermal wells and the use of pressurized methanol as a groundwater contaminate.

Old Business: **Sue Bates** and **Chris Root** updated the membership on the fall meeting in **Geneseo** at **Dave Chugg's farm**, **Root's Tavern** and the **Hunt Races**. This meeting will be kid friendly and camping is available.

New Business: The **Annual meeting** will be **January 16-17, 2024**, at **Shenandoah Lodge at Turning Stone Casino**. **Sue Bates** asked if anyone had any input on the food. Members said the appetizers were good. **Bernie Kistner** brought up that he feels we are a well-kept secret. We should promote more than "*We keep water safe!*" Maybe we should advertise on the thruway. **Art Becker** wanted to thank the Board and the association. He has been a member and attending meetings for 16 years. This spring he needed help with a project after his driller was hurt. ESWWDA members **Bill Frey**, **Jim Dwyer** and **Carol Lawrences** all stepped up to the plate. Art greatly appreciated their assistance and friendship and feels we are a great association. **Chuck Crover** was the winner of the 50/50 drawing. Chuck donated his winnings back to the association.

At this time **Chris Root** made a motion to adjourn the meeting. **Jim Utter** seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am.

Respectfully submitted by

Julie Boyd,
Correspondence Manager 

2023 ESWWDA Committees

Scholarship

Chairperson Jim Utter 607-582-7436
Kevin Moravec 315-536-3911

Education

Chairperson Henry Boyd 845-225-3196
Jeremy Baldwin 518-885-7952
Sandra Baldwin 518-396-9499
Brian Frey 716-937-7977

Membership

Chairperson Sue Bates 315-225-3060
William Frey 716-937-7977
Chris Root 585-593-4309

Insurance/ Safety

Chairperson Analisa Jesco 888-869-3535
Jeff Smith 518-758-6142
Chuck Crover 845-783-9355

Government Affairs

Chairperson Janice Hawk-Baldwin 518-885-7952
Sandra Baldwin 518-885-7952
Jeff Smith 518-758-6142
All Board of Directors

NEWWA

Chairperson Henry Boyd 845-225-3196
Julie Bullock 845-225-3196
Alt. Alan Dretel 914-522-7855
James Utter 607-351-1002

Liaisons to NGWA/WSC

Chairperson Chris Root 585-593-4304
Henry Boyd 845-225-3196
Jeff Smith 518-758-6142
Alan Dretel 914-522-7855
Michael Palleshi 518-348-6995
Richard Moravec 315-536-3911

Budget & Finance

Chairperson Chuck Crover 845-783-9355
Bernie Kistner 845-473-1969
Analisa Jesco 888-869-3535
Alan Dretel 914-522-7855

Hole Talk

Chairperson Julie Bullock 845-225-3196
Sue Bates 315-225-3060

By-Laws

Chairperson Tony Ferraioli 518-861-8733
Henry Boyd 845-225-3196

Environment

Chairperson Henry Boyd 845-225-3196
Daniel Boyd 772-626-4515

DOT

Chairperson Jeremy Baldwin 518-885-7952
Chris Root 585-593-4304
Brian Frey 716-937-7977
Daniel Boyd 772-626-4515

Geothermal

Chairperson Richard Tompkins 845-629-8301
Jeremy Baldwin 518-885-7952
Kevin Moravec 315-536-3911

Giving Back

Chairperson Sandra Baldwin 518-885-7952
Chris Root 585-593-4304
William Frey 716-937-7977
Tyler Wills 518-758-6142

Suppliers' Division

Chairperson Bernie Kistner 845-473-1969
Dave Keough 845-258-7867

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

July 30, 2023

CATEGORY	TOTAL	PAID	UNPAID
Contractors	176	154	22
Suppliers/Manufacturers	48	29	19
Associates	74	69	5
	===	===	==
Total Members	298	252	46

*Members in arrears for 2+ years
will be dropped from active membership*

**Payments may be made by mailing checks to:
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That's why your affiliation with the ESWWDA is a smart investment. It's an alliance of individual drillers that work for you and with you.

Your membership gives you access to programs and services specifically formulated for the professional growth and success of water well drillers and pump installers.



