



THE PIPELINE

SPRING 2026

NEWS FROM THE BEST IN THE PLUMBING INDUSTRY

FEATURED INSIDE:

PLUMBING INDUSTRY
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CORPORATE MECHANICAL
CONVERTING OFFICE BUILDING
INTO SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY
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ABOUT THE PIPELINE

The Pipeline is a joint labor-management newsletter published quarterly by the Greater Boston Plumbing Contractors Association and Plumbers & Gasfitters Local 12. The Greater Boston PCA and Local 12 partner on *The Pipeline* to provide timely information and news about the plumbing industry in eastern Massachusetts.

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Message from the PCA President and Local 12 Business Manager

Welcome to the Spring 2026 issue of *The Pipeline*: your source for news from the best in the plumbing industry.

Thanks to all who joined us at the State House as we celebrated World Plumbing Day and met with legislators and policymakers for our Annual Plumbing Industry Advocacy Day. It was another productive day as we met with dozens of senators and representatives and Eric Paley, Secretary of Economic Development under Governor Maura Healey. We have lots of legislative objectives this year, with water conservation and safety being top priorities. See photos from the event on pages 6-7.

Inside this issue of *The Pipeline*, you'll find a feature story on AJM Plumbing & Heating Company and the outstanding work they continue to deliver. We also highlight Corporate Mechanical's transformation of an existing downtown office building into modern dormitories for Suffolk University—an impressive example of adaptive reuse and craftsmanship.

In addition, this issue showcases how E.H. Marchant Co. is embracing innovative technologies, moving beyond traditional wet sewer ejector basin systems, and implementing advanced ejector pumping solutions.

We're also pleased to highlight the success and growth of Cox Plumbing, which continues to serve its community with care and expertise.

We're proud to share these stories of innovation, progress, and success across our industry.

We hope you all had a safe winter and look forward to seeing you all soon. Have a great spring!

Kenneth Reagan

President

Greater Boston Plumbing Contractors Association

James Vaughan

Business Manager

Plumbers and Gasfitters Local 12

Send us your photos from the jobsite or company, charity or community events. Send to PlumbersLocal12@617MediaGroup.com

Greater Boston PCA Donates \$35,000 to Help the Homeless



^ L to R: Andrew DeAngelo, Mary Jane Walsh, and Kenneth Reagan with donation check to Boston Healthcare for the Homeless Program

The Greater Boston Plumbing Contractors Association donated \$35,000 to seven charities supporting communities throughout greater Boston over the holidays.

At the annual holiday gala at View Boston, the GBPCA was proud to present \$5,000 checks to the Salvation Army's Kroc Center, a recreational center for Boston youth; Christmas in the City, which hosts a holiday party and provides support to homeless families and children in Boston; and the Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program, which provides health care for individuals and families experiencing homelessness in Boston.

Also receiving \$5,000 donations were:

- Community Servings, a nonprofit in Jamaica Plain that provides healthy meals for families struggling with food insecurity;
- Father Bill's, which operates homeless shelters in Quincy and Brockton;

- Rosie's Place, which provides housing and support for homeless women and domestic violence victims in Boston; and
- Greater Boston Food Bank, which distributes nutritious food to people who struggle to have enough to eat in Eastern Massachusetts.

"The Greater Boston PCA is proud to support organizations serving the poor, homeless and most vulnerable members of our communities, especially around the holidays," said Greater Boston PCA President Kenneth Reagan. "Greater Boston PCA contractors employ thousands of skilled, licensed plumbers throughout the region and we are proud to be able to give back to the communities where our members live and work every day."

Since 2020, the Greater Boston PCA has donated \$160,000 to local organizations in Boston around the holidays.

Corporate Mechanical Helps Convert 101 Tremont Street into Suffolk University Dorms

Corporate Mechanical has been working hard at 101 Tremont Street in Boston to transform old office spaces into a new residence hall for Suffolk University Students. Nine upper floors of the building, located in the heart of downtown, are being converted into student housing while two restaurants remain open on the first floor.

