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GREGORY A. TRAMONTOZZI  
Executive Director

JOSEPH F. KELLY  
Clerk

***“Protecting Public Health and the Environment”***

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**NEWS**

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**PVSC Honored With Two Prestigious AEANJ WAVE Awards**

**Newark, NJ** – Once again, the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission (PVSC) has been recognized by the Association of Environmental Authorities (AEA) for consistently demonstrating excellence in the public wastewater sector in New Jersey.

Throughout 2017, PVSC continued to effectively and efficiently operate the 5<sup>th</sup> largest wastewater treatment facility in the United States, while remaining fully committed to fulfilling its role as a good environmental steward. At their recent annual awards luncheon in Atlantic City, the AEA honored PVSC with a 2017 **“Forward Thinking”** Wave Award for PVSC’s Clean Waterways, Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative and a 2017 **“Public Education”** Wave Award for PVSC’s Lab Day event. PVSC has won 22 such WAVE Awards since 2000.



The Clean Waterways, Healthy Neighborhoods Initiative was developed by PVSC’s Combined Sewer Overflow (“CSO”) Long Term Control Plan (“LTCP”) team. It is a partnership between PVSC and the Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE). Its mission is to inform the public on how Green Infrastructure can be utilized for stormwater management.

Together, PVSC and RCE have educated several hundred individuals through Green Infrastructure and Stormwater workshops, completed 39 municipal green infrastructure feasibility plans within the PVSC district, and installed seven demonstration projects. PVSC has committed to installing three additional demonstration projects in 2018. The most recent project was the remodeling of PVSC’s Administration Building Plaza. It was redesigned to include two rain gardens, permeable pavers, pervious concrete sidewalks and porous asphalt. In the spring, PVSC will also be installing two, 2,825-gallon cisterns to capture stormwater for reuse in its car wash for PVSC fleet vehicles.

The 2017 Lab Day event was attended by students from the Montclair High School Environmental Club. The primary objective of the event was to showcase various careers within the sciences, raise awareness of the important role labs play in society, and specifically educate the students on lab procedures and responsibilities.

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PVSC provided each student with safety glasses and a lab coat. Students were then assembled in groups before visiting various work stations that were led by either a chemist or a lab technician. Students were exposed to what transpires in the lab on a daily basis by observing several wastewater analyses and having the hands-on opportunity to perform the analyses themselves. They also learned about safety procedures in the laboratory and about the state and federal regulations that PVSC must observe. In addition to visiting the lab, students took an extensive, plant-wide tour. They also heard presentations from several members of the PVSC management team.

“PVSC takes tremendous pride in the critical services it provides and these awards are a testament to that fact,” said PVSC Chairman Thomas Tucci, Jr. “Routinely working with various municipalities to develop Green Infrastructure projects and educating young people on wastewater treatment are critical in fulfilling our mission as good environmental stewards. We take pride in the fact that these efforts were recognized by such a prestigious organization.”

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