

**THE  
HUDSON REPORTER  
NEWSPAPERS**

*Hudson County's largest newspaper group*

**BAYONNE BRIEFS**

Jul 30, 2014

**Bayonne students help in removal of major debris from city waterfront**

The Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission recently announced the successful removal of floatables, debris and trees – including several wood pallets and two 55-gallon construction drums – from the Newark Bay and Bayonne shorelines, the group reported on July 22.

This year's cleanup was the result of PVSC's partnership with Bayonne's "Cleaner and Greener" program, which was started by a Bayonne High School science teacher. The program goals are to provide an opportunity for the students to clean up their community's shoreline and to teach students about the importance of a clean environment.

During two weeks in the spring, nearly 1,000 students from Woodrow Wilson, Washington Community, Horace Mann, Robinson, Lincoln Community, Midtown Community, Bailey, Mary J. Donohoe, Henry Harris, and Bayonne High schools spent designated school class periods cleaning up neighborhood parks and beachfront. Among them were: Rutkowski Park, Stephen Gregg Park, Donald Ahern Veterans Memorial Stadium, 16th Street Park, Robbins Reef Yacht Club, Dennis Collins Park, and the Bayonne High School shoreline. The students removed enough garbage and debris to fill a 30-yard dumpster.

"PVSC's partnership with school-based organizations such as Bayonne's K-12 system, demonstrates the good work that can be done to keep our waterways and shorelines clean," said Michael DeFrancisci, PVSC's executive director. "I want to commend all the students and staff for giving back to the community and helping the environment. We look forward to continuing to provide assistance toward efforts to keep our waterways clean."

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