Each floor, from the third to the eleventh, includes six shared, mixed-gender bathrooms, while the second floor will serve as a common area with break rooms, bathrooms, and kitchenettes.

Corporate Mechanical is performing the plumbing work while working closely alongside multiple trades to keep the project moving efficiently. While prefabrication has become increasingly common, this job required most of the installation work to be done on site. Aside from some prefabricated toilet carriers designed to make installation more simple, much of the piping and layout has been built in place.

Adding another layer of complexity, there are two active restaurants operating below the construction site. With businesses serving customers directly beneath the work area, Corporate has coordinated with the restaurants to minimize disruptions. In some cases, that has meant working unusual shifts (like 2 a.m. to 10 a.m.) to make sure the job stays on schedule while the restaurants operate safely below.

“There’s a lot moving at once on this job” said Corporate’s Plumbing Outside Superintendent Ramon Berrios. “But thanks to our great crew, the project has been going smoothly.”

Foreman Evan DiSola has been leading on site and keeping the work on schedule despite the logistical challenges. The basement has already provided a few surprises. At one point, the team learned two separate water mains serve the building. The discovery helped simplify the configuration of the piping and allowed the team to tie into the more convenient main.

Old downtown buildings often come with unexpected hurdles, but Corporate Mechanical is prepared. No matter the task, their skilled crew of Local 12 plumbers is ready to meet the challenge.



^ Annabella Pena, first-year apprentice with Corporate



Plumbing Industry Day at the Statehouse 2026

Hundreds of plumbers, contractors and industry leaders celebrated “World Plumbing Day” on March 11 at Beacon Hill, meeting with top legislators and policymakers to support policies that protect water supplies and encourage water conservation efforts.

“Meeting with legislators to promote economic development and promote policies that conserve water supplies and protect public health is essential to maintaining healthy communities,” said GBPCA Executive Director Andrew DeAngelo. “Massachusetts has some of the cleanest drinking water in the world and we need to keep it that

way by protecting our world-class plumbing code and ensuring that only licensed, well-trained plumbers are building and servicing our homes and businesses.”

Members of Local 12, the Greater Boston Plumbing Contractors Association and other industry groups met with nearly 50 lawmakers throughout the day. Speakers included state Sen. Patrick O’Connor, Sen. Pavel Payano of Lawrence, and Eric Paley, Secretary of the Office of Economic Development under Gov. Maura Healey. Plumbing industry leaders meet annually with lawmakers on Plumbing Industry Advocacy

Day to urge support for policies and legislation that protect water supplies, support union jobs, promote economic development, and encourage safe job sites and training.

Joining the GBPCA and Local 12 at the daylong event were the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials (IAPMO) and Plumbing, Heating, Cooling Contractors of Massachusetts, as well as several Massachusetts regional plumbing and plumbing inspector associations. Among the issues discussed were:

- A bill to increase the safe and efficient reuse of greywater
- A bill to add plumbing inspectors to mutual aid agreements
- Requiring water lead testing in schools and strengthening lead removal and disclosure requirements
- Funding to upgrade aging water infrastructure
- Removing PFAs and other “forever chemicals” from contaminating drinking water, soil and consumer products
- Creating proactive flood mitigation measures, including sump pump credits to help homeowners reduce flood risks



- Requiring licenses for drain cleaners
- Expanding geothermal and hydrogen energy opportunities

Several lawmakers stopped by to meet with the plumbing groups, while plumbers, inspectors, contractors and other industry professionals went door-to-door to advocate for a variety of issues with lawmakers. Advocacy Day coincided this year with World Plumbing Day, turning the day's focus onto the essence of plumbing: water safety and public health.

