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PVSC Promotes Environmental Stewardship At Great Falls Cleanup And Expo

Newark, NJ – The Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission (“PVSC”) recently took part in the annual *Science Expo and Cleanup* at the Great Falls in Paterson in collaboration with the National Park Service. The event also featured other government agencies, local businesses, community organizations, and environmental groups, all working together to educate the public about protecting waterways and preserving the environment.

Scientists from PVSC’s Process Control Department participated in the Science Expo by demonstrating how the *Clean Waterways, Healthy Neighborhoods* initiative is helping to reduce the water quality impacts of combined sewer overflows on receiving waters. This project is a collaboration between PVSC and the North Bergen Municipal Utilities Authority.

PVSC’s Educational Outreach Program Coordinator also assisted students in constructing and hanging birdhouses in the vicinity of the Great Falls. Birds not only enhance the beauty and atmosphere of outdoor spaces, but they also provide a natural means of weed and pest control.

The event also included a large-scale cleanup effort involving volunteers, including nearly 500 students from the Paterson public school system. Members of PVSC’s River Restoration Program assisted by hauling garbage away from the large cleanup area and distributing equipment and trash bags to students and volunteers. In total, approximately 200 large trash bags filled with litter and debris were removed from the areas

surrounding the Great Falls. PVSC is committed to preserving and protecting local waterways through environmental stewardship, public education, and community partnerships. Since its creation in 1998, PVSC has removed close to 5,000 tons of debris from over 100 miles of area waterways.

“The Great Falls is one of New Jersey’s most iconic landmarks, serving as both a reminder of our nation’s industrial heritage and a valuable environmental asset,” said Executive Director Gregory Tramontozzi.

“Participating in this cleanup and educational expo allows us to support the health of local waterways while helping to inspire the next generation of environmental stewards.”

