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NEWS

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MAJOR ‘SANDY’ DEBRIS REMOVED FROM BAYONNE WATERFRONT: *PVSC Removes Hazardous Docks, Piers and Dislodged Debris from Hudson River*



(Bayonne)— The Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission (PVSC) announced its River Restoration unit recently completed the removal of large debris – including creosote docks and piers that dislodged from neighboring properties –and washed ashore in Bayonne during Superstorm Sandy.

Upon investigation of the site, PVSC found a number of navigational hazards along the shoreline in Bayonne including Robbins Reef and other sites that abut the shipping channel near the Bayonne Bridge.

“PVSC is pleased to help the City of Bayonne. Once again we are mindful of the pollution and flooding issues associated with the storm debris, as well as the navigational and safety hazards they pose. The removal of this large debris is a significant undertaking. We’re glad that PVSC was able to lend assistance to our neighboring towns and businesses,” said PVSC Executive Director Michael DeFrancisci.

These floating obstacles can prove problematic to recreational boaters, Harbor masters and River keepers when found in or along the waterways. PVSC removed the debris with specialized equipment including PVSC’s 30 ton crane, and then placed them onto transport trailers for return and/or disposal. PVSC also enlisted the help of the Clean Shores program, a program whereby Department of Correction inmates working in tandem with Department of Environmental Protection and PVSC staff, clearing the shoreline of floatables and other litter and debris.

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The PVSC has embarked on an intensive, strategic post-storm cleanup campaign to free the Passaic River and related tributaries of blockages, help with flood control and maintain the quality of the River and waterways.

In the decades since World War II, the City of Bayonne has been characterized by its significant port operations and the service sector.

“Bayonne is an important commerce hub for the State of New Jersey and the metropolitan region. We’re glad that PVSC was able to assist in providing cleaner and safer waterways for both the citizens and commercial traffic,” said PVSC Commissioner Kenneth J. Lucianin.

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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.