“When we protect water, we protect life,” said James Vaughan, Business Manager for Plumbers & Gasfitters Local 12 of Boston. “There is nothing more important than water safety. Without it, what do we have?”

AJM Plumbing & Heating Keeps the Massachusetts South Shore Warm

When a home loses heat in the middle of winter, it quickly becomes more than an uncomfortable inconvenience. In New England, it is a matter of safety. Long cold periods inside a home can lead to frozen pipes, property damage, or most importantly serious health risks. Families are not just calling for a repair. They are looking for reassurance, clear answers and someone they can trust to restore heat quickly and safely. That is exactly the approach Anthony Miccichi brings to every job done by AJM Plumbing & Heating.

For Anthony, this work is personal. As a husband and father, he understands firsthand how important a safe, warm home is for a family and how stressful a plumbing emergency can be for families. That perspective shapes the way he runs his business.

AJM focuses primarily on residential plumbing and heating systems in the South Shore and surrounding communities. Anthony has built a reputation for reliability and technical expertise, especially when it comes to diagnosing and troubleshooting boilers. Heating issues can be complex, but his approach is simple: identify the problem, explain it clearly to the homeowner and fix it the right way the first time.

Preparation is also a key part of the company's philosophy. Ahead of the snow storm earlier this year that buried most of the state, AJM made sure customers' systems were checked and ready before severe weather arrived. Being proactive instead of reactive helped prevent emergencies and gave homeowners peace of mind.



AJM also focuses on encouraging customers to choose the safest and most efficient products. In New England, cast iron boilers remain a proven and reliable solution. When installed and maintained properly, they deliver consistent heat and long service life that families can depend on for decades. Choosing the right boiler always comes down to what best fits the home, the customer's needs and the long term operating cost. Anthony often reminds customers that there is no one-size-fits-all solution.

"What I enjoy most is the ability to really help people," Anthony said. "Heating and plumbing systems are essential to daily life, and when something fails, it can be stressful for homeowners. Our goal is always to provide five star service at a fair and reasonable price, while being honest, transparent and respectful of our customers' homes and budgets."

Anthony's goal over the next three years is to continue building a strong local reputation while growing a small, highly-skilled team that shares the same values of quality workmanship and

customer care. He also plans to invest further in training, technology and efficiency so AJM can continue delivering top tier service while keeping pricing affordable and transparent.

Over the next decade, his vision is for AJM Plumbing & Heating to be recognized as one of the most trusted residential heating and plumbing companies in the region.

“Plumbing and heat work is about more than service and equipment, it is about people,” he said. “When you get a call in the middle of winter from a family with no heat, they are usually panicked and worried. Our job is to show up calm, explain what is going on, fix the problem and do it at a reasonable price. Seeing the relief on someone’s face after their heat is restored makes this work worth it.”



Annual Charles River Earth Day Cleanup

Please join the Greater Boston PCA and the Charles River Watershed Association as we embark on our annual river cleanup. The Annual Charles River Earth Day Cleanup will take place on **Friday, April 24 at 10:00 a.m.** The location will be announced soon. You can also contact the GBPCA at **978-777-8764** or **Admin@GreaterBostonPCA.com**.

Members of Local 12 and the GBPCA are proud to pitch in on this annual event to protect one of our most important natural resources!

Learn more about the Charles River Cleanup at **CharlesRiverCleanUp.org**



^ Local 12 and GBPCA members at last year’s Earth Day cleanup

HAVING A PLUMBING EMERGENCY?

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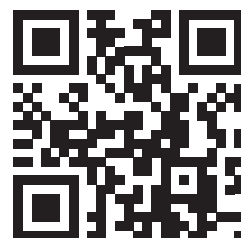
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Madison Park Career Day

Local 12 and the Greater Boston PCA were proud to participate at Career Day at Madison Park Technical Vocational High School in Boston. Representatives spoke with students about the many career paths in the plumbing industry and the benefits of becoming a union plumber.