The association provides:

- **Educational programs in:** water well drilling, pump installation, general management.
- **Informative newsletter:** *Hole Talk* covers local, state and national issues and news.
- **Annual Tuition Scholarships**
- **A united voice:** ESWWDA speaks for drillers on issues of far-reaching impact.
- **A voice:** A vote on the direction ESWWDA takes.

Join or renew your membership and keep this powerful alliance alive! 

ESWWDA

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E-mail: _____

Contractor/Driller \$125

National Member Yes _____ No _____

Pump Installer \$125

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Supplier/Manufacturer \$125

CPI # _____

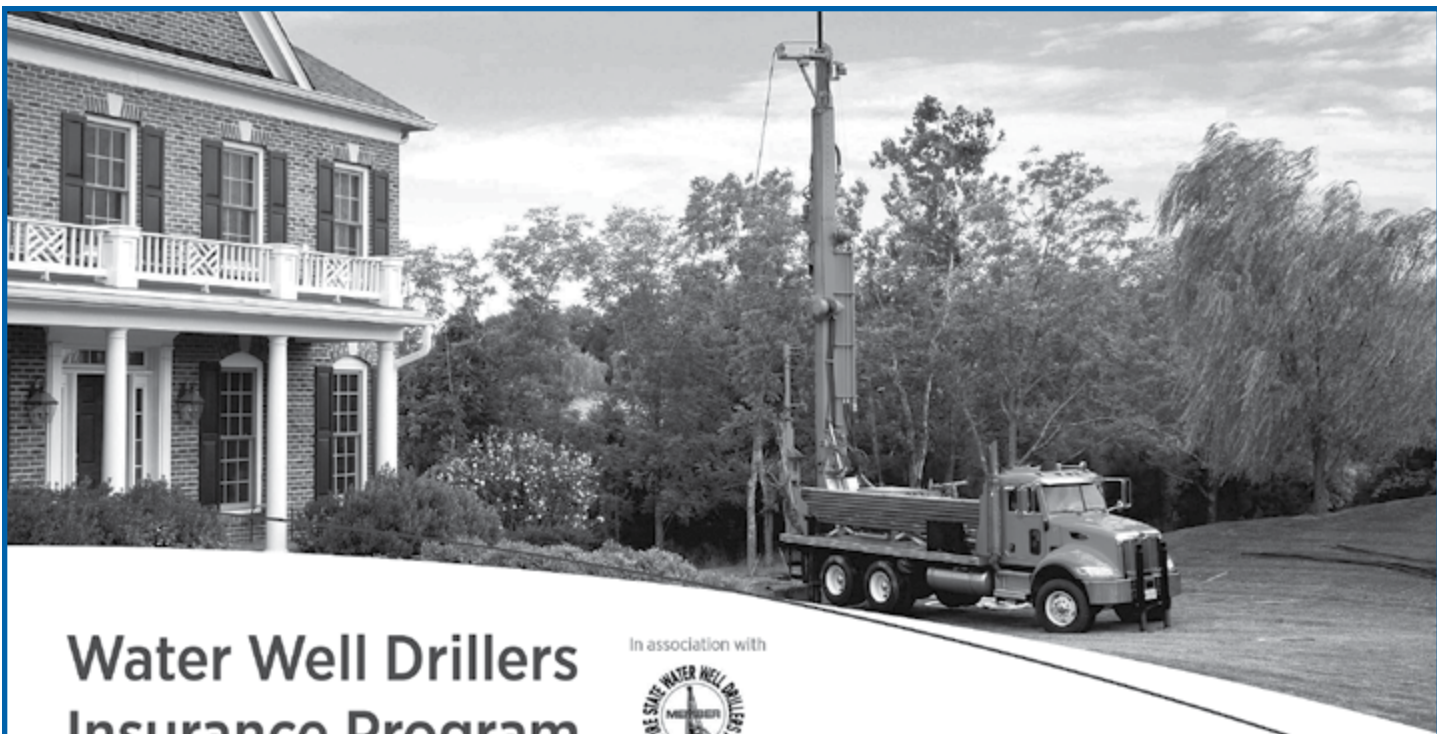
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Mail application to: **Susan Bates, 900 N James Street, Rome, NY 13440** (checks payable to: **ESWWDA**)



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Greg Scott
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How To Protect Yourself Against Car Theft

Compliments of Gallagher

Car theft is an increasingly common problem impacting more than a million individuals every year.

