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## Fall Foliage

Ashokan Reservoir - New York City Water Supply System


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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

05-35

August 19, 2005

Contact: Ian Michaels (718) 595-6600

## Fire Hydrant Safety Program Brings a Real Fire Truck and a Model Fire Hydrant to Kids in Washington Heights

<b>Date:</b>	Monday, August 22nd
<b>Time:</b>	Starts at 1:30 PM
<b>Place:</b>	In front of the Washington Heights Library 1000 St. Nicholas Avenue @ West 160 th Street

A group of 30 or more six- and seven-year-olds will gather in front of the Washington Heights Library for a fun program about fire hydrant safety. An FDNY firetruck will be on hand as a Fire Department representative tells the kids about what it's like to be a firefighter. Then the kids will see the Department of Environmental Protection's life-size cutaway model of a fire hydrant. The emphasis all along will be to teach the kids about the dangers of open fire hydrants and how to use fire hydrants safely.

Open hydrants waste water, and illegally opened hydrants can leave whole neighborhoods with low water pressure. Children can also be at risk from the powerful force of a open hydrant, which can push them into oncoming traffic.

Hydrants can be opened legally if equipped with a City-approved spray cap. One illegally opened hydrant wastes up to 1,000 gallons of water per minute, while a hydrant with a spray cap only puts out around 25 gallons per minute. Spray caps can be obtained by an adult 18 or over, free of charge, at local fire houses. The penalty for opening a hydrant without a spray cap is \$500.

To report illegally opened hydrants or other water or sewer complaints, call the City's 24-hour help line at 311.

### MORE INFORMATION

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