Thank you to T.G. Gallagher, E.M. Duggan, P.J. Dionne, and the team at the Local 12 Training Center for taking the time to participate and engage with students throughout the day. A special thanks as well to the apprentices who shared their personal experiences and insights, helping students better understand what a career in the trade can look like.

Finally, thank you to all the students for their involvement, enthusiasm, and thoughtful questions. Your excitement and curiosity made the day truly worthwhile. The PCA and Local 12 are proud to help inspire the next generation of plumbers.



COX GROWS ITS PLUMBING DIVISION

Cox is growing rapidly, and their momentum is on full display at their Randolph headquarters. What began as a single warehouse has steadily evolved into a multi-building campus, reflecting the company's expanding workload and investments in new capabilities. With a growing list of projects and expanding divisions, the challenge of searching for additional space is seen as a reflection of success for the company rather than a challenge.

The Cox Plumbing group has been taking on an increasing number of projects while also expanding into service work to better support clients and capture a larger share of the market. This strategic growth has been supported by the company's investments in both their team and infrastructure.

Inside the shop, the plumbing division operates with a high level of organization and efficiency, just like Cox's teams in sheet metal, pipefitting, and controls. Materials enter the warehouse and move through a carefully planned prefabrication process before being sent to the field. Each piece is labeled and staged so crews know exactly what they are receiving and where it is being installed. Before leaving the shop, prefabbed skids are wrapped in protective white plastic to ensure they arrive onsite clean, intact, and ready for installation, creating what many at Cox describe as a true "white glove" experience for the field team and customers.

Just down the hill from the plumbing shop, Cox Process Pipe has introduced a new clean room dedicated to process piping. This specialized space is designed to maintain extremely clean



^ Steve Romonowski Journeyman



^ Andrew Thibeault Cox Superintendent, Nick Palermo GBPCA, and Brian Hart Cox Foreman



^ Eddie Leahy 4th year apprentice

conditions, preventing impurities from entering piping systems that serve hospitals, laboratories, and other sensitive environments where precision and cleanliness are critical.

Brian Hart, a foreman with Cox Process Pipe, noted that the company's "fully functioning clean room is up and running," explaining that it was designed to meet strict quality and cleanliness standards. Work inside the clean room is governed by strict protocols. Air is filtered continuously, tools must be calibrated before use, and workers wear specialized protective clothing, including boot covers and hair nets, to prevent contamination.

Every detail of the fabrication process is documented, ensuring that systems fabricated in the clean room meet the highest levels of quality and reliability, particularly for projects where performance can have life-critical implications.

"We are building systems and spaces that help our teams do their best work every day," said Andrew Thibeault, Outside Superintendent at Cox Plumbing. "Whether it is prefabrication, process piping, or service, the goal is to give our workforce the tools and support they need to deliver quality results for our clients."



^ Alec Desmond Cox Co-Owner gives Tour



^ Ryan Padula Journeyman



^ Boston College OverWatch

E.H. Marchant Moves Away from Wet Sewer Ejector Basin Systems

PCA signatory E.H. Marchant is increasingly turning to OverWatch inline sewage pumps when they run into problems with traditional wet well ejector basin systems. These pumps eliminate the need for large sewage pits inside buildings and replace them with a dry-pit configuration that uses the existing piping as retention.

Unlike a conventional ejector setup that relies on a pit and float system, OverWatch pumps are installed inline. When the main sewer backs up, a sensor signals the pump to cycle, moving wastewater without the need to store hundreds of gallons of raw sewage inside the building. While the technology has been around for several years, it only received full product acceptance roughly two years ago.

“With no standing sewage, there is significantly less odor, fewer pest issues, and far less ongoing maintenance,” said John Fitzgerald, a Project Manager at E.H. Marchant. “You’re eliminating a whole mess of problems that come with wet pits.”