According to data compiled by the National Insurance Crime Bureau (NICB), car thefts have steadily risen since 2019. From 801,023 reported car thefts in 2019 to 888,011 in 2020, increasing again to 937,976 in 2021. In 2022, car thefts surpassed the one million mark with 1,001,967 reported incidents. NICB estimates that 2022's car thefts alone resulted in \$8.9 billion in losses.

These are the highest vehicle theft numbers since 2008, according to the NICB analysis, when 1.05 million vehicles were reported stolen. What can consumers do to protect their property from car theft amid these record-breaking numbers? Luckily, best practices from organizations like NICB can help you keep your property and yourself safe in the event of car theft or related crimes, such as carjacking.

Avoid Becoming a Target

According to the National Crime Prevention Council (NCPC), car theft or theft of items from vehicles are crimes of opportunity. Car theft can occur in seconds, and momentary lapses in judgment — such as leaving your key in the ignition during an errand — can quickly result in insurance claims, police reports and headaches as you try to reclaim your stolen property.


Instead, avoid becoming a target of car theft by following these tips:

- **Never leave your valuables on display** – Keep your phone, laptop bag, designer clothing or accessories and other personal belongings out of sight when exiting your vehicle. Any sign of valuables within can entice a criminal to break your car window. Instead, take all your valuables with you when you exit your car, or keep them locked securely in your trunk where potential thieves cannot notice them.
- **Keep your car secure** – What should you do each time you arrive at your destination? Rolling up your windows, locking your doors and taking your keys out of the ignition are simple ways to reduce your

chances of car theft. While it may be tempting to leave your car running in the driveway or a parking lot with the windows open to cool it down on a hot summer day, you're increasing your chances that someone may abscond with your personal belongings or vehicle. Additionally, keep your vehicle locked and the windows up while driving to reduce your risk of carjacking.

- **Park wisely** – When traveling for work or pleasure, parking directly under a light is more than a smart way to ensure you'll find your car easily at night — it can also deter criminals. Thieves often use the dark, shadowed corners of parking lots to conceal their actions, making it more difficult to identify them as perpetrators of a crime. Parking directly under a light, in a well-lit area or in a staffed lot are all ways to protect your property.

- **Stay alert** – Being an attentive, focused driver works in your favor when avoiding car-related crimes. Carjacking, the act of someone taking over your vehicle while you're behind the wheel, is a violent crime that can traumatize or even result in bodily harm. To help mitigate your risk of carjacking, always pay close attention to your surroundings and note any people or individuals that appear to be watching or following you. If you feel unsafe, keep your doors locked, the windows shut and drive to the nearest police or fire station.

- **Invest in security systems** – Anti-theft security systems can provide peace of mind if you're concerned about the safety of your vehicle or personal items within. The shrill alarm of an anti-theft system can draw attention to crimes in progress and deter would-be thieves from carrying out their work. Some security systems incorporate GPS, which can help you and the authorities locate and reclaim a stolen vehicle. Don't forget that your car can be at risk even while it's parked in your driveway at home. Keep it in a secure garage or install motion-sensor security lights to prevent anyone from getting too close to your vehicle. 



