### Yankee Conference on Environmental Health Newsletter



### Message from the Chair Person

Scott Cook, YC Board of Directors, Chairman & CEHA Representative

Welcome to the first edition of the Newsletter of the Yankee Conference on Environmental Health!

The Yankee Conference Board of Directors (YCBOD) has decided to create this newsletter as a tool to promote the Yankee Conference on Environmental Health and to connect and to communicate with the New England affiliates of the National Environmental Health Association that make up the Yankee Conference Board of Directors. In this and future editions of the newsletter, we will provide information and updates on the upcoming conference, news from the past conference, messages from the Yankee Conference Board of Directors, and news from each of the affiliates.

The Yankee Conference on Environmental Health is a collaboration between the Connecticut Environmental Health Association (CEHA), the Massachusetts Environmental Health Association (MEHA), the Northern New England Environmental Health Association (NNEEHA) and the Rhode Island Environmental Health Association (RIEHA). Two representatives from each affiliate make up the Yankee Conference Board of Directors. Each year the board elects a Chairperson, a Treasurer and a Secretary of the board. In addition, there is an important nonvoting member of the board that is the NEHA Region 9 Vice-President. Each year one of the affiliates acts as the host of the conference on a rotating basis. It is the boards function to oversee the planning and execution of the conference as performed by the host affiliate. This year, the Rhode Island Environmental Health Association is our host, and they have planned another great conference!

The YCBOD is aware of the ever-growing challenges each year to host this conference. It is the goal of the board that the conference provides an overall quality experience for attendees that includes continuing education, professional development, professional recognition, networking and local sightseeing. That is what makes this conference special. The YCBOD is

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committed to continuing success of this conference, and to the success of each affiliate hosting the conference. Each year we learn, we apply what we learn, and then we learn some more. We are committed to doing what is necessary to keep the Yankee Conference on Environmental Health viable, affordable and essential to all practitioners of Environmental Public Health in New England and elsewhere. We look forward to seeing you this year in Newport, Rhode Island for the 55th Annual Yankee Conference on Environmental Health! Thank you for your support!

## 55th Annual Yankee Conference on Environmental Health

The Rhode Island Environmental Health Association is proud to host the 55th Annual Yankee Conference on Environmental Health on October 4th and 5th, 2017 in scenic Newport, Rhode Island.

The Yankee Conference is the premier gathering of environmental health professionals from throughout the Northeast. Its purpose is to provide the latest information on topics such as environmental leadership, food protection, preparedness, recreational health, on-site sewage disposal, air quality, and many other environmental health topics.

We have planned to provide you with excellent educational and networking opportunities during the day, while you enjoy the sights and sounds of gorgeous Newport, RI at night.

Find full conference schedule, registration details, and vendor/sponsorship information at: https://rieha.wildapricot.org/

Questions? Email: RIYankeeConference@gmail.com

### **NEWPORT HARBOR HOTEL & MARINA**

The Newport is a fantastic 133 room, full service hotel, located in the heart of downtown Newport. It's also the home of the new Saltwater Restaurant with million dollar views of the Newport Harbor and sunsets.Room Rate : \$171.00 per night\* You can visit <u>newporthotel.com</u> or call 1-800-955-2558 to reserve your room.

Reservations must be made before August 31st, 2017. One parking space is included for each room reserved.

\*Be sure to use the YANKEECON17 code both online and with the reservation agent.



# National Environmental Health Association Update

Larry Ramdin, NEHA Region 9 Vice-President

The NEHA AEC will be held in Grand Rapids Michigan from July 10-13. The agenda is posted on NEHA.org. The 2018 AEC will be held in Anaheim California.

NEHA has hired Jonna Ashley as the Membership Manager and Kristie Denbrock as the Education Coordinator. They will be working on new outreach and educational opportunities for members.

Additionally NEHA has announced two new credentials, both aimed at building an international workforce of individuals who have been vetted and are qualified to meet food safety auditing requirements, such as those mandated by the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA). These new credentials – Certified in Food Safety Supplier Audits (CFSSA) and Registered FoodSafety Auditor (RFSA) – will meet needs throughout the international supply chain for a workforce of independent, guaranteed-capable food safety auditing professionals.



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