



# MONTHLY

News and Views from the Connecticut Association of Home Inspectors, Inc.

November 2005

## Inside this Issue

President's Corner	2
November Speaker	2
Tid Bits	2
CAHI Holiday Party	2
Connecticut Law Seminar	3
Continuing Education Bus Trip	3
Article/Speaker Reward	4
Contact CAHI	4

## Meeting Dates

- Nov 16** **Ventilation – Jim Dineen, Benjamin Obdyke, Inc**  
**\*\* Note:** Early date due to Thanksgiving
- Dec 10** **Holiday Party - Yankee Silversmith, Wallingford**
- Jan 14** **CT Law Seminar – Holiday Inn, North Haven**

**Holiday Inn**  
**201 Washington Ave**  
**North Haven**  
**(203) 239-6700**

## Dug Wells Susceptible to Contamination During Heavy Rains

Ronnie Fields, Premier Laboratory

*DAYVILLE, CT* – October 11, 2005– The recent heavy rains may seem a welcome relief after Connecticut's long drought this summer, but homeowners with private wells need to be particularly vigilant during this time. Heavy rains wash along the surfaces of roads, fields, forests and rooftops and can cause contamination of well water. Dug wells are especially susceptible to contamination because they are more directly exposed to surface water run-off. Drilled wells can also be problematic because of potential broken seals and because some drilled wells are sealed below ground level.

Rainwater can mix with contaminated soil while seeping into the ground, carrying the contamination from the soil into groundwater. Homeowners should be concerned. Phil Rusconi, CEO of Premier Laboratory in Dayville, cautions, "Any change in water color, odor or clarity is immediate cause for concern. Also, bacterial contamination can occur without any of these symptoms." Premier Laboratory is a state certified drinking water laboratory that has been testing groundwater for 30 years.

Potential health problems from groundwater contamination run the gamut from simple gastric disorders caused by bacteria to possible exposure to cancer-causing agents. Infants, the elderly and chronically ill individuals are the populations most at risk for becoming sick from contamination.

Homeowners need to educate themselves about the type of well they have, location and depth. If homeowners detect a difference in the taste, color or odor of their drinking water, a certified environmental lab should be contacted for immediate testing. A list of certified laboratories can be found at Connecticut's Department of Public Health drinking water homepage. [http://www.dph.state.ct.us/BRS/Environmental\\_Lab/environmental\\_laboratory.htm](http://www.dph.state.ct.us/BRS/Environmental_Lab/environmental_laboratory.htm)

*Premier Laboratory is a leading regional environmental laboratory that specializes in drinking water testing and the scheduling of related services. Premier provides direct service to public water suppliers and private well owners and is certified throughout New England. The laboratory has been in business since 1977 and resides in a state-of-the-art facility in Dayville. Homeowners can call 800.334.0103 to schedule next-day testing.*

Articles published in the CAHI Monthly are the sole opinion of the author. CAHI does not endorse or state a position for or against the content of said articles.

## President's Corner

Bernie Caliendo

**H**ere we are into the fall already. Rising interest rates, heating fuels & gasoline increases may make this a challenging winter season for many, including home inspectors and home owners alike. Get prepared! Set a little aside for the unexpected. Now more than ever is the time to bring your fees up to the real value of a home inspection. You have a lot of exposure in this business and you should be compensated for the professional that you are.

For those of you who missed our bus trip to tour the manufacturing plants of floor & roof trusses and modular homes, the tours were not only a great experience, but a great education in itself. I encourage all our members to participate in these trips. As a benefit, you always receive continuing education credit towards license renewal in both CT & MA. We would like to thank everyone at Stevenson's Truss Tech division for their tour including their expert discussion group, information packets and hospitality.

Proceeding onto Westchester Modular Homes was another wealth of knowledge as we saw first hand innovative technologies that help create a top quality home off site. Our Q & A session addressed the myths some have about modular homes, and proved, along with an employee-owned corporation, just what pride & quality can produce. Their special lunch treat was a perfect way to end the day before heading home. Our many thanks to Westchester Modular Homes!

As you experience our continuing education programs, you can be assured that our seminars and these bus trips are second to none in education.

Those of you, who were not able to make it or have never been on one of CAHI sponsored trips, consider joining us in the spring for another informative ride.

