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**Village of Ossining: Getting (and staying) ahead of the potable water game**

*'Smart Water' event series showcases innovative municipal approach to infrastructure investment*

**Ossining, NY [March 28, 2016]** The Village of Ossining will host a series of *'Smart Water'* community events **[April 13-16]** to showcase their comprehensive and proactive approach to water infrastructure investments. These educational and cultural events feature water projects that are the result of collaborative efforts between the Village engineering and public works department, local elected officials, and environmental and historical organizations.

"Superintendent of Water/Sewer Andrew Tiess and I have always promoted proactive measures to ensure the sustainability of quality potable water for our residents. Major rehabilitation of our existing facility, supplemented with technological improvements for monitoring and efficiency, have allowed the Department of Public Works to provide safe drinking water to the Village's growing population," says Village of Ossining Engineer, Paul Faioli. "Looking forward, in the face of increasing demand, energy costs, and operating costs, the Village must continue to maintain, improve and protect our potable water facilities and natural resources."

***'Thinking and acting ahead'*** defines Ossining's approach to an environmental issue effecting communities across the country: maintaining safe potable (drinking) water and sewer systems sustainably. This includes diligent conservation measuring and leak detection, constant evaluation of water quality, upgrading sewer lines, and working to forecast future needs.

One example of this sustainable investment at work is the recent transformation of the Sing Sing Kill Greenway. Notes Village of Ossining Mayor Victoria Gearity, "The Sing Sing Kill Greenway is an outstanding example of environmental ingenuity and maximizing the benefit of public investment. We're taking a hard look at ways we can responsibly provide for our current needs, while looking ahead to the needs of future generations - all while making the most of taxpayer dollars. Thanks to innovative thinking from the village engineer, a required sanitary sewer upgrade has been transformed into a magnificent public greenway through the heart of downtown Ossining. We invite the public to celebrate in its beauty."

**The roster of upcoming *'Smart Water'* events includes:** A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Sing Sing Kill Greenway and subsequent educational tours, an open-access Board of Trustee Work session focusing on potable water issues, a screening of the acclaimed documentary *FLOW*, and Green Ossining's Earth Day Festival - the largest of its kind in Westchester County. **[See below for full details].**

**Full Schedule of *'Smart Water'* Events:****➤ Ribbon cutting and tour: TheNEW Sing Sing Kill Greenway**

**When:** Wednesday, April 13 @ 6:00pm

**Where:** Joseph G Caputo Community Center, 95 Broadway, Ossining [\[MAP HERE\]](#)

**What:** Join elected officials and community members for the official opening of Ossining's newest public green space. Participants are invited to then walk and explore the Greenway.

➤ **Board Of Trustee Work Session: Potable Water (Open to the press and public)**

**When:** Wednesday, April 13 @ 7:30 pm.

**Where:** Village Hall, 16 Croton Avenue - 1st Floor Board Meeting Room [\[MAP HERE\]](#).

**What:** Press and public are invited to learn more about the ongoing efforts of the Village of Ossining to craft a comprehensive approach to water conservation today while proactively planning for future needs.

**More info:** [www.villageofossining.org/Cit-e-Access/Meetings/?TID=24&TPID=3475](http://www.villageofossining.org/Cit-e-Access/Meetings/?TID=24&TPID=3475)

➤ **Ossining Documentary & Discussion Series Presents FLOW**

**When:** Thursday, April 14 @ 6:30pm

**Where:** Ossining Public Library, 53 Croton Avenue, Ossining [\[MAP HERE\]](#)

**What:** Village Superintendent of Water & Sewer Andrew Tiess will be a panelist at the screening of FLOW, an award-winning documentary investigation into what experts label the most important political and environmental issue of the 21st Century - The World Water Crisis.

**More Info:** <http://ossiningdocumentaries.org>

➤ **Green Ossining's 6th Annual Earth Day Festival– *the largest in Westchester County***

**When:** Saturday, April 16 @ 11:00am-4:00pm

**Where:** Louis Engel Waterfront Park (located at the Ossining Metro-North Station) [\[MAP HERE\]](#)

**What:** Ossining's annual festival has grown to become the largest Earth Day celebration in Westchester County. This year's festival will have a water theme and local residents will have a chance to get an in-depth look at Ossining's potable water system. Village Water & Sewer Superintendent Andrew Tiess and his staff will be on hand to educate residents about the village's comprehensive approach to maintaining its potable water system and to answer questions.

**More Information:** [www.greenossining.org](http://www.greenossining.org)

➤ **Sing Sing Kill Greenway Tours and Educational Program**

**When:** Saturday April 16 @ 2:00-5:00pm

**Where:** Entrances at Joseph G. Caputo Community Center (95 Broadway) and the Central Avenue Bridge (staircase).

**What:** The following experts will be positioned along the Greenway inviting visitors to learn about the newly redesigned Kill from historical, environmental, geological and engineering perspectives:

- Captain Scott Craven - Local Historian and Capt. of the Ossining Police Department
- Gareth Hougham - President of the Hudson Valley Arts and Science Nonprofit Environmental Organization
- Paul Fraioli - Village Engineer
- Richard Sicignano - Geology Teacher at Ossining High School
- The Friends of the Old Croton Aqueduct will be inside the Weir Chamber allowing visitors a rare perspective into the functioning of this historic water system.

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