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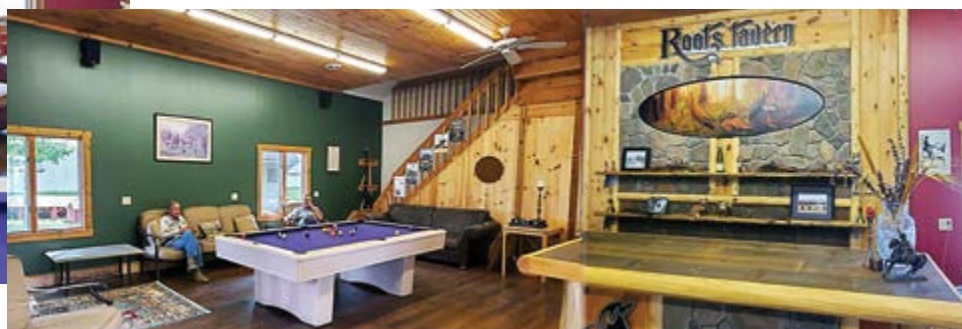
Let's Solve Water



Happy hour to follow the general membership meeting at **Root's Tavern**. A cocktail hour will be provided for your pleasure with assorted sandwiches and salads.

Weather permitting, horses will be on site for your enjoyment most of the day along with a riding demonstration.

Please dress weather appropriate. 🗨️



HUNT RACES

The Genesee Valley Hunt Races are like no other horse race in New York State. What began over 125 years ago as a grand day of picnicking with friends and neighbors has evolved into a multi-faceted day of fun for young and old alike. It's a day that combines tradition, community and family all in a beautiful outdoor setting on conserved farmland in the **Genesee Valley**. Tailgating remains a huge part of the day and it's still the only event in the state where spectators can watch sanctioned steeplechase races over timber jumps!

But the **Hunt Races** isn't just about horses—it's about dogs and canine events, too. There are Terrier and wiener dog races, a jumping contest, agility courses, sled dog demos, and of course the **Parade of the Genesee Valley Hunt foxhounds**. Leashed dogs are more than welcome to attend the event, and some people say that dog-watching is just as much fun as watching the horses!

There's lots for the kids to do (*including stick horse races and pony rides*); for the adults, food and drink vendors, wine

and craft beer tasting, shopping, music and more. It's like an old-fashioned country fair with a race track instead of a midway, and there's something for everyone to enjoy!

Check out the **New York Food and Wine Farmers' Market**. Enjoy samples of local cheeses, wines, craft beer, spirits, and more (*and purchase some to take home while you're at it*)!

Tickets may be purchased online at <https://gvhraces.com/> tickets for \$15.00 or at the event for \$20.00. Children are free. Parking is free.

Races will be held on **Saturday, October 14, 2023** beginning at **10 a.m.**

Itinerary and Directions can be found on pages 2-3 🗨️



The **Hunt Race** is located at
3320 Nations Rd. Genesee, NY 14454.

William Davis, disabled veteran from Mt. Morris.

Now he and his disabled wife have water thanks to ESWWDA's generous membership and Dansville Water Well

Giving

My name is **William Davis**, I am a Desert Storm Veteran. I wanted to write this letter to let everyone know that I was given a gift of generosity that I have trouble saying thank you enough for.

My VA Counselor told me of a situation that I might be able to have a new drilled well done for my family and I. I was hesitant, but I was contacted by **Joe Testa**, who said that there were a limited amount of wells that could be done for this year. He explained everything to me so that I was not left wondering about details. He had brought out **Ron Hall** from **Dansville Water Wells**, to also help look things over.

I was in luck! Joe had let me know that they were going to put a well in! When Ron Hall and his crew got here, they were very courteous to me, I did have questions and such. I never got a feeling that I was in their way or a bother. To me that was just amazing. It didn't take very long for them to get everything done and taken care of.

So, I wanted to thank the **Well Drillers Association**, **Dansville Water Wells**, **Joe Testa**, and **everyone else** that made this possible for my family and myself.

Thank You,
William Davis 🗨️



Back.....

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July 27, 2023

Dear Friends of the Empire State Water Well Drillers Association:

On behalf of VA Finger Lakes Healthcare System, we would like to extend our deep appreciation to the Empire State Water Well Drillers Association, and your generous members, for your extensive efforts to make a literal ground-breaking difference in the life of one of our Veterans.

Through our newly-formed Partnership and collaboration, an offer was extended to VA's Center for Development & Civic Engagement by the Association. A provider in our Behavioral Health Department at the Canandaigua VA Medical Center quickly identified a deserving and eligible Veteran in deep distress over, what felt to be, an intangible need. On this particular Veteran's property, in Mt. Morris, NY, his existing dug well was 22.5' deep, which was a low producer and susceptible to contamination from surface water. The family of 3 was not able to drink the water and were left medically vulnerable. After a thorough assessment by the Well Drillers, it was recommended that a new well needed to be drilled.

