

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 24, 2013 No. 51

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION TO TEMPORARILY SUSPEND STREAM RELEASES FROM CANNONSVILLE RESERVOIR TO REPAIR WATER SERVICE LINE

The New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) today advised that repair work to fix a 1.5 inch broken water service line that provides domestic water service to the West Delaware Release Chamber building at Cannonsville Reservoir will require DEP to temporarily suspend stream releases from the reservoir into the West Branch of the Delaware River. The repair work will begin this afternoon and is expected to take between six to eight hours. Stream releases will resume when repairs are complete. During repair work, residents may notice temporarily lower water levels in the West Branch of the Delaware River.

Stream Releases are made in accordance with the Flexible Flow Management Program, an interstate agreement that governs releases and diversions from New York City's Pepacton, Cannonsville, and Neversink Reservoirs. The Flexible Flow Management Program addresses the needs of New York, New Jersey, Delaware, and Pennsylvania, the four states that use Delaware River water. The stream releases support safe and reliable water for 17 million people, drought management, flood mitigation, protection of the cold water fishery, and a diverse array of habitat needs.

DEP manages New York City's water supply, providing more than one billion gallons of water each day to more than 9 million residents, including 8.3 million in New York City, and residents of Ulster, Orange, Putnam, and Westchester counties. This water comes from the Catskill, Delaware, and Croton watersheds that extend more than 125 miles from the City, and the system comprises 19 reservoirs, three controlled lakes, and numerous tunnels and aqueducts. DEP has nearly 6,000 employees, including almost 1,000 scientists, engineers, surveyors, watershed maintainers and others professionals in the upstate watershed. In addition to its \$68 million payroll and \$153 million in annual taxes paid in upstate counties, DEP has invested more than \$1.5 billion in watershed protection programs—including partnership organizations such as the Catskill Watershed Corporation and the Watershed Agricultural Council—that support sustainable farming practices, environmentally sensitive economic development, and local economic opportunity. In addition, DEP has a robust capital program with over \$14 billion in investments planned over the next 10 years that will create up to 3,000 construction-related jobs per year. For more information, visit nyc.gov/dep, like us on Facebook at facebook.com/nycwater, or follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/nycwater.

-30-

Contact: Adam Bosch (845) 334-7868

(718) 595-6600 Chris Gilbride