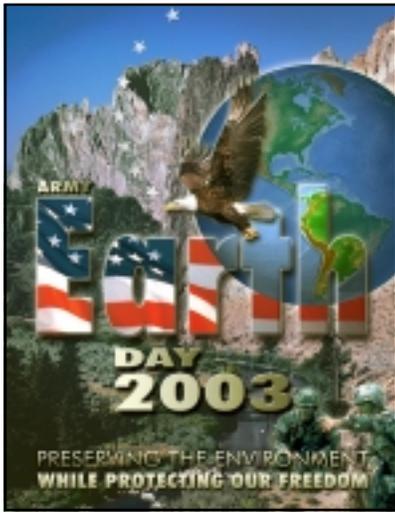


Volunteers support Earth Day activities



River debris removed in New Jersey

On Saturday, May 3 employees of New York District participated in an environmental clean-up of the North Branch of the Rahway River in Winfield Park and Clark, N.J. The event was organized by St. John the Apostle Cub Scout Pack 30. Joe Seebode, District Harbor Program Manager and a leader with Cub Scout Pack Pack 30, developed the logistics for this very successful effort.



New York District Photo

Earth Day volunteers (l-r) Peter Shugert; Katie O'Dowd; Col. John O'Dowd; Joe Seebode, son Joseph Seebode; John O'Connor and daughters, Molly, and Bridget.

Over 125 volunteers from the District and the community participated, including Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, fishermen, local activists and citizens. Sponsors came through with snacks and refreshments. There were coloring books, posters and T-shirt giveaways for the participants. Over a one-mile stretch of the river through Rahway River Park was cleaned up. "Everyone left feeling they made a positive impact on their community," said Peter Shugert, Chief, Public Affairs.

Volunteers plant trees along Brooklyn canal

With gloves, shovels, gloves and potting soil, more than 30 community members, the District Engineer, District employees and their family members rolled up their sleeves and dedicated part of their weekend to cleaning up the streets and planting trees and shrubs along the Gowanus Canal in Brooklyn, NY.

"The Gowanus Canal Community Development Corporation, a neighborhood preservation non-profit group that just celebrated its 25th anniversary, and New York District teamed together to organize the event for the local Brooklynites," said Carolyn Vadino of Harbor Programs Branch.

"It was an excellent day for an event like this and any time the Army Corps can give back to a community where we live and work makes participating so much more satisfying," said Col. John B. O'Dowd, New York District Engineer.



Children pitched in and planted flowers along the streets of the Gowanus Canal.

Corps sound environmental operating principles used on Staten Island

Recently, the O & M program of New York District completed maintenance dredging of the Great Kills Harbor Channel in Staten Island, NY.

"In order to be good environmental stewards, the O & M program is supporting the efforts of the National Park Service to restore native maritime grasslands at Great Kills Harbor Park, part of the Gateway National Recreation Area," said Jodi M. McDonald, project manager, Operations Division.

"We are providing money for NPS to use to purchase plants, and fencing and signage to protect newly planted areas and to educate the public."

New York District Operations Division, in conjunction with the NPS and the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation will be planting selected areas in the park in June.