History  The New Hampshire Water Resources Research Center (NH WRRC), located on the campus of the University of New Hampshire, is an institute that serves as a focal point for research and information on water issues in the state and region. This Center was incorporated into the National Institutes for Water Resources program in 1965 as one of the original 14 state institutes.

Mission  The primary charges of each institute are: research, technology transfer and education of new professionals. The institutes accomplish these charges through Federal and state funding mechanisms.

Research  Annually, the NH WRRC supports several research projects, typically focused on hydrology, water quality or social science research in New Hampshire. One of the primary activities of the NH WRRC over the past 11 years has been to document the water quality in suburban New Hampshire basins. Although water quality is good overall, and does not yet limit water supply, our results have shown that a number of important water supplies are threatened or impaired by arsenic, chloride and nitrate. Some waters have been listed as impaired on the basis of our research, thereby allowing for planning to improve water quality and maintain a reliable water supply.

Technology and Information Transfer  Information transfer occurs through phone conversations and public presentations or discussions. The NH WRRC website (www.wrrc.unh.edu) provides access to NH WRRC projects, publications and news items regarding New Hampshire water issues. Staff also make presentations at national and international meetings on a variety of scientific topics.

The NH WRRC co-sponsors the Annual NH Water and Watershed Conference which is designed to meet the information and networking needs of researchers, students, legislators, water system operators, land use planners, government officials, consultants and watershed groups. It typically draws over 250 attendees. The NH WRRC also sponsors an Annual Science Symposium dedicated to exchanging research results from a rapidly developing watershed among scientists and local managers.

Education  Education plays a vital role at the NH WRRC. Most of the research projects funded by the NH WRRC involve graduate students, undergraduates and professors at the University of NH, creating learning opportunities for students with an interest in water research.

Water Quality Analysis Laboratory  The Water Quality Analysis Lab (WQAL) provides high-quality, reasonably priced analyses in support of research projects conducted by scientists and students of the University of NH, the state, and the nation.