

**Kudos Corner**



Last week, four members of DEP's Police Division were promoted by Commissioner Emily Lloyd and Deputy Commissioner Kevin McBride. Frank J. Milazzo was promoted to Assistant Chief; Thomas M. Arnold was promoted to Deputy Inspector; Brian C. Handy was promoted to Deputy Inspector; and Tavan Novi was promoted to Captain. Congratulations to all! To see more photos click [here](#).

*Spotlight on Safety*

**China-U.S. Occupational Health Symposia**

Earlier this month, the first China-United States Occupational Health Symposia was held in Shanghai and hosted by the National Center for International Cooperation in Work Safety and the American Industrial Hygiene Association. The Symposia offered opportunities to discuss, develop, and learn from acknowledged experts in occupational health. In attendance was Occupational Safety and Health Administration Assistant Secretary Dr. David Michaels, who traveled to Beijing prior to the Symposia for a series of meetings with government officials, worker safety and health advocates, and industry representatives from both countries. These discussions built on more than a decade of cooperation and

collaboration between the United States and China.

Dr. Michaels also attended a roundtable discussion on occupational safety and health in the supply chain, hosted by the China State Administration of Work Safety. There he discussed the roles of government workers, employers, and non-governmental organizations in protecting workers through better understanding and collaboration. He also stressed that all nations should instill a culture of safety throughout an organizations' entire operation.

For more information on the Symposia and additional information on occupational health, visit the [International Safety Science and Technology Network](#).

**Special Guest Commissioner's Corner**

*Paul Rush, DEP's Deputy Commissioner for the Bureau of Water Supply, is a guest commentator this week.*

A sizable number of DEP employees in the watershed, with significant support from in-city staff, spent their summer fixing and monitoring a discharge of turbid water that appeared downstream of Cannonsville Dam. You may remember that this problem began in mid-July after contractors drilled into an artesian aquifer several dozen feet below the surface, allowing that groundwater to move sediment into the West Branch Delaware River.

After roughly six weeks of work and two weeks of intensive monitoring that ended in mid-September, a team of professional engineers deemed the repairs to be a success.

Repairs to the three original boreholes were made using a technique called compaction grouting. A stiff cement grout was first injected through the center of each original borehole, and then it was also pumped at three additional locations around the perimeter of each hole. This pattern was designed to plug the original holes while also allowing the grout to move outward and fill any areas of soil that were eroded by the pressurized groundwater. The repair work was completed on August 25.

Testing of the repairs was done by first shutting down the relief wells

that had relieved water pressure in the artesian aquifer and stopped the turbid discharge below the dam on August 2. At the same time intensive monitoring at the site continued. Engineers carefully monitored instruments inside the dam and conditions downstream to ensure the turbid discharge did not reappear. This monitoring continued through mid-September, and there was no sign of elevated turbidity in the river where it had originally appeared. Also, instruments inside the dam gradually moved toward levels that were observed before the original boreholes were drilled in July. Because of these observations and others, engineers agreed that the grout has successfully confined the pressurized groundwater to the subsurface area where it was originally contained.

DEP will continue many of its extra monitoring efforts until Cannonsville Reservoir refills next spring. These will include near real-time monitoring of turbidity downstream of the dam, maintaining a 24-hour closed circuit video feed from the dam, regular analysis of data from safety instrumentation inside the dam, and inspections of the dam by a professional engineer at least twice a week.

The incident at Cannonsville reminds us that dam safety is a top priority at DEP. And while we don't like unusual conditions at our dams, this summer also proved how fortunate we are to have highly skilled and dedicated staff working throughout our agency.



At DEP, everyone is responsible for safety. If you or anyone on your team is concerned about your working conditions, it's okay to ask your supervisor or your bureau's EHS liaison how they can help. If you've still got questions, you can call the EHS Employee Concerns Hotline. It's DEP's responsibility to acknowledge and fix unsafe situations, procedures, and practices. With your help, we'll not only get the job done, we'll make it safer for ourselves, our coworkers, our families, and our city. CALL (800) 897-9677 OR SEND A MESSAGE THROUGH [PIPELINE](#). HELP IS ON THE WAY.

