

Commissioner's Corner



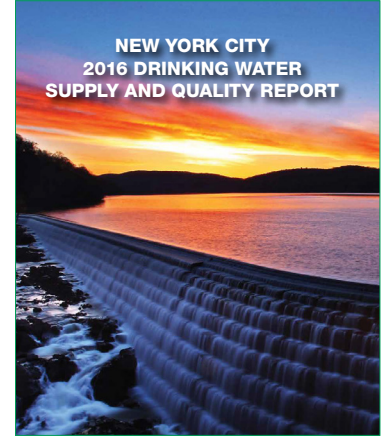
I am pleased to present DEP's [2016 Drinking Water Supply and Quality Report](#), which contains important information about the drinking water for nearly half the State's population. The report was prepared in accordance with the New York State Sanitary Code and the National Primary

Drinking Water Regulations of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which require all drinking water suppliers to provide the public with an annual statement describing the water supply and the quality of its water. DEP is pleased to report that in 2016, the quality of our drinking water remained high and met or exceeded all state and federal drinking water standards.

New York City is fortunate to have some of the cleanest and best-tasting drinking water of any city in the world. We know that our City's water is great because DEP scientists test its quality hundreds of times each day, and hundreds of thousands of times each year. In fact, our water qual-

ity scientists collect more than 47,000 samples of water each year. Those samples are gathered from our expansive reservoir system that stretches more than 125 miles into the Hudson Valley and Catskill Mountains. Water samples are also collected from streams that feed our reservoirs, tunnels that deliver our water to the city, and roughly 1,000 street-side sampling stations across the five boroughs. Those water samples are then delivered to one of DEP's four state-of-the-art laboratories where they are analyzed nearly 630,000 times annually. The data from this extensive scientific analysis can be found in the pages of the report and the conclusion of this work is simple: New York City has world-class drinking water.

We hope this year's report also provides peace of mind to our fellow New Yorkers, especially in light of problems identified in a few drinking water systems across the country over the last several years. New York City is fortunate to have a protected and well-regulated watershed that surrounds our reservoirs and we are vigilant about properly treating the city's water to prevent the type of incidents that transpired elsewhere. Because we take these extensive and deliberate steps to protect our water supply and distribution system, we are confident that these



types of incidents will not happen in New York City.

The City also benefits from an amazing system of reservoirs, tunnels and other infrastructure that collect and convey approximately 1 billion gallons of drinking water each day. The aqueducts that carry water from the mountains to the city are considered a marvel of modern engineering. To keep our water system in a state of good repair, DEP has continued to make investments to maintain and improve our infrastructure. You will find details about several recent infrastructure projects within the report. On behalf of the nearly 6,000 employees at DEP, I am proud to present this report to the 8.5 million New Yorkers who rely on us to deliver safe, clean, high-quality drinking water every day.

Spotlight on Safety

Hand and Portable Power Tools

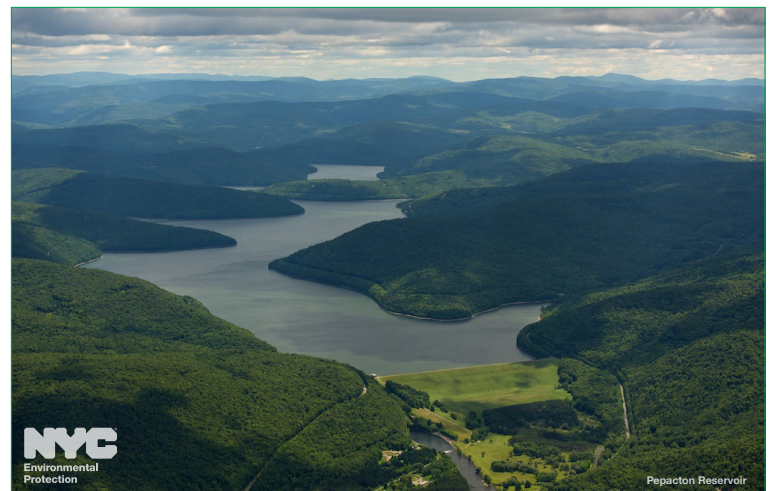
Have you ever used a portable power tool? These tools are a common part of our everyday lives. Many DEP facilities' tool rooms/machine shops are equipped with hand and portable power tools. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) indicates that power tool accidents are responsible for 10,000 injuries each year. The most common injuries associated with use of portable power tools are puncture wounds to the hands and fingers, such as from a nail gun. The major risk factors leading to injuries are unintended nail discharge, ricochet of a nail, penetration of a nail through a work-piece or missing it, and bypassing safety mechanisms.