Dansville Water Wells, Inc. of 8963 Dansville-Mt. Morris Road, and under the direction of Owner, Ron Hall, Jr., took on the job and drilled a new 120' 10" well. Work details also included the installation of a complete water system; including pump, tank and piping. Further, Dansville Water Wells replumbed the system within the house. Estimated job cost amassed to \$15,000.00 with \$0.00 cost to the Veteran. The entire system was funded for by the Empire State Water Well Association through donations from its members.

Our staff and volunteers take pride in caring for our Veteran population. It is, however, through efforts such as yours, that give us the opportunity to provide for Veterans' unique needs, that a traditional medical center would not provide. This Veteran expresses his deep gratitude for enhancing his quality of life, and that of his family's. They now have peace of mind and life-sustaining water to support a healthy life together. Social Worker, Arick Combs, also extends heartfelt thanks for the email and collaboration that changed his Veteran's life for the better. He also remarked on the professionalism and sensitivity of Dansville, noting the Veteran's diagnosis of PTSD and his hesitancy in initially trusting them inside their home.

Together, we will make certain that the brave men and women who have fought for our honor and freedom will never be forgotten. We are so grateful for the generosity of Empire State Water Well Drillers Association, and especially to the Dansville Water Wells Inc., and we look forward to an ongoing and fruitful partnership.

Sincerely,

Bruce Tucker, LCSW-R
Medical Center Director

Regina L. Deck, Acting Chief
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Legislative Update

from Joshua Oppenheimer, Greenberg Traurig

In 2022 Governor Hochul and Lieutenant Governor Delgado were elected. The current DEC commissioner is **Basil Seggos** who appears to be a smart and dedicated gentleman. The New York Senate is composed of 63 members with a party breakdown of 42 Democrats and 21 Republicans. The majority leader is **Senator Andrea Stewart-Cousins**, the Environmental Committee Chair is **Senator Pete Harckham**, and the Health Committee Chair is **Senator Gustavo Rivera**. The Assembly has 150 members. The speaker is **Assemblyman Carl Heastie**. **Assemblywoman Deborah Glick** chairs the Environmental committee and **Amy Paulin** the health committee. Both houses have a super majority favoring the Democrats.

On the Legislative front:

Private Well Testing Act A.5979/S.1650 which mandated testing upon sale or purchase of a home. It was introduced nearly two decades ago and has occasionally passed in the Assembly. It never passed the Senate and has not had much traction recently. Also, the **Water Well and Water Supply Education Act** appears to have died since it was not reintroduced this session.

Geothermal Borehole A.6949/S.6604 In 2022, **NYS Climate Action Council's** scoping plan stated that the electrification of buildings through closed-loop geothermal heating and cooling systems can help with the State's efforts to achieve

decarbonization goals. This bill, which has passed both the Senate and Assembly, will allow geothermal boreholes to go beyond 500 feet and be exempt from the **DEC Division of Mining** regulations. It will allegedly save billions of dollars. The bill is sitting on the Governor's desk. The change in the code would only consist of 5 words but the bill is a wordy justification of the proposed change. The association has written an opposition memo concerning ground water safety. There is great concern regarding unregistered and uncertified drillers contaminating the groundwater.

Real Property Tax Credit for Geothermal which would allow over a period of 4 years, equal to 10% of the cost of the geothermal system per year, up to \$62,500 did not get acted on this year.

Advanced Clean Truck regulations were signed into legislation in 2021 by Governor Hochul establishing a statutory goal that all new vehicles sold in New York be zero emissions vehicles (ZEV). By 2035 100% of all lightweight trucks and by 2045 all medium and heavy weight trucks "where feasible" must be ZEV. This was modeled after California's Clean Truck Rule and has forced some trucks off the roads. It is being phased in for vehicles sales beginning 2025. DEC's rules require that by 2025:

- **55%** of Class 2b-3 truck sales (8,501 lbs. to 14,000 lbs.) are to be zero emissions
- **75%** of Class 4-8 straight truck sales (14,000+lbs) are to be zero emissions
- **40%** of truck tractor sales are to be zero emissions.

