

## All Hardball from DEP Softball Team



Last week, the DEP softball team won the New York City Municipal League championship at Flushing Meadows Park! Playing against teams from the Department of Buildings, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, NYS Department of Transportation, and the Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority (TBTA), the DEP team won the regular season title and took the best of five game championship from TBTA. This was the third championship

for DEP in the last four years. Congratulations to all team members, including: **Jaime Berkeley, Jonathan Bothelho, Miguel Caceres, Garry Castro, Mario Cinquemani, Carlos Constanza, Paul Corrieri, Marc Delara, Mike Esposito, Anthony Gioia, Joe Greco, Danny Hines, Tony Langone, Bill Maggiulli, Tom Marrama, Tom Meyers, Bill Meyers (retired), Virginia Murray, Sal Muzzio, Dennis Peacock, Dexter Powell, Mike Pucciarelli, and Teddy Rivera.**

## Spotlight on Safety

### Proper Calibration Can Save a Life

Hazardous gases are often unnoticeable to our senses so monitoring instruments in the work place are an essential part of worker safety. Monitoring instruments are designed to detect certain gases and warn workers of potentially hazardous conditions before they reach dangerous levels. However, the monitoring instruments must be properly calibrated in order to give accurate readings and help reduce the risk of serious injury or illness.

Calibration should be done on a regular basis by a qualified individual. Check the manufacturer's instructions for proper calibration and recommended calibration cycles. Properly verifying the accuracy of gas detection equipment is one small task that can ensure that each worker will finish the job safely. Click on [OSHA's Calibration Safety and Health Information Bulletin](#) for more information.

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. 🙌

## Commissioner's Corner

The State Department of Health recently issued its proposed revisions to New York City's Filtration Avoidance Determination (FAD), the ruling that allows DEP to supply unfiltered drinking water from the Catskill and Delaware watersheds to more than nine million New Yorkers—nearly half of the State's residents. The proposed revisions to the FAD represent a continued endorsement of the award-winning programs we administer to protect the source of our high-quality, unfiltered drinking water. New York City received its first FAD 20 years ago, and since then we have continued and expanded our work with local governments and nonprofit agencies that are integral to the ongoing success of the program. Through these important partnerships, New York City has repaired streams that run through local communities, built and operated tertiary wastewater treatment plants, improved farm infrastructure, protected thousands of acres of open space, and closely monitored water quality in streams and reservoirs.

In addition, because extreme storms can stir up fine silt in the Catskill streams that feed our reservoirs and increase the turbidity of the water, we are also helping to fund stream management and flood hazard mitigation projects. For example, just last week, we announced more than \$9 million in City and federal funding for new stream management projects that will help to improve water quality and protect communities. The work will stabilize stream banks, reconnect streams to their floodplains, protect infrastructure, improve drainage, prevent erosion, and reduce the fine sediments that can flow into the City's reservoirs.

Since 1997, DEP has committed more than \$58 million toward improving local streams and creeks through planning and restoration projects. We complete these projects through partnerships with



the soil and water conservation districts in Delaware, Greene, Sullivan, and Ulster counties, along with the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County, which create stream management plans that identify priority projects in their communities and oversee the contracting and management of those projects.

These programs, along with others outlined in the FAD, will help the Department maintain the safety and reliability of our robust water supply, and they will also improve infrastructure to protect our neighbors across the Catskills.

New York City has invested approximately \$1.5 billion in watershed protection programs that include land acquisition, a variety of partnership programs targeted to address specific threats to water quality, and environmentally appropriate economic development programs in the Catskills. Those programs focus on source-water protection, based on the principle that it is more efficient and effective to protect drinking water at its source in the watershed. The City's watershed protection programs were recognized this year by the American Water Works Association, which honored DEP with its award for source-water protection. If you are interested in more information about the programs, including some itemized details about our watershed protection programs, check out the drinking water section on our [website](#).

## Focus on the Field



Born in Jamaica, **Warren Gordon** first came to the United States when he was 14 years old. His family settled in the Wakefield section of the Bronx and he has lived there ever since. Gordon attended Adlai E. Stevenson High School and earned a degree in civil engineering from the City College of New York.

Gordon began his career in the late 1980's working for a private contractor on Stage 1 of City Tunnel No. 3 in the upper portion of the Bronx. He focused on the blasting for the tunnel, installing the lining, and constructing the shafts. At the same time, he was taking graduate courses in environmental engineering at night.

In 1988, Gordon joined DEP as a Project Coordinator in the Heavy Construction Unit, a predecessor to the Bureau of Engineering, Design and Construction (BEDC). At DEP he continued his work on Stage 1 of City Tunnel No. 3, and began work on Stage 2. In 1993, he was certified as a P.E. by New York State and in 1995 he transferred to DEP's Landfill Department. As a Resident Engineer, Gordon oversaw the capping of the Pelham Bay Landfill in the Bronx. He also contributed preparatory work on the Penn and Fountain Landfills in Brooklyn.

Since 2000, Gordon has worked as a Resident Engineer in BEDC's Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Program. In this role he has worked to upgrade pump stations and regulators, as well as the installation of in-line storage systems, all with the goal of reducing CSOs. Over the years, Gordon has worked on the English Kills Aeration Facility along Newtown Creek, the Port Richmond Throttling Facility on Staten Island, the Bronx River Floatables project, and the City Island, Marble Hill, Avenue V, and Throgs Neck Pumping Stations.

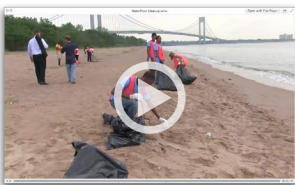
"The projects we're working on are important to the environment and public health so it's imperative that we get them done in a timely manner and on budget," said Gordon.

Gordon became an Accountable Manager in 2008 and has played an important role in bringing more of the work associated with these large construction projects in-house. In fact, the design as well as the construction management of the Throgs Neck Pumping Station was done by BEDC staff.

"Warren leads some of our largest construction projects and his experience and hard work has helped us bring more of the work in-house, which helps reduce costs and gives us added control," said **Kathryn Mallon**, Deputy Commissioner for BEDC.

When he's not wearing a hard hat at a DEP construction site, Gordon is an avid golfer and cyclist. He often plays the Pelham Split Rock course in the Bronx, but has also played at Westchester Country Club and Bethpage on Long Island. He has ridden in the Tour de Bronx and Tour de Queens and hopes to do a 100-mile race in the future.

## Extra Extra!



Please take a moment to view the latest edition of DEP News. If you have any story ideas for future news segments please email them [here](#).

## Shavertown Trail



As part of the ongoing effort created in partnership with to open City-owned land for the Catskill Mountain Club, a low-impact recreation and help boost the tourism economy in the watershed, DEP Deputy Commissioner for Water Supply **Paul Rush**, left, celebrated the opening with **Ann Roberti** and **Steve Berg** from the Catskill Mountain Club.

## Welcome Aboard



Last week, 17 new employees attended orientation and received an overview of the department from Chief Operating Officer **Kathryn Garcia**. We hope everyone will join us in welcoming them to DEP!

**Nada Helal-Kortbus, Howard Jiang, Patrick Wayman, and Kevin Young** with BWS; **Danielle Rubin, Isake Smith, Suwei Wang, and Jin Zhang** with BEDC; **James Delaney, Dominique A. Gawuga, and Taleisha Stevens** with BWT; **Kevin Dahms** with Sustainability; **Salvatore Franzese** with Facilities; **Kathy Gerard** with BCS; **Eric Ilijevich** with BEPA; **Josue R. Sanchez** with FMC; and **Gordon C. Shum** with BWSO.

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