

Digging Down and Building Up



DEP's work on the Delaware Aqueduct Bypass Tunnel has entered a new phase. This photo shows the 40-foot-high headframe that has been installed over Shaft 5B in Newburgh, NY. The headframe and its supportive truss work will be used to lift huge loads of shattered rock as the tunnel boring machine drives the 2.5-mile tunnel. That work is expected to begin in the next few months. The headframe will also be used to lower [40-foot-long sections of steel liner](#) down the shaft. These steel liners, installed 600 feet below the Hudson River, will provide support for the tunnel and prevent leaks in the future. The Delaware Aqueduct Bypass Tunnel is the central component of DEP's \$1.5 billion effort to repair leaks in two sections of the Delaware Aqueduct while ensuring a reliable supply of high-quality water for New York City.

Spotlight on Safety

Falling Objects

Falling objects at construction sites, including materials and tools, pose a risk to employees and the public. A falling object can cause both minor and serious injuries. Therefore, precautions are necessary to mitigate these hazards:

- Perform a worksite inspection (before and during work) to identify hazards.
- Always wear hard hats when work is being performed overhead.

- Use barricades to restrict access where loads are being lifted or lowered.
- Keep tools and other materials away from edges, railings, and other elevated surfaces.
- Always secure material and use protective measures such as toeboards and screens on elevated platforms to prevent objects from falling.

For more information, visit the [OSHA Falling/Flying Objects](#).

Special Guest Commissioner's Corner

Angela Licata, DEP's Deputy Commissioner for Sustainability, is a guest commentator this week.

Our Green Infrastructure Program has made tremendous strides over the last five years in getting up and running, establishing partnerships with other City agencies and constructing thousands of curbside rain gardens in the public right of way—sidewalks and roadways. With roughly 2,500 rain gardens built to date, and thousands more being designed, we are already reducing the amount of stormwater that drains into the City's combined sewer system and helping to improve the health of local waterways.

However, in order to reach our harbor water quality goals, we need to expand the installation of green infrastructure beyond the public right of way. And, I am pleased to share with you that we have launched a new partnership with the New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA) to build green infrastructure on several of their facilities over the next few years. NYCHA owns a substantial amount of property throughout the five boroughs and this partnership provides us with a tremendous opportunity to expand our program while also improving the grounds and facilities for residents.

We have already completed pilot projects at three NYCHA facilities and earlier this year we broke ground on a \$10.6 million project that will see the

[installation of green infrastructure at the Edenwald Houses](#) in the Bronx. By capturing approximately 10 million gallons of stormwater that falls on the development each year, the project will reduce internal sewer backups and ease pressure on the sewer system during rainstorms, which will decrease overflows into the nearby Hutchinson River. We anticipate construction will be complete late next year.

The green infrastructure to be built at the Edenwald Houses includes permeable pavers in courtyard areas and pedestrian plazas, porous asphalt and pervious concrete in parking areas, rain gardens, and a system to collect and divert the rain that falls on the rooftops of the buildings.

Staff are currently conducting geo-technical investigations and working on the design for the installation of green infrastructure at several additional NYCHA facilities. I'd like to thank our colleagues at NYCHA and recognize the dedication of our team that has worked on this partnership, including **Pinar Balci, Teddy Geberemariam, Vlada Kenniff, Tetyana Klymenko, Adriana Kocovic, Josh Landecker, Kerry Lowe, Sara Margolis, John McLaughlin, Erin Morey, Christine Ng, Kent Pan, Floren Poliseo, Shaika Sadeque, Derick Tonning, Margot Walker, Paul Wojtal, and Philip Wong.**



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.