They will also be imposing a reporting requirement beginning in 2023 for large fleet owners. We are currently not sure about the impact on used vehicles or privately sold vehicles. Our government affairs committee is researching this more. We are looking at aligning ourselves with other large groups opposing this legislation. 🗨️

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Flammable Liquid Fire Safety

From NGWA Safety Facts Sheets

After putting an underground type gasoline tank on the rails to be cut into pieces, John checked the tank by looking through a four-inch hole in the side of the tank and detected a strong odor of fumes. Bob Smith also checked and said it was mostly water. Bob followed the usual procedure prior to cutting a tank by placing the lighted torch at the bottom of the tank and removing himself about 30 feet down the track until a hole had been made in the tank. If any fumes were present and an explosion occurred, it would be vented through the two vent holes already punched into the sides of the tank. John saw Bob walk back to the tank and pick up the torch, he heard an explosion and saw Bob lying between the tracks and beneath the end of the tank which had blown off.

People! Flammable liquids are among the most lethal potentially dangerous fire hazards imaginable, and almost every plant uses them!

Flammable liquids have a low flash-fire point. Their vapors are highly sensitive to the slightest spark. Static electricity alone can set them ablaze. Then how do we avoid a possible holocaust when dealing with such extremely volatile chemical substances?

Let's identify some problem areas so that corrective action can be taken.

- Are all connections on drums and piping carrying combustible liquids both vapor and liquid tight?
- Are flammable liquids kept in closed containers when not in use?
- Are we promptly cleaning up all spills of flammable or combustible liquids?
- Are we storing in covered metal receptacles all our combustible waste such as oily rags, etc., and disposing of it daily?

- Are we storing gas and other flammable liquid in approved containers?
- Are storage cabinets for flammable liquids labeled "Flammable – Keep Fire Away?" And are we attentive to the warning?
- Do we keep more than one day's supply of flammable liquid outside the approved storage cabinet or room?
- Are LP gas storage tanks guarded to prevent damage from vehicles?
- Are "No Smoking" signs posted on or near those LP gas tanks?


People, these are just a sample of prevalent conditions that may exist in our place of employment. I am quite sure some of these conditions do exist here. It is up to us, you and I, to be very conscious of the immediate danger imposed by improper fire prevention and lack of respect for flammable liquids.

Federal Regulations: § 397.13 Smoking.

No person may smoke or carry a lighted cigarette, cigar, or pipe on or within 25 feet of—

(a) A motor vehicle which contains Class 1 materials, Class 5 materials, or flammable materials classified as Division 2.1, Class 3, Divisions 4.1 and 4.2; or

(b) An empty tank motor vehicle which has been used to transport Class 3, flammable materials, or Division 2.1 flammable gases, which when so used, was required to be marked or placarded in accordance with the rules in § 177.823 of this title.


NYS DOT: No Smoking' shall be prominently displayed on the vehicle, and smoking prohibited within 50 feet during fueling. 

I'm a Victim of Car Theft. Now What?

Unfortunately, you're not the only one. According to the **National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)**, a motor vehicle was stolen every 32 seconds in the U.S. in 2022.

NHTSA recommends contacting police immediately to file a stolen vehicle report — this will give you essential information you'll need for your insurance claim, so ask for a copy of the report or case number. Be sure to contact your insurance company to file a claim within 24 hours to ensure a smooth claims process.

If you have a GPS-enabled security system, turn this information over to the police when you file the report. If you locate the vehicle on your own, contact the police and your insurance company as soon as possible.

Your informed decisions can play a significant role in the security of your belongings and your ability to recover them in the event of a crime. Follow our tips to help improve your car safety and safeguard your belongings. 



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The Groundwater Foundation launches Water Well Wish

August 1, 2023

The Groundwater Foundation is launching its new nationwide grant program, [Water Well Wish](#), which will provide grants to low-income individuals to repair or replace private water wells at no cost to the recipient.