## Go Fish



This past Saturday, DEP hosted its annual Family Fishing Day at Ashokan Reservoir. Roughly 100 people came out to cast a line and attempt to catch some smallmouth and largemouth bass, yellow and white perch, yellow and brown bullhead, sunfish, and trout that call Ashokan home. The event was co-sponsored by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, which supplied fishing poles and bait to those who did not have their own. As part of the "I Fish NY Program," the New York State fishing license requirement was waived for adults. The event was part of Ulster County Creek Week, which encourages the enjoyment of water and watersheds throughout the county. Thanks to **Tom Baudanza, Peggy Heitzman, Lydia Lewis, and Frank Parisio** for their work to organize the event. Go [here](#) to see more photos.



## Subway Series

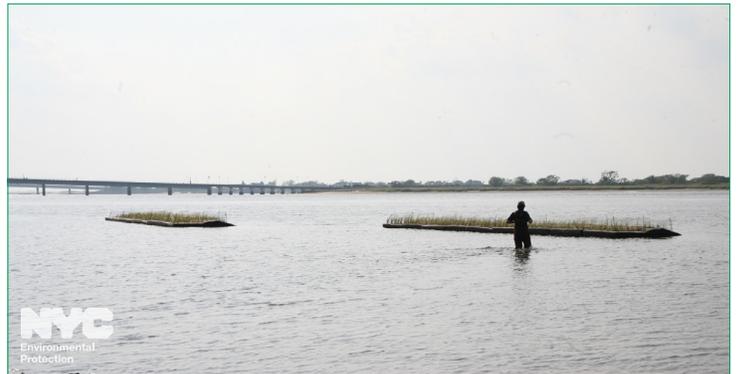


Whether they are Yankees or Mets Fans, nearly 1,000 DEP employees, family and friends came out for the subway series matchup at Citi Field this past Saturday. DEP was featured on the large screen in center field, on banners around the park, and a few employees were welcomed on the field prior to the first pitch. A great time was had by all! Special thanks to the Quality of Work Life Committee for organizing the event. To see more photos click [here](#).

## Wetland Protection



Late last month, DEP completed the installation of five floating wave attenuators off of Brant Point in the Arverne neighborhood on the Rockaways. Each attenuator is approximately 40 feet in length and is anchored to the seabed approximately 100 feet off-shore. The attenuators are angled to deflect waves produced from prevailing northeast winds that would otherwise land on a roughly quarter mile of salt marsh wetlands along Brant Point, on the southern shore of Jamaica Bay. DEP will use remote acoustic monitoring devices to measure how the attenuators perform in deflecting and reducing the energy of waves, as well as measure the anticipated decline in erosion along the wetland edge. If the attenuators succeed in diminishing the strength of the waves and slowing the rate of erosion, that information will be used to determine whether oyster beds could be planted in other areas to similarly protect other critical wetland shoreline areas. To view a short [video](#), click the photo above. For additional information click [here](#) and to see more photos of the installation process click [here](#).



## Mark Your Calendars

**CONTINUING EDUCATION - ENERGY:** The DEP Energy Office and the City University of New York (CUNY) have developed four half-day courses, to be held in October, to provide DEP employees the opportunity to improve their energy knowledge and skills. The courses include: Energy Data Management and Analysis; Measurement and Verification for Energy Efficiency Projects; Improving the Energy Efficiency of HVAC Systems; and Improving the Energy Efficiency of Boilers and Motors. Any full-time DEP employee who is interested is welcome to apply with supervisor approval. Registration deadline is September 30. Click [here](#) for more information.

**FLU VACCINATION:** DEP employees will have the opportunity to receive a free flu vaccination at Lefrak Headquarters 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Lecture and Training Rooms on the following dates: 10/2, 8am to 4pm; 10/5, 11am to 2pm; and 10/7, 8am to 4pm. For additional information, please contact [ralfieri@dep.nyc.gov](mailto:ralfieri@dep.nyc.gov).

**We welcome your feedback! To submit an announcement or suggestion, please email us at: [newsletter@dep.nyc.gov](mailto:newsletter@dep.nyc.gov).**