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## NEWS

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### **PVSC ANNOUNCES RESULTS OF SADDLE RIVER DEBRIS SURVEY;** *Assessment Determines Extent of “Sandy” Destruction and Plan for Abatement*

(Newark) – The Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission (PVSC) announced today that the agency, along with the Bergen County Mosquito Control Division, has completed a comprehensive survey of the Saddle River. The survey, which commenced on April 9, was in response to flooding concerns and the potential for environmental impacts caused by debris deposited by Superstorm Sandy.

“In April, PVSC began a survey of the Saddle River in cooperation with the Bergen County Mosquito Control Division (BCMCD) to identify any areas containing debris, fallen trees and other material that could exacerbate flooding of the Saddle River. We have been in constant communication with mayors and local officials in PVSC’s service area and have been working diligently to assess what areas pose safety and environmental hazards,” said PVSC Executive Director Michael DeFrancisci.

As part of the survey, PVSC and the BCMCD itemized and documented all problem areas along the River using GPS and photography equipment. Both agencies will now begin prioritizing the problem areas and remove the various blockages in the river. This will increase the Saddle River’s ability to convey water, and will help mitigate much of the flooding and potentially adverse effect to many Bergen County communities along the Saddle River.

The survey, conducted over the course of several weeks by staff from both PVSC and BCMCD, has identified 19 sites that pose varying degrees of concern. While all sites will eventually be addressed, the PVSC and BCMCD have declared that one site poses the most immediate flooding threat and warrants high priority action. This site, located near milepost 0.2 on the Saddle River Park walking path, consists of a large tree that has fallen across the entire width of the Saddle River that has begun to accumulate debris and silt.

According to the BCMCD, the blockage falls within an area that the NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife stock with trout. Because of State environmental laws pertaining to streams and the trout population, the site cannot be disturbed until mid or late summer. PVSC will begin to clean and clear the site in late July or in early August, conditions permitting.

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The BCMCD is continuing to partner with PVSC on the cleanup schedule and data collection for the Saddle River. BCMCD's mosquito season is now in full swing. However, they have offered their assistance to PVSC personnel at the close of their season.

"I'd like to thank the BCMCD for joining PVSC in collecting data for this survey, and I look forward to building a strong working relationship so together we can continue to preserve and protect our local waterways," said DeFrancisci. "We are all too familiar with the devastating effects flooding has on our local residents. The PVSC remains committed to continuing to help mitigate flooding by patrolling our local waterways and removing potentially hazardous blockages."

The survey identified issues in Paramus, Rochelle Park, Saddle Brook, Lodi and Wallington that will ultimately need to be addressed. As the remaining sites do not pose significant flooding risks, these will be abated on a schedule to be determined in conjunction with the BCMCD.

According to DeFrancisci, PVSC personnel will use specialized equipment to assist in the removal of the obstructions. Many of the blockages- including fallen trees, capsized boats, and other vegetative matter - threaten to block the stream's flow. Much of the debris was deposited in the channel as a result of the region's recent hurricanes – particularly Superstorm Sandy.

The Saddle River Survey project is part of the PVSC's statutory mandate of relieving the streams and rivers within the PVSC five-county District of pollution and obstructions. The PVSC has embarked on an intensive, strategic post-storm cleanup campaign to free the Passaic River of blockages, help with flood control and maintain the quality of the River and its tributaries. Cleanups will continue throughout the spring and summer.

"PVSC is proud to assist in providing cleaner and safer waterways for members of the community to enjoy," said PVSC Commissioner Kenneth J. Lucianin. "PVSC remains committed to evaluating and protecting the tributaries that feed the Passaic River and understands the importance of partnering with agencies such as the BCMCD to ensure the long-term viability of these restoration efforts."

A copy of the survey is attached.

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***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.***

<b>Picture #</b>	<b>Picture Taken From</b>	<b>Problem Area Located In</b>	<b>Latitude</b>	<b>Longitude</b>
1	Ridgewood	Paramus	40.58599	74.05528
2	Ridgewood	Paramus	40.58427	74.05526
3	Ridgewood	Paramus	40.58246	74.05725
4,5	Fair Lawn	Paramus	40.56391	74.05701
6,7	Fair Lawn	Paramus	40.56391	74.05701
8,9	Saddle Brook	Rochelle Park	40.55335	74.05424
10	Saddle Brook	Saddle Brook	40.54651	74.05428
11	Saddle Brook	Saddle Brook	40.54026	74.04866
12,13	Saddle Brook	Saddle Brook	40.53719	74.04717
14,15,16	Saddle Brook	Lodi	40.53524	74.04799
17	Lodi	Lodi	40.53281	74.04935
18,19	Lodi	Lodi	40.53096	74.04941
20,21,22,23	Lodi	Lodi	40.53029	74.05039
24	Lodi	Lodi	40.52961	74.05049
25,26,27	Lodi	Lodi	40.52486	74.05318
28	Lodi	Lodi	40.52385	74.05341
29,30	Lodi	Lodi	40.52231	74.05354
31,32	Lodi	Lodi	40.52083	74.05598
33,34,35	Wallington	Wallington	40.51681	74.06241



# Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission Saddle River Survey – April 25, 2013



#1



#2



#3



#4



#5



#6



#7



#8



#9



# Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission Saddle River Survey – April 25, 2013



#10



#11



#12



#13



#15



#16



#17



#18



#19



**Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission  
Saddle River Survey – April 25, 2013**



#20



#21



#22



#23



#24



#25



#33



#34



#35