The program will work directly with families across the United States and provide 100 percent of the funding to repair an existing system or drill a new water well. This will provide families with access to clean water for drinking, cooking, personal hygiene, washing dishes and clothes, and more.

Water Well Wish was created to help families in need who rely on private water wells but cannot afford the upfront cost of drilling a new water well or having their current system repaired. It is estimated that more than two million Americans face water insecurity and lack a reliable source of safe, clean water.

Private water wells provide water for an estimated 40 million Americans, largely in rural and underserved

areas of the country, and can cost, on average, between \$10,000 to \$30,000 to drill and install.


Because private water wells are not funded by public dollars, their owners are often left with little or no support from local, state, and federal governments. Many water well owners are also unaware of how to properly manage and maintain their systems.

“It’s hard to imagine people in the United States struggling to access water, but it happens every day and in every part of the country,” said NGWA and **The Groundwater Foundation** CEO **Terry S. Morse, CAE, CIC**. “Water Well Wish is our attempt to help bridge this divide and provide people with something we all deserve — access to safe, clean water.”

Water Well Wish will be completely funded by corporate and private donations, and through its former entity, the **Foundation for Affordable Drinking Water**, has already assisted 110 families across the United States in drilling new water wells.


For a family to be eligible, they must own and reside in their home, their income must be below their local poverty level, and they must be denied a low-interest loan through a federal, state, or local government rural water program.

“We want to provide people with this very basic need of life,” Morse said. “Life expectancy is reduced by 20 years without access to clean water. If you spend your day worrying about where you’re going to get water, how are you expected to succeed or focus on anything else?”

The Groundwater Foundation is operated by NGWA. 

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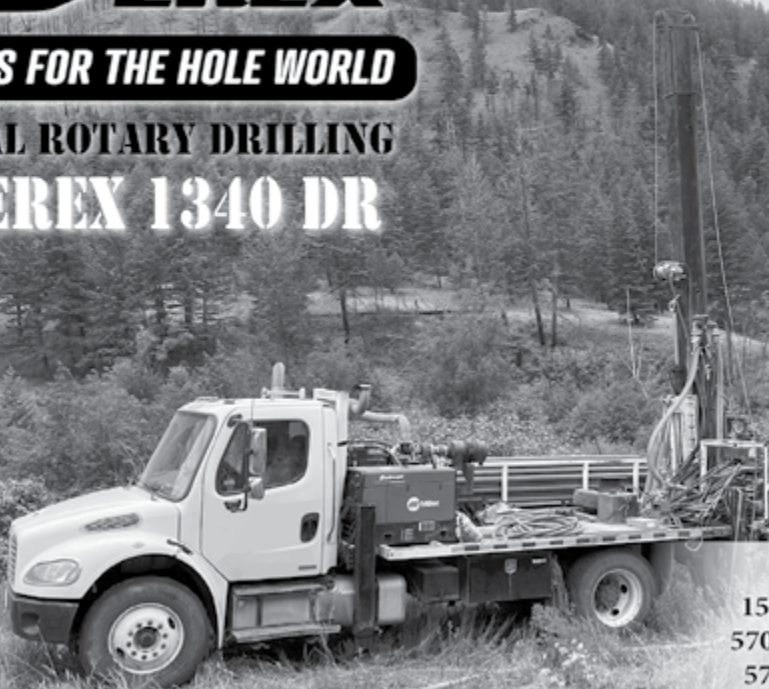
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Any ESWWDA member wishing to voice their concern with the contamination of ground water by injection wells should contact:

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Scholarship Money Available

As we approach the beginning of another school year, college-bound students and their families are searching for available funds to help offset the cost of further education. The ESWWDA offers a scholarship to applicants whose course of study is [related to the water well industry](#). Preference is given to family members of association members and secondly to those attending 2-year programs at an accredited school.

Further information is available by contacting
the **Scholarship Committee Chairperson, Jim Utter.**

Albert H. Mack Scholarship Guidelines

Guidelines for the establishment of the scholarship fund and awarding of scholarship monies for ESWWDA:

A. Scholarship Fund

1. Maximum funds available in one calendar year: \$2,500.
2. One thousand dollars per year to be set aside until the fund reaches \$7,500.