Some key hand and power tool safety precautions include:

- establishing workplace safety procedures
- training on the correct use of these tools
- using the correct personal protective equipment (PPE)
- having toolbox talks on injuries and near-misses due to hand and portable powered tools

Special attention toward hand and power tool safety is necessary in order to reduce or eliminate these hazards. For more information, visit OSHA's [Hand and Power Tools](#) website.

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.

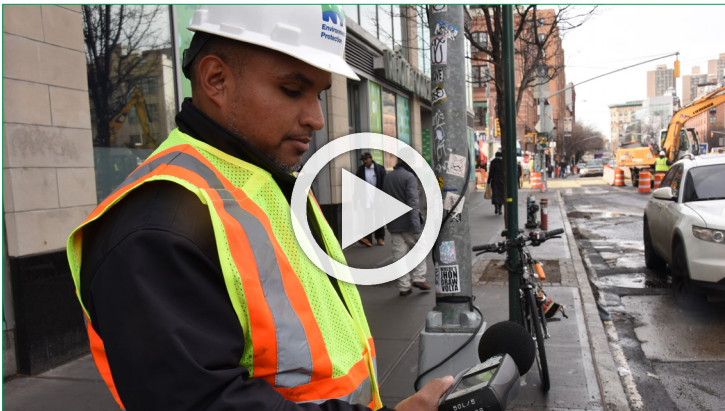


Eagles Soar Near New Croton Dam



Nearly 200 people recently joined DEP during the [Teatown Hudson River EagleFest](#) and watched in awe as eagles flew over the New Croton Dam. New York City's reservoir system is home to some of the largest bald eagle populations anywhere in the state. Agency biologists performing the annual mid-winter survey discovered a record-breaking 116 bald eagles on the water supply—the most of any year since the surveys began in 2011. DEP currently monitors 22 active nesting territories on nine reservoirs, but bald eagles can be seen on all 19 reservoirs that comprise the water supply system. The agency diligently works to protect bald eagle nesting territories through project planning, buffer zones, and by restricting certain activities during the nesting season.

DEP Enforces NYC Noise Code



DEP and NYPD share duties to enforce the City's noise code. Click on the photo above to view a short [video](#) about DEP's role in noise enforcement.

Get Your IDNYC at Lefrak

If you don't have your [IDNYC](#) yet, DEP is hosting a pop-up IDNYC application office just for DEP staff at the Lefrak Building. Appointments are available 9am–1pm and 2pm–4:45pm from Monday March 6 to Friday March 10. Please email munozb@hra.nyc.gov or quirozc@hra.nyc.gov to schedule your appointment. To review the list of documents you'll need to bring with you as well as print an application form, go [here](#). At the time of your appointment, bring your application and documents to the 1st floor lowrise building at Lefrak.

Welcome Aboard!



Yesterday, 16 new employees attended orientation and received an overview of the department from Deputy Commissioner for Organizational Development **Diana Jones Ritter** and Director of Planning and Recruitment **Grace Pigott**. We hope everyone will join us in welcoming them to DEP!

Janick Fortuno with BCS; **Franco Esposito** with BLA; **Robert Oelsner** and **Shane Kelder** with BWS; **Kizzy Atkins**, **Michael Flores** and **Cheryl Sellers** with BWSO; **Marek Bielen**, **Andre Mahe**, **Oneale Maxwell**, **Clinton Peeck** and **Rafal Zyskowski** with BWT; **Kysa Baltimore**, **Tallant Burley** and **Peter Chung** with CDBG, and Public Affairs intern **Timothy Cha**.

Watershed Internships Available

DEP is encouraging college students to apply for one of [15 summer internships](#) at offices throughout the watershed. These paid internships are in fields related to science and engineering. Those accepted into the summer internship program will have the chance to work alongside DEP scientists, engineers, planners and other professionals who operate, maintain and protect the largest municipal water supply in the United States. Information about these internships, including online applications, can be found on the [DEP website](#).

Donors Needed for Spring Blood Drive

DEP is partnering with the New York Blood Center to host spring blood drives. Donors with an O-negative blood type, or "universal donors," are especially urged to give because their blood can be transferred to anyone. Locations and times are as follows:

- **Lefrak:** 6th Floor Training Room, 3/7, 3/8 and 3/9, 7:45am–1:45pm;
- **Downsville Region Area:** Downsville Fire Hall, 3/8, 9am–2pm;
- **Kensico/Highland Regions–Sutton Park Area:** Sutton Park–2nd Floor, Large Training Room, 3/9, 8:30am–2:30pm;
- **Kingston/Catskill Area:** 51 Albany Avenue, 3/20 and 3/27, 1pm–6pm

We welcome your feedback! To submit an announcement or suggestion, please email us at: newsletter@dep.nyc.gov.