Some common issues with traditional pumps include cockroaches, grease buildup, and float failures. E.H. Marchant often gets service calls when existing ejector pits are clogged or failing and become a source of nasty sewage smells entering occupied buildings. The newer pumps use chopper blades to cut up debris, and the pump heads can be swapped out easily if service is required.

E.H. Marchant has installed these systems for a growing list of institutional and commercial clients, including Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston College, Chelsea Police, and Merrimack College, among others. In each case, the goal is the same: get raw sewage out of the building and improve long-term reliability.

The retrofit process is straightforward but requires careful coordination. Crews empty and clean the existing wet pit, pump it down, plug the main, and tie in the new system. This is often done overnight to avoid disrupting operations or exposing occupants to odors. While some installations can be tricky, especially where multiple interceptors for sanitary and grease lines affect pipe pitch, Marchant's team of Local 12 plumbers have it down pat. Most installations are completed in under 16 hours. Foreman Jim Sullivan has led the work on the majority of these jobs for E. H. Marchant and has become their in-house expert on these pumps.

Marchant has also been rethinking their pump installations in new construction as well. In restaurant settings, grease that slips past interceptors can coat and weigh down float switches in traditional pits. This leads to failures and causes overflows, which Fitzgerald has noticed in multiple Seaport restaurants. By doing it the new way, they can remove floats from the equation and eliminate that risk.

There is a fiscal consideration, however, as the newer systems cost two to three times more than a conventional ejector pit. The long-term benefits, though, outweigh the upfront expense.

As more owners and engineers look for dependable, low-maintenance solutions, E.H. Marchant expects inline sewage pump systems to become far more common across the industry.

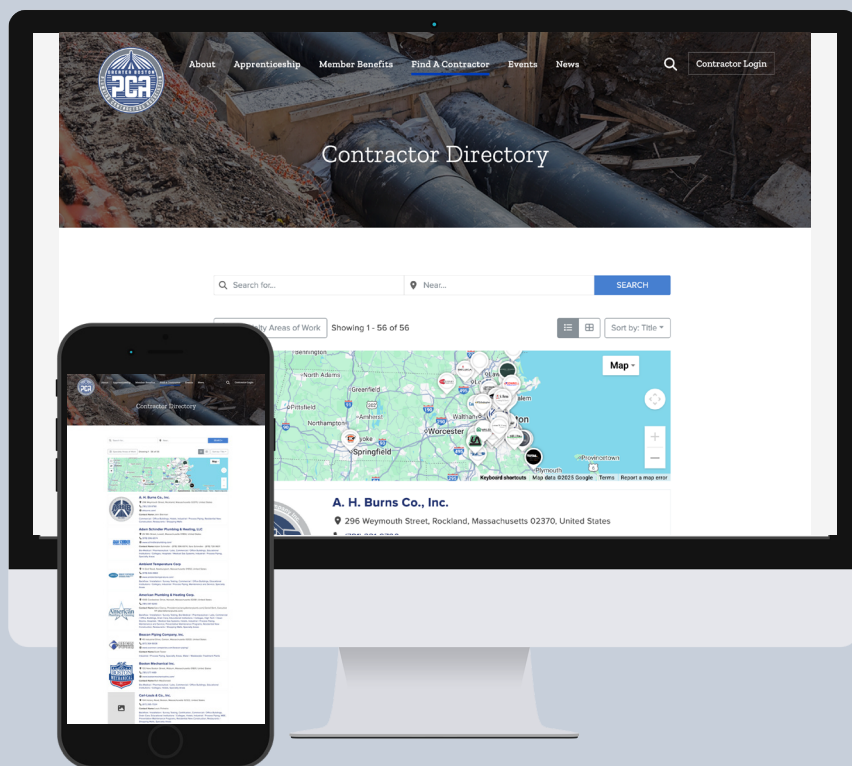


^ Chelsea Police Station OverWatch (before)



^ Chelsea Police Station OverWatch (after)

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