B. Awarding of Scholarships

1. Preference to be given to sons or daughters of association members.
2. Preference to be given to students attending 2-year programs.
3. Scholarships available only to persons whose course of study is related to the water well industry.
4. Persons may make application to the scholarship committee only after acceptance at an accredited school, offering a program related to the water well industry.
5. Funds may be distributed to more than one person in any one calendar year.

Daniel M. Shultes Scholarship Fund Guidelines

This scholarship is a one-time award to children of Contractor members in good standing who are attending college in a field of study outside the industry or areas not covered by the [Al Mack Scholarship](#).

Awarding of Scholarships

- Preference to be given to children of Full Contractor members
- Preference to be given to students attending minimum of a 2-year program
- Persons may make applications to the scholarship committee only after acceptance at an accredited school.
- Funds may be distributed to more than one person in any one calendar year.
- Application deadline is April 1st of each year.
- Applicants are selected via a blind selection process.
- The number of scholarships and the amount of the scholarship are at the discretion of the Scholarship Committee and cannot exceed a total of \$1000 per calendar year.

For more information contact the scholarship committee or go on our website at
www.nywelldriller.org

ESWWDA Hole Talk Ad Rates (per year - 4 issues)

Business Card ... \$200

1/2 Page ... \$1000

1/4 Page ... \$500

Full Page ... \$1,500

Please call Susan Bates at (315) 225-3060 if you have any questions,
or email your advertisement to: gramsue67@gmail.com.



Affiliate Organization
member of NGWA

The membership of the
ESWWDA consists of
contractors involved
in the water supply industry
including but not limited to:

- Drilling Contractors
- Water System Installers
- Manufacturers and Suppliers
- Engineers & Hydrogeologists
- Contractor Associates
- Student Associates

Send us your events!

To place an item in this calendar,
or to submit an article
or advertisement, please email
Jewels2564@aol.com
or **Gramsue67@gmail.com**
no later than **November 1, 2023**,
the next **Hole Talk** deadline.

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 13-14, 2023

ESWWDA Fall Meeting and Steeplechase Races

Genesee Valley Hunt Races Henrietta, NY
Hosted by **Dave Chugg** and **Dave & Deb Root**
Dave will be hosting a **Friday cocktail party**
at his farm. Lodging will be at the **Quality Inn**
and the **Hampton Inn**, Geneseo, Details at:
www.nywelldriller.org

October 17-19, 2023

Water Systems Council Annual Meeting/ Live Auction/Golf Tournament

Online registration is now open for the **2023 WSC**
Fall Members' Meeting & Water Well Trust Golf
Tournament and Live Auction, which will be held
October 17-19 at **The Westin Dallas Stonebriar**
Golf Resort & Spa in **Frisco, TX**.
Details at: **www.wsc.org**

December 5-7, 2023

NGWA Trade Show Las Vegas, NV
Organized by **National Ground Water**
Association, is a 3-day international trade show.

Visit www.nywelldriller.org

The event is set to be held on Dec 5-7, 2023
in **Las Vegas, NV, United States**. The venue of
this event is **Las Vegas Convention Center** and
frequency is annual (every year). It is open to trade,
industry & academic. **www.NGWA.org**

January 16-17, 2024

ESWWDA Annual Meeting and Table Top Display

Turning Stone Resort and Casino, Verona, NY
For more information: **www.nywelldriller.org**
or call **(315)225-3060**. Details will also be available
in the winter edition of **Hole Talk**.

March 8-9, 2024

New England Water Well Show

2024 Expo is scheduled for March 8-9. Seminars will
be held on Friday from 4:00 - 7:00pm and Saturday
9:00am - 11:00am. Expo will be held Friday evening
4:00pm - 8:00pm (No, Friday night dinner buffet)
then again Saturday 8:00 - 1:00pm.

New England Water Well Association - Exhibitors
www.newwassociation.org/exhibitors.html

April 2024

Spring Meeting, Kingston, NY

Date to be announced