

KENNETH J. LUCIANIN
Commissioner

THOMAS F. FLANAGAN
Acting Clerk



~Established 1902~

WAYNE J. FORREST
Executive Director

JAMES M. PIRO
General Counsel

600 Wilson Avenue, Newark, New Jersey 07105

www.pvsc.com

MEDIA RELEASE

April 28, 2011

PVSC PARTNERS WITH LYNDHURST STUDENTS ON PASSAIC RIVER CLEANUP

Lyndhurst, NJ – Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission's (PVSC) Executive Director Wayne J. Forrest announced today that the PVSC partnered with the students and staff from the South Bergen Jointure Commission – Lyndhurst Campus on a cleanup of the Passaic River and the adjoining area in Riverside County Park North in Lyndhurst. The South Bergen Jointure Commission is a state-approved Board of Education which provides services to students from local participating districts throughout southern Bergen County.

"With last week being our national celebration of Earth Day, it is fitting that the PVSC continues to partner with education-based organizations to fulfill our mission of keeping the Passaic River and our environment clean," stated Forrest. "I commend the students and staff from the South Bergen Jointure Commission for giving back to our environment. We look forward to continuing to provide assistance toward keeping areas like Riverside Park and the Passaic River clean," said Forrest.

According to Forrest, the River Restoration Program of the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission provided assistance to the volunteer effort led by students and staff from the South Bergen Jointure Commission - Lyndhurst Campus. PVSC personnel provided specialized equipment on site to assist in removal of debris. Forrest added that just last week in celebration of Earth Day, PVSC partnered with the Kearny, Belleville and Nutley High School Crew Teams in cleaning up portions around the Passaic River in Lyndhurst, Kearny and North Arlington.

"PVSC understands the importance of partnering with local education groups like the students and staff from the South Bergen Jointure Commission so together we can work towards maintaining a cleaner environment," said Forrest. "PVSC relies on the dedicated volunteers, like the students and staff from the South Bergen Jointure Commission here today, to assist us with keeping our waterways clean, and I applaud them on their efforts," concluded Forrest.

In order to protect and preserve local streams and rivers from water pollution, the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission operates one of the country's oldest and 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 creation in 1902 and its initial operation in 1924, to improve local water quality in accordance with federal and state water quality standards. Since the creation of the PVSC's River Restoration Program in 1998, which is charged with preserving and protecting over 100 miles of area waterways, the PVSC has removed over 8,000 tons of debris from the Newark Bay, the Passaic River and its tributaries, and sponsored over 650 individual clean-ups along shorelines and in communities, along with educating over 180,000 students on how they can help protect the Passaic River and our environment.

#####

**Contact: Tom Pietrykoski; Cell: (973) 985-3216, Office: (973) 817-5735
E-mail: tpietrykoski@pvsc.com**