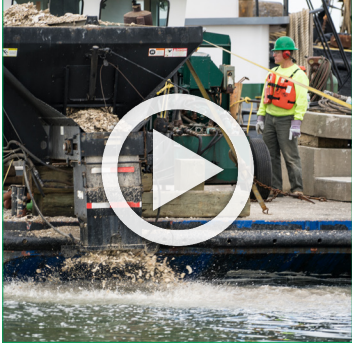


## Jamaica Bay Oyster Drop



Last week, DEP joined a partnership of scientists and educators to continue the installation of breeding oysters in the shallow waters of Jamaica Bay. The research project includes a central donor bed composed of 50,000 adult oysters as well as four receiving beds composed of sea-

soned clam/oyster shell and 110 tons of broken porcelain harvested from nearly 5,000 inefficient toilets that were recycled through the citywide water conservation program. Over the next three years, the collaborative research team from DEP, Billion Oyster Project, Cornell Cooperative Extension, HDR Engineering, Inc., the Hudson River Foundation and the University of New Hampshire will collect data to determine how the oysters in the nursery grow and reproduce, the amount of water they filter, the rate at which the oysters are removing nutrients from the water and where their offspring go. Ultimately, the team will determine if they can bring a self-sustaining population of oysters back to Jamaica Bay. For more

## Spotlight on Safety

### Fire Prevention Week 2016

This week is National Fire Prevention Week (FPW) (October 9-15), which commemorates the [Great Chicago Fire of 1871](#) by bringing to the public's attention the importance of fire prevention. It is sponsored by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA).

This year's FPW campaign, "Don't Wait—Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years," represents the final year of the NFPA's three-year effort to educate the public about essential elements of smoke alarm safety. NFPA's survey data shows that the public has many misconceptions about smoke alarms.

This year's theme focuses on these key messages:

- Replace smoke alarms when they are 10 years old.

- Know how old all the smoke alarms are in your home.
- To find out how old a smoke alarm is, look at the date of manufacture on the back of the alarm.

Remember to regularly examine work areas to identify potential fire hazards such as improper storage of combustible material, overloading of extension cords and surge protectors and damaged wires. DEP employees are not required to fight fires, but in the event of a fire you should notify other employees, contact the fire department and evacuate immediately. Employees should be familiar with their workplace evacuation plan and can reference [DEP's Emergency Planning Policy](#) for additional information.

For more information on fire safety and prevention visit the [NFPA website](#).

## Commissioner's Corner

I was honored to attend the New York Water Environmental Association's (NYWEA) annual Watershed Science and Technical Conference last month at the Diamond Mills Hotel in Saugerties, N.Y. More than 125 Bureau of Water Supply staff attended the conference this year, and 24 staff presented on work being done throughout the bureau. The following employees presented or co-authored research that was presented at the conference:

- **Anne Seeley:** New York City's Waterborne Disease Risk Assessment Program: Giardiasis and Cryptosporidiosis Case Rate Trends and Other Updates
- **Kerri Alderisio:** Application of Microbial Source Tracking Techniques in Response to the Detection of Increased Indicator Organisms in a Watershed Stream
- **Kirsten Askildsen, Lisa McDonald, and William Kuhne:** Addressing Low Matrix Spike Recoveries for Cryptosporidium and Giardia in Finished Water
- **Christian Pace and Kerri Alderisio:** Effects of Heavy Rainfall Years on Fecal Coliform and Protozoan Concentrations in Kensico Perennial Streams
- **Sara Storrer, Paul Brown, Chris Morgans, and Karen Moore:** Improved Technology for Early Identification of Algal Blooms in the New York City Water Supply System
- **David Quentin, Kerri Alderisio, and John Vickers:** Investigating Non-Synthetic Chemical Alternatives to Glyphosate along New York City Roadways within the New York City Watershed System
- **Karen Moore:** Deciphering the Climate Signal and Other Sources of Change in Stream Water Quality
- **Richard VanDreanon:** Potential Water Quality Impacts of Wildfires to the New York City Water Supply
- **Emily Kinne, Lori Froehlich, Paul Brown, and Chris**

**Morgans:** Monitoring of DBPs in Select New York City Water Supply Reservoirs through the Deployment and Operation of Automated Monitoring Buoys

- **Jim Mayfield, Karen Moore, Richard Van Dreanon, and David Van Valkenburg:** Water Quality Status and Trends in the New York City Water Supply's Catskill/Delaware System
- **David Van Valkenburg:** Preconstruction Monitoring Associated with the Conversion of Individual Septic Systems to Sewers
- **Robert Ravallo:** New York City Wastewater Upgrade Program: An Environmental Success
- **Dave Tobias:** A Progress Report on New York City's Watershed Land Acquisition Program
- **Laurie Machung:** Pilot Evaluation of Object Based Image Analysis Leveraging High Resolution Orthoimagery and Li-DAR Derivatives to Improve the Accuracy and Completeness of Wetland Mapping and Connectivity Assessment in the New York City Water Supply Watershed
- **Jordan Gass:** Development of High-Resolution Bathymetry for Six West of Hudson Reservoirs: Implications for Water Quality Management
- **Elliot Schneiderman and Karen Moore:** Realistically Predicting Saturation Excess Runoff with SWAT-Hillslope
- **Emmet Owens:** Mass Balance Modeling and Laboratory Experiments to Evaluate Autochthonous Production/Loss of Trihalomethane Precursors
- **Rakesh Gelda:** Development and Testing of a Probabilistic Turbidity Model for Rondout Reservoir
- **Elliot Schneiderman:** The Predictability of Forest Recovery Using a Mechanistic Hydro-Ecological Model

Congratulations and thanks to all those who presented, co-authored and/or attended.