## November Keynote Speaker

**T**his month's meeting topic is **Ventilation.**

Our meeting will feature Jim Dineen, Benjamin Obdyke, Inc as the speaker, presenting a seminar on all the present types of ventilation and applications.

Benjamin Obdyke, Inc. manufactures types of ventilation systems. You may have seen some of these applications and didn't know what they were or the need to have them installed. Don't miss this presentation!

2 hours of Continuing Education Credits

## Tid Bits

- ✓ Modular homes are NOT Manufactured homes.
- ✓ Modular homes are built to the IBC.
- ✓ Manufactured homes follow lower HUD standards.
- ✓ Modular homes can be identified by a spec plate in the kitchen sink base cabinet.

## CAHI Annual Holiday Party

Saturday, December 10, 2005  
6:30 pm until ?

Yankee Silversmith Restaurant  
Route 5, Wallingford, CT

Don't miss our annual Holiday Party. Hors d'oeuvres, open bar, dinner buffet with 3 main selections and all the fixings, and dessert. You can't beat this - \$50.00 per couple!

Sign up today on our web site – [www.ctinspect.com](http://www.ctinspect.com) On the home page click on "special events", hit Holiday Party, click on the information including how many will attend, and pay by credit card. Checks may also be sent to our Treasurer Pete Petrino at CAH, 18 Garden Place, Derby, CT 06418. It's that easy. Great food, drink & conversation for 50 bucks, it's less than filling your gas tank!



## Connecticut Law Seminar

January 14, 2006 8:00 - 11:00 am

CAHI is sponsoring the Connecticut Law Seminar required for license renewal at the Holiday Inn, exit 12 off I-91 in North Haven, CT from 8:00 to 11:00 am. Again our Attorney Kent Mahwinney will be presenting the seminar. Once you hear Kent you can't stop listening. He has a wealth of knowledge in Connecticut law. We will be serving pastries & refreshments during the breaks.

Don't wait to get this seminar under your belt. Sign up NOW. 3-hour CT Law Attendance Certificates will be issued at the conclusion of the seminar.

Fee: \$99.00

## Continuing Education **Bus Trip**

On October 23rd, CAHI members traveled by bus to Stevenson Lumber, in Monroe, CT to see their truss construction operation first hand. Plant Manager Joe DeMartino, welcomed the group with hot coffee and a short introduction about the operation. Members were informed of quality control measures, design/installation overview, component & system level responsibilities, and installation cognizance followed by an extensive plant tour.

The bus tour continued to Wingdale NY, to Westchester Modular Homes, and were welcomed by Vice President of Sales and Marketing, John R. Colucci. After the introduction, members were split into 2 groups, due to the space restraints and safety concerns inside the factory. Members were given guided tours by owners of the factor, (all employees are owners), and were able to see the construction of the "boxers" from start to shipping, a very enlightening tour. Our hosts were very welcoming, informative and even provided lunch.

Pete Petrino  
CAHI Treasurer



# \$ 25.00 Reward

## Newsletter Article or Guest Speaker

CAHI will pay \$25.00 to any member who provides us with a guest speaker for one of our monthly meetings or for any article that is submitted and used in the monthly newsletter.

Your guest speaker's name and contact number should be given to Woody Dawson (203) 272-7400 or Barry Small (860) 655-6383 (barrysmall@yahoo.com).

Articles must be e-mailed to Rich Kobylenski (rkoblenski023@earthlink.net) and should be a PDF or Word document. Articles should pertain to our industry.

We will review articles for content and reserve the right to edit, use and/or refuse them.

### Contact CAHI

18 Garden Place  
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Web: [www.ctinspect.com](http://www.ctinspect.com)

#### CAHI Executive Board

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#### CT Home Inspection Licensing Board

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William Stanley	ASHI
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J. Andre Fornier	Realtor

The Licensing Board meetings are held at 9:30 am,  
Department of Consumer Protection, Room 117, 165 Capitol  
Avenue, Hartford.

*The public is always welcome.*

E-mail Bernie Caliendo for the latest meeting schedule at  
[bsurehomeinspect@juno.com](mailto:bsurehomeinspect@juno.com)

**Artemis**  
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