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PVSC PASSAIC RIVER RESTORATION PROGRAM HONORED

Award from Paterson Historic Commission Highlights Agencies Work

(NEWARK) – Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission Executive Director Wayne J. Forrest announced that the agency was awarded the Good Grace's Certificate by the Paterson Historic Preservation Commission for their work on Passaic River restoration.

"I am glad that PVSC's work was recognized by the Paterson Historic Commission for our work on restoring the Passaic County River," said Forrest. "This award is testament to countless PVSC staff and volunteers who work hard to make sure that the river is clean and the public is educated about environmentally friendly policies."

According to Forrest, the Good Grace's Award honors the legacy and good work of Paterson historic preservation advocate, Grace George. This award was also given, posthumously, to Bob Devita, the former Supervisor of the PVSC River Restoration Program. Until his death, Mr. Devita helped lead PVSC's efforts on Passaic River restoration.

"This award is not only testament to PVSC's work, but of the legacy Bob Devita has given to this organization," said PVSC Chairman Tony Luna. "I am proud of this agency's work, not only with waste treatment, but with helping to preserve the waterways in our service area."

In order to protect and preserve local streams and rivers from water pollution, the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners operate one of the country's largest treatment plants for the wastewaters of northern New Jersey. With many expansions and recent upgrading to secondary treatment, the facility has been striving, since its initial operation in 1924, to improve local water quality in accordance with federal and state water quality legislation. Since its inception in 1998, PVSC's River Restoration Program has removed over 8,000 tons of debris from the Passaic River and Newark Bay and sponsored over 650 individual clean ups, along with educating over 150,000 students on how they can help protect the Passaic River and our environment.

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