At DEP, everyone is responsible for safety. If you or anyone on your team is concerned about your working conditions, it's okay to ask your supervisor or your bureau's EHS liaison how they can help. If you've still got questions, you can call the EHS Employee Concerns Hotline. It's DEP's responsibility to acknowledge and fix unsafe situations, procedures, and practices. With your help, we'll not only get the job done, we'll make it safer for ourselves, our coworkers, our families, and our city. CALL (800) 897-9677 OR SEND A MESSAGE THROUGH [PIPELINE](#). HELP IS ON THE WAY.

## Kudos Corner



Congratulations to the Jamaica Sludge Hustlers and the 26<sup>th</sup> Ward Unflushables for successfully showcasing their strengths and skills at the national Operators Challenge competition held during Water Environment Federation's Annual Technical Exhibition and Conference (WEFTEC), in New Orleans, La. The Jamaica Sludge Hustlers, which finished 12<sup>th</sup> place overall thanks to the efforts of captain **Robert Ferland** and teammates **Etorre Antenucci**, **Anthony Petrone**, **Yu Tung Chan**, and **Joseph Atkins**, were featured in a [WEFTEC pump maintenance video](#) responding to a lift station pumping outage. The 26<sup>th</sup> Ward Unflushables, which placed 13<sup>th</sup> overall, were captained by **Mike Leone** and included colleagues **Dave Taylor**, **Ellis Watson III**, **Robert Gaeta**, and **Scapelito Salvatore**. Among the DEP cheerleaders on hand to root for the teams were Deputy Commissioner for Organizational Development and Human Resources **Diana Jones Ritter**, Deputy Commissioner for Wastewater Treatment **Pam Elardo**, Assistant Commissioner for Wastewater Treatment **John Petito**, and **Howard Robinson, III**, the Operators Challenge Coordinator and Chief Operator, Coney Island WWTP.

## DEP Named 'Utility of the Future'



DEP was recently awarded the inaugural [Utility of the Future \(UOTF\) Today Recognition](#) from a partnership of water sector organizations including the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, the Water Environment Federation (WEF), the Water Environment & Reuse Foundation and the WaterReuse Association, with input from the U.S. Environmental Protection

Agency. The program celebrates the progress and exceptional performance of wastewater utilities while supporting the widespread adoption of the innovative UOTF business model. Public and private utilities from across the U.S., Canada, and Denmark were selected from an impressive number of first year entries by a peer committee of utility leaders. Deputy Commissioner for Wastewater Treatment **Pam Elardo** was on hand to receive the award for DEP during a September 27 ceremony held in conjunction with WEFTEC 2016—WEF's 89<sup>th</sup> annual technical exhibition and conference—in New Orleans, La. The recipients received a display flag and a special certificate to further identify and promote their outstanding achievement as a Utility of the Future Today organization.

## Bypass Tunnel Needs Steel Lining



The Delaware Aqueduct Bypass Tunnel, which is being constructed to address leaks in one of the two main aqueducts that supply drinking water to New York City and other upstate communities, must be lined with steel given the poor geology underneath the Hudson River. The first batch of 21 steel liners recently departed Louisiana for Newburgh, NY, after being loaded onto a barge that was specially outfitted for the heavy-duty haul. In total, 230 sections will be shipped north to the construction site.

## Walk This Way

DEP employees looking to stretch their legs and get out of Lefrak for a bit are encouraged to join the QWL Walk 4 Life Club! The group meets every Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, in the front of the high-rise building from 12:30pm–1:00pm and from 1:00pm–1:30pm. Choose whichever half hour session works best with your lunch period and come exercise with your colleagues in the spirit of health and fitness! Please remember to wear comfortable shoes or sneakers, and remember that you can walk at your own pace—it is not a race. For more information, please contact **Lenora Smith** at ext. 3122 or [LenoraS@dep.nyc.gov](mailto:LenoraS@dep.nyc.gov) or **Dan Cunningham** at ext. 3467 or [DaniCunn@dep.nyc.gov](mailto:DaniCunn@dep.nyc.gov).

## Free Flu Shots Available

Getting the flu vaccine is your best defense against seasonal influenza. All City employees should get vaccinated. Get your free flu shot at the following locations and times. **Valhalla**: 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Large Conference Room, 10/19, 9am–1pm; and **Rego Center Community Room**: 97<sup>th</sup> Street between ALDI and Horace Harding Expressway, 10/20, 11am to 2pm; 11/3, 12pm to 2pm, and 11/15, 8am to 4pm. Remember to bring your City of New York employee ID card to your flu shot. Schedule your worksite appointment in advance at [www.apschedule.com/nycflu](http://www.apschedule.com/nycflu) (username: nyc, password: flushot) or call 866-481-4391, Monday through Friday, 8am to 6pm.

**We welcome your feedback! To submit an announcement or suggestion, please email us at: [newsletter@dep.nyc.gov](mailto:newsletter@dep.nyc.gov).**