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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 18-109

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# **Department of Environmental Protection** to Upgrade Security Barriers at Kensico **Dam Walkway**

### Walkers, joggers and cyclists urged to use caution as workers upgrade eastern entrance

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) today announced that it will upgrade security barriers on the eastern end of Kensico Dam as part of its ongoing work to maintain security at key areas throughout the water supply. The work, located on the dam's eastern entrance along Route 22, will begin this week and continue through much of the winter. The popular walkway atop the dam will remain open during the upgrades, but pedestrians are urged to use caution and follow the directions on temporary signs posted along the path. Construction activities will be contained within a wood barrier to protect the safety of workers and the walkers, joggers and cyclists who use the walkway.

DEP manages New York City's water supply, providing more than 1 billion gallons of high-quality water each day to more than 9.6 million New Yorkers. This includes more than 70 upstate communities and institutions in Ulster, Orange, Putnam and Westchester counties who consume an average of 110 million total gallons of drinking water daily from New York City's water supply system. This water comes from the Catskill, Delaware, and Croton watersheds that extend more than 125 miles from the City, and the system comprises 19 reservoirs, three controlled lakes, and numerous tunnels and aqueducts. DEP has nearly 6,000 employees, including almost 1,000 scientists, engineers, surveyors, watershed maintainers and other professionals in the watershed. In addition to its \$70 million payroll and \$168.9 million in annual taxes paid in upstate counties, DEP has invested more than \$1.7 billion in watershed protection programs—including partnership organizations such as the Catskill Watershed Corporation and the Watershed Agricultural Council—that support sustainable farming practices, environmentally sensitive economic development, and local economic opportunity. In addition, DEP has a robust capital program with \$19.1 billion in investments planned over the next decade 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.

#### More Information

NYC Department of **Environmental Protection Public Affairs** 

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