

**MAINE RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION  
NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK PROCLAMATION 2026**

**WHEREAS**, National Apprenticeship Week 2026 (April 26 - May 2) offers an opportunity to raise awareness and appreciation for the vital role of Registered Apprenticeship in strengthening Maine's water and wastewater workforce; and

**WHEREAS**, the Maine Rural Water Association (MRWA) acknowledges the critical importance of developing an inclusive, future-ready workforce to meet the evolving needs of our communities and protect public health through water and wastewater services; and

**WHEREAS**, Registered Apprenticeship provides a time-tested, industry-led training framework that equips job seekers with skills while allowing employers to build a loyal, competent, and sustainable talent pipeline; and

**WHEREAS**, the Maine Rural Water Association is committed to ensuring equitable access to high-quality training and employment opportunities for all individuals, particularly those from underserved backgrounds including rural residents, women, people of color, youth, veterans, individuals with disabilities, and those seeking second chances; and

**WHEREAS**, MRWA recognizes the transformative potential of Registered Apprenticeship to rebuild infrastructure, secure essential public services, advance environmental resilience, and create long-term career pathways in the water sector.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, **Kirsten Hebert**, Executive Director of the **Maine Rural Water Association**, encourage all water and wastewater professionals across Maine to honor the value of Registered Apprenticeship during **National Apprenticeship Week** and to support the growth and development of a skilled workforce through apprenticeship.

**NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP WEEK  
April 26 - May 2, 2026**

**IN SOLIDARITY,**

*Kirsten Hebert*

Kirsten Hebert (Feb 24, 2026 09:42:33 EST)

Kirsten Hebert  
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# MRWA Proclamation for US DOL 2026

Final Audit Report

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