Students Study Hudson River Estuary



DEP last Thursday sponsored more than 75 public school students who participated in the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's (DEC) a "[Day in the Life: Hudson River Snapshot](#)" educational event. The students, 12th graders from Baruch College Campus High School in Manhattan and 7th graders from Hunter's Point Community Middle School in Queens, participated in the event during which teams collected and analyzed water samples and made environmental observations along the East River, at Gantry Plaza State Park. Students used field techniques to track the river's tides and currents, examined the water's chemistry and identified macroinvertebrates and fish. Now in its 14th year, the program helps prepare students to become stewards of the Hudson River Estuary's natural resources

Holiday Toy Drive Begins

This year DEP will be partnering with the Department of Youth & Community Development, as well as other city agencies, for the "Smiles of Love" holiday toy drive. Toys are now being accepted, so please consider donating a new, unwrapped toy to help make the holidays a little brighter for children from toddlers to teens. Final collection day at Lefrak will be Monday, December 5. Toys should be brought to your bureau coordinator. Thank you in advance for your generosity in helping make the holidays a little more joyful for your neighbors.

Welcome Aboard!



Yesterday, 14 new employees attended orientation and received an overview of the department from Acting Commissioner **Vincent Sapienza**, Deputy Commissioner **Diana Jones Ritter**, Director of Planning and Recruitment **Grace Pigott** and HR Specialist **Grace Franco**. We hope everyone will join us in welcoming them to DEP!

Jahdan Lethmon with BCS; **Sebastian Lopez** with BEDC; **Collin Miller** with BWS; **Bertrand Byrne**, **Jennifer Mingo**, **Lashonda Simmons** and **Marino Travalja** with BWSO; **Karen Kowalski** and **Rashad Morshed** with BWT; **Jonathan Deservio** and **Leonid Kritsmar** with FDC/FMC; **Kevin Harmon** and **Tondra Tarleton** with Legal; and **Salvatore Monteleone** with PS.

Volunteers Help Clean Reservoirs

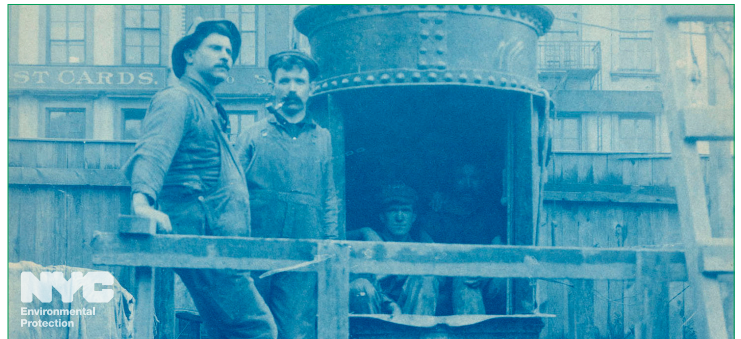


A total of that 264 volunteers from across the Hudson Valley and Catskills collected more than a ton of trash and recyclables during [DEP's annual Reservoir Cleanup Day](#). The effort to remove debris, litter and recyclables from miles of shoreline was led by school groups, business leaders, local nonprofits and watershed citizens. The October 2 event comprised cleanup efforts at nine water supply reservoirs, including Ashokan, Cannonsville, Pepacton and Rondout reservoirs in the Catskills, and Cross River, Kensico, Lake Gleneida, Muscoot and New Croton reservoirs in the Hudson Valley. In total, volunteers collected 259 bags of debris and recyclables. The haul weighed a total of 3,342 pounds. In many cases, the debris had blown onto the reservoir property from nearby roadsides, had washed up along the shores from past storms, or was left behind at access areas used by the public for fishing and boating.

Nets Host DEP Game Day

The Brooklyn Nets are hosting a DEP Game Day at the Barclays Center on November 20 when they take on the Portland Trailblazers. Tip-off is at 3:30 p.m. and tickets cost \$25 per seat for the 200 level and \$50 per seat for the 100 level. The deadline to [purchase tickets](#) is Nov. 16 at 11:59 p.m. For more information, contact **Adrian Allen**, at 718-595-4383 or AAllen@dep.nyc.gov.

Out of the Archives



A Mattson compressed air lock with three men inside was photographed back on October 20, 1911. The equipment was used during the sinking of a City Water Tunnel No. 1 shaft in the East Village. Caissons were constructed to pass through up to 100 feet of water-bearing material overlying the bedrock, and the air lock enabled safe passage for workers between areas of differing air pressure.

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