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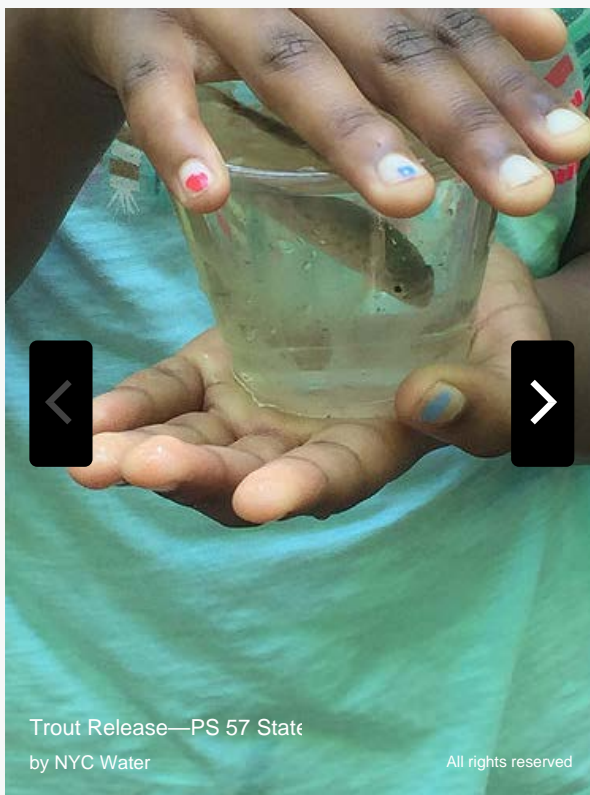
June 14, 2017

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Students from Staten Island Travel to Westchester County to Release Juvenile Trout Raised in Their Classroom

More Information

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Trout Release—PS 57 State
by NYC Water

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More Than 3,000 Students from New York City and the Upstate Watersheds Participated in the Environmental Education Program

Photos of the Trout Release Can be Viewed on [DEP's Flickr page](#)

Video of Trout in the Classroom Can be Viewed on [DEP's YouTube Page](#)

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) on Tuesday joined Trout Unlimited and 20 fourth grade students from P.S. 57 on Staten Island to release juvenile trout that the students raised in their classrooms since October of last year. This year, more than 3,000 students from schools in New York City and the upstate watersheds incubated trout eggs in their classrooms and raised them into juvenile trout, which are also called fingerlings. The 8-month long program culminates with students taking part in a field day, where they release the fingerlings into New York City watershed streams from April through June. The fingerlings were released into the Cross River yesterday where it passes

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through the Ward Pound Ridge Reservation in Westchester County on its way to the City's Cross River Reservoir.

"Ever since DEP began its partnership with Trout Unlimited 15 years ago, tens of thousands of students from New York City and beyond have had the opportunity to gain an appreciation for our shared water resources and to visit the watershed streams and reservoirs that supply their drinking water," said **DEP Acting Commissioner Vincent Sapienza**. "Trout in the Classroom is an engaging, hands-on program that provides a tangible and practical way to educate students from pre-K through high school about the source of their drinking water and the importance of protecting our watershed lands that supply the world class water we enjoy every day."

"Trout Unlimited is proud to be able to partner with DEP to bring this amazing program to the students of NYC and the NYC watersheds. Through TIC students have the opportunity to learn about NYC's unique watersheds, study wildlife in the classroom, and give back to nature by releasing their trout into the streams. TIC develops in students a connection to nature and leads them on the path to becoming lifelong stewards of the environment," said **Lilli Genovesi, Trout Unlimited's Trout in the Classroom Coordinator**.

The Trout in the Classroom Program in southern New York began in 2002 as a partnership between DEP and Trout Unlimited and has become a prototype for similar programs across the country. The program is multidisciplinary and adaptable for students of all ages, enabling teachers to cultivate a wide range of humanities and STEM knowledge and skills in their students, ranging from reading and creative writing to scientific observation. Participating classrooms receive trout eggs in October, giving students the opportunity to monitor water temperature, clarity, dissolved oxygen, ammonia, and pH as the eggs develop and grow into fingerlings over the course of the school year. As an aquatic indicator species, the trout also provide students the chance to learn about water quality and the ecological importance of the streams that feed New York City's water supply and the nearby forest habitat. To learn more about Trout in the Classroom in New York City and the New York City Watersheds, sponsor a school, get a school involved, or volunteer at the next Trout Release Field Day, visit the [DEP website](#) or contact Lilli Genovesi at lgenovesi@tu.org.

The New York State Department of Conservation (DEC) supports the program and sets guidelines for raising trout in the classroom and releasing them into the New York City watershed. Last fall, DEC provided approximately 20,000 trout eggs that were distributed for free to nearly 200 classrooms.

DEP manages New York City's water supply, providing more than one billion gallons of water each day to more than nine million residents, including eight million in New York City. The water is delivered from a watershed that extends more than 125 miles from the city, comprising 19 reservoirs and three controlled lakes. Approximately 7,000 miles of water mains, tunnels and aqueducts bring water to homes and businesses throughout the five boroughs, and 7,500 miles of sewer lines and 96 pump stations take wastewater to 14 in-city treatment plants. DEP has nearly 6,000 employees, including almost 1,000 in the upstate watershed. In addition, DEP has a robust capital program, with a planned \$20.7 billion in investments over the next 10 years that will create up to 3,000 construction-related jobs per year. For more information, visit nyc.gov/dep, like us on [Facebook](#), or follow us on [Twitter](#).

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