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Chris Brooks of the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission Honored with Prestigious Alliance for New Jersey Environmental Education Award

Newark, NJ – At its recent Winter Conference held at The College of New Jersey, the Alliance for New Jersey Environmental Education (“ANJEE”) announced the recipients of its 2025 Excellence in Environmental Education Awards. These accolades celebrate individuals who demonstrate exceptional leadership and a deep commitment to environmental education.

Among the award recipients was Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission (“PVSC”) Multimedia Program Coordinator Chris Brooks (left), who oversees and operates PVSC’s Pollution Prevention Educational Outreach Program. Brooks received the ***Outstanding Environmental Educator in the Non-Formal Sector Award***. ANJEE Awards Chair Pat Heaney (right) presented the prestigious honor to Brooks.

Established in 2003, PVSC’s Pollution Prevention Educational Outreach Program educates K through 12 students throughout its service area about the impacts of pollution on local waterways and the steps they can take to help prevent it. In two decades, Brooks has made more than 1,500 school visits and presented to hundreds of thousands of students. He delivers a 50-minute multimedia classroom presentation, paired with hands-on activities. The curriculum is designed to make complex topics like wastewater treatment and stormwater management relatable and meaningful to students of all ages.

Recent program highlights include the development of a Pollution Prevention coloring book, an animated video, and a hands-on birdhouse program that connects environmental education with habitat restoration. Brooks also runs a PVSC Educational Outreach Booth at environmental cleanup efforts along local waterways, including a long-running cleanup at the Great Falls in Paterson.

“Chris represents the very best of public service and environmental stewardship,” said Executive Director Gregory Tramontozzi. “Through a creative approach and a genuine enthusiasm for teaching, he has inspired many local students to better understand their local waterways and their role in protecting them. This honor from such a respected environmental advocacy group is richly deserved.”



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