

KENNETH J. LUCIANIN  
Commissioner



MICHAEL DeFRANCISCI  
Executive Director

GREGORY A. TRAMONTOZZI  
General Counsel  
Acting Clerk

600 Wilson Avenue, Newark, New Jersey 07105  
(973) 817-5700  
(973) 817-5738- fax  
[www.pvsc.nj.gov](http://www.pvsc.nj.gov)

## NEWS

**For Immediate Release:**  
April 26, 2013

**Contact Information:** Hollie A. Gilroy  
[hgilroy@pvsc.nj.gov](mailto:hgilroy@pvsc.nj.gov)  
Office: 973-817-5735

### **PVSC MARKS ARBOR DAY AT SADDLE RIVER PARK** *Event Includes 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Volunteers for Clean-up and Tree Planting*

**Rochelle Park, NJ** – The Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission (PVSC) continued its weeklong celebration of Earth Day and Arbor Day, by partnering with 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students and staff from Dwight Englewood School in Englewood. The event included a community clean-up and tree planting at Saddle River Park in Rochelle Park. The event is in conjunction with the school and the Bergen County Park System, who are providing the trees and is part of PVSC's week long recognition of the environment.

"To supplement the work of its' River Restoration Staff, PVSC relies on volunteers, like the Dwight Englewood School students and staff , to assist us in keeping our waterways and parks clean," said PVSC Executive Director Michael DeFrancisci. "Making sure that the Saddle River Park area is clean is a priority for PVSC. Today's clean-up is just one of many projects that PVSC has conducted in this part of Bergen County."

According to DeFrancisci, the PVSC Educational Outreach Program uses a service-learning model by providing opportunities for students to organize their own stream bank clean-ups, which enables the students to apply what they learned in the class to their own communities. PVSC usually educates over 30,000 students a school year.

"Engaging children in hands-on service projects helps reinforce the important lessons they learn in the classroom," said PVSC Commissioner Kenneth J. Lucianin. "The PVSC has developed a program that complements the classroom curriculum while presenting it in a way that is engaging to the students. We are thrilled to assist with the tree planting on this Arbor Day."

DeFrancisci thanked the Bergen County Park Department for providing the trees that were planted today. "PVSC truly appreciates that the Bergen County Park Department provided the trees for the student volunteers to plant in honor of Arbor Day," concluded DeFrancisci.

###

***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, serving over 1.4 million people in five counties.***