

'Angling' For a Good Catch



On September 21, DEP hosted a youth fishing day at Ashokan Reservoir and 172 anglers came out to try their luck at catching some of the many species of fish that call Ashokan home, including bass, perch, bullhead, sunfish, and trout. The event was co-sponsored by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, which supplied fishing poles and bait. [Click here](#) to see more photos.

Spotlight on Safety

Not Good Vibrations...

Whole-body vibration (WBV) is the shaking or jerking of the human body. Workers can experience WBV while driving trucks, operating industrial vehicles or using hammering machinery, and it can affect skeletal muscle and is often associated with back pain. The longer a worker is exposed to WBV and the higher the level of vibration, the greater the chance of developing symptoms. Here are some tips to help reduce exposure:

- Ensure vehicles and machinery are properly

maintained, specifically suspension components

- Check the driver's seat to ensure it's in good shape and provides adequate support
- Check the vehicle's tires—they should be inflated to the proper pressure for the ground surface
- Adjust vehicle speed to suit the ground conditions

For more information, visit the websites of the [National Safety Council](#) or [Occupational Safety & Health Administration](#).

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



Earlier today, DEP announced that more than \$5 million in new funding is available for community groups, non-profits, and property owners to build green projects through the 2014 Green Infrastructure Grant Program. DEP is engaged in a citywide effort to soften the impervious urban landscape to help absorb rainwater that would otherwise drain into the combined sewer system and contribute to combined sewer overflows into local waterways. Through the grant program, funding is provided for the design and construction of projects, such as green and blue roofs, rain gardens and permeable pavers that will manage a minimum of one inch of stormwater falling on the selected properties. Those wishing to apply for funding can review conceptual ideas with DEP engineers prior to submitting their application, which must be filed by November 13. More information and the application can be found on the [DEP website](#).

This is the fourth year of the Green Infrastructure Grant Program and, earlier this year, DEP committed funding for a rooftop farm in Woodside and a green roof in Fort Greene. During the first three years of the program, DEP has committed more than \$11 million to fund 29 different projects, which was matched by \$5.6 million in private funds. In total, the projects will prevent an estimated 13 million gallons of stormwater from entering the combined sewer system each year. All private property owners served by combined sewers in New York City are eligible to apply for a green infrastructure grant. If selected, DEP

will reimburse up to 100 percent of the design and construction costs for the green infrastructure project. Preference will be given to projects that are located in [priority watersheds](#), are cost-effective, provide matching funds or other contributions, and include ancillary environmental and community benefits such as increased shade, decreased energy use for cooling buildings, increased awareness about stormwater management, and green jobs development.

Notable projects DEP funded during the first three years of the Grant Program that have completed construction include a 43,400 square foot rooftop farm at the Brooklyn Navy Yard; one of the nation's first blue/green roof combinations at The Osborne Association in the Bronx; a green roof at Lenox Hill Neighborhood House in Manhattan; permeable pavers and rain gardens at Queens College; a New York Restoration Project community garden in Brooklyn's Gowanus neighborhood; and a green roof at Bishop Loughlin Memorial High School in Fort Greene.

DEP will host three workshops to explain the eligibility requirements and guide users through the online application. A technical workshop will also be held at DEP headquarters to provide support in computing stormwater calculations and to review conceptual ideas with DEP engineers prior to submitting an application. To view a list of scheduled workshops, [click here](#). Photos of completed projects funded by the Green Infrastructure Grant Program are available on [DEP's Flickr Page](#).

Paddle While You Can!



There are only two weekends left to enjoy recreational boating on New York City's Cannonsville, Neversink, Pepacton and Schoharie reservoirs in the Catskills. The 2014 season ends on Columbus Day. This photo was recently taken by an avid boater at dusk on Pepacton.

Breaking Ground in the Catskills



Last week, staff from DEP's Bureau of Water Supply participated in a groundbreaking ceremony for the Catskill Interpretive Center in Mount Tremper, N.Y. As part of the City's commitment to support environmentally friendly economic development, tourism, and outdoor recreation in the Catskills, DEP will contribute \$20,000 each year for the first five years the center is open. This funding will help the Catskill Interpretive Center pay for operation and maintenance costs. In exchange, the interpretive center will allot space for DEP to display information about the City's water supply system, the Catskill and Delaware watersheds, and information about recreation on water supply reservoirs and lands in the Catskills.

My DEP on NYC.gov



The "My DEP" mobile app is now available on [NYC's official app store](#). DEP customers can securely view and pay bills online, monitor their water consumption, and receive leak notifications and bill alerts, all while on-the-go. The app is available for Android (2.3 and up) and iOS (6.0 and up) smartphones. Download it today!

Meet the Mets, Greet the Mets!



Thanks to DEP's Quality of Work Life Committee and the New York Mets, many employees took advantage of discounted tickets to attend last Friday's ballgame at Citi Field. Pictured from left to right are BWSO's **Scott Blom**, **Bartolome Ancheta**, **Sham Hemraj**, **Howard Jiang** and **Kent Chin**.

A Half Century of Faithful Service



With the arrival of three new, state-of-the-art sludge vessels, this past weekend marked the last voyage for the M/V Newtown Creek. For 47 years, it has faithfully served DEP and the City of New York. [Click here](#) to view a short video of the Newtown Creeks final run.

Scholarship Program for City Employees

The Department of Citywide Administrative Services is accepting applications for the 2015-16 Mayor's Graduate Scholarship Program. A limited number of scholarships are available. DEP employees must send their application to **Aimee Edwards** by November 7, 2014. Click [here](#) for more information.

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