



PHOTO INFO...

**Fall Foliage**

Ashokan Reservoir - New York City Water Supply System

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

02-15

May 3, 2002

Contact: Geoff Ryan (718) 595-6600

**New York City Department of Environmental Protection Celebrates Water Week May 4 - May 11, 2002**

The quality of the water we drink and in the waterways surrounding New York City is of vital importance for all New Yorkers. That is why the City's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is joining water suppliers and wastewater treatment operators across the country in celebrating Water Week, May 4 through May 11. DEP will sponsor visits to two of its wastewater treatment plants during the week (see attached schedule of events) to highlight the importance of the Agency's work in protecting and improving the quality of water in our Harbor and its estuaries. Visitors will learn how water pollution control plants have helped the city achieve waterways that are cleaner today than they have been for generations.

DEP Commissioner Christopher O. Ward said, "On behalf of Mayor Bloomberg and all of us at DEP, I am pleased to invite the public to view the improved environment of New York Harbor as well as the advanced technology at two of our water pollution control plants. I also want to thank the students and teachers who participated in this year's Art & Poetry Contest, which features our need to save water and to protect water quality in our reservoirs, as well as the harbor. The celebration of Water Week provides people with opportunities to learn about the water supply system and DEP's efforts to protect it, the wastewater treatment process, and the importance of healthy waterways."

**Celebrate Decades of Clean Water at two of DEP's Wastewater Pollution Control Plants**

**May 6 and 7, Tallman Island Water Pollution Control Plant 127-01 Powells Cove Boulevard, College Point, Queens**

*Open house will be held at the Tallman Island Water Pollution Control Plant from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.*

Facility tours will be available and a video will be shown describing plant operations. Reservations are required for school groups.

For a tour schedule and more information, contact Peter Gonzales at (718) 353-5124

**MORE INFORMATION**

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**May 8 and 9, Owls Head Water Pollution Control Plant, 6700 Shore Road, Brooklyn**

Open house will be held at the Owls Head Water Pollution Control Plant from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Facility tours will be available and a video will be shown describing plant operations. Reservations are required for school groups.

For tour schedule and more information, contact John Addeo at (718) 748- 3177.

**Awards for Art and Poetry by New York City Schoolchildren; Thursday, May 9, at 1:30 p.m.**

Winners and participants in DEP's 16th annual Water Conservation Art and Poetry Contest for the City's fifth and sixth graders will be honored, along with their families, teachers and administrators, at a ceremony in the historic Great Hall of Cooper Union, located at 7th Street between Third and Fourth Avenues at 1:30 PM. The winning entries of some of the City's youngest water consumers will be on display.

**Awards for Art and Poetry by Westchester County Schoolchildren; Tuesday, May 7 at 6 p.m.**

Winners of and participants in DEP's and Kensico Environmental Enhancement Program's (KEEP) annual Water Conservation and Water Quality Preservation Art and Poetry Contest for sixth and seventh graders will be honored along with their families, teachers and administrators, at a 6 p.m. ceremony in the Gottesman Room of the Kessel Campus Center of Pace University, located at 861 Bedford Road, Pleasantville, New York.