

Cas Holloway, Commissioner



Michael R. Bloomberg, Mayor

Sustainable Water Resource Planning in New York City

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- DEP provides more than 1 billion gallons (3.8 billion liters) of water each day to more than 9 million residents, including 8 million in NYC.
- NYC remains one of only five large cities in the United States that is not required to filter its drinking water.





- NYC watershed extends more than 125 miles (200 km) from the city, and comprises 19 reservoirs, and 3 controlled lakes.
- Catskill and Delaware watersheds currently supply 100% of demand. Croton watershed has potential to meet up to 30% of demand.





Approximately 7,000 miles (11,000 km) of water mains, tunnels and aqueducts bring water to homes and businesses throughout the City.



- Approximately 7,400 miles (12,000 km) of sewer lines take wastewater to 14 treatment plants.
- DEP also manages stormwater throughout the City, and ensures that the City's facilities comply with the Clean Water Act and other federal, state and local rules.

Sustainability in NYC

✤PlaNYC is a roadmap to achieve 10 goals:

- Create enough housing for our growing population
- Ensure all New Yorkers have parks within a 10-minute walk
- Clean up all contaminated land in New York City
- Develop water network back-up systems
 - Open waterways to recreation and protect natural areas
- Improve travel times by adding transit capacity for millions
- Achieve "State Of Good Repair" on transportation system
- Upgrade energy infrastructure to provide clean energy
 - Achieve the cleanest air of any big city in America
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Reduce global warming emissions by 30%

Climate Change in NYC

	Baseline 1971-2000	2020s	2050s	2080s
Air temperature	55° F	+ 1.5 to 3.0° F	+ 3.0 to 5.0° F	+ 4.0 to 7.5° F
Central range ²	13 C	+ 0.8 to 1.7 C	+ 1.7 to 2.8 C	+ 2.2 to 4.2 C
Precipitation Central range ²	46.5 in ³ 762 cm ³	+ 0 to 5 %	+ 0 to 10 %	+ 5 to 10 %
Sea level rise ³	NA	+ 2 to 5 in	+ 7 to 12 in	+ 12 to 23 in
Central range ²		+ 5 to 13 cm	+ 18 to 30 cm	+ 30 to 58 cm
Rapid ice-melt	NA	~ 5 to 10 in	~ 19 to 29 in	~ 41 to 55 in
scenario ⁴		~ 13 to 25 cm	~ 48 to 74 cm	~ 1.0 to 1.4 m

Source: Columbia University Center for Climate Systems Research

Winter snowpack is another freshwater "reservoir" that may be impacted by climate change.

Source: Union of Concerned Scientists

Turbidity in our Catskill System can affect the quality of our drinking water and downstream stream releases

Historical Water Distribution & Population

✤ Water use has declined since the mid-1990s despite increasing population.

✤ 2009 and 2010 consumption were the lowest since the 1960s drought of record.

Population (Millions)

Sustainable Drinking Water Management

Filtration Avoidance Determination

- ✤ Over \$1 billion invested in watershed protection since 1993.
- Enables us to deliver water that meets EPA standards without building a Catskill-Delaware filtration facility.
- A new filtration plant would be costly to build and operate, would increase our energy consumption and our GHG emissions.

Sustainable Drinking Water Management

Flexible Flow Management Program

- Program to manage Delaware reservoir diversions and releases.
- Objectives include:
 - mitigating flooding in downstream communities.
 - ensuring sustainability of Delaware system by balancing withdrawal for drinking water, aquatic resource needs and salt front repulsion.
- ✤ Will yield a more natural flow regime for Delaware River fisheries.

Sustainable Drinking Water Management

- Resiliency and Flexibility Measures
- New parallel tunnel
- System interconnections
- Automated meter reading
- Enhanced water conservation
- Filtration of 10%-30% of supply

More intense rainstorms can overwhelm the system's capacity to drain and treat stormwater.

Storms and sea level rise may overwhelm wastewater treatment plants

March 2001:

Treated water backup at Hunts Point WWTP

Improving New York Harbor

NYC is implementing measures to improve water quality that maximize benefits for natural habitats, support public recreation, and enhance waterfront and upland communities.

Restoring Jamaica Bay

Climate Change Adaptation Study

- Assess vulnerabilities and develop adaptation strategies for:
 - Drainage system
 - Wastewater treatment plants
 - Areas of population growth

Sustainable Stormwater Management

Dense, Efficient Settlement is Impervious

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Portfolio for Water as a Waste and a Resource

A Sustainable, Hybrid Approach

- 1. Build cost-effective grey infrastructure
- 2. Optimize the existing wastewater system
- 3. Control runoff from 10% of impervious surfaces through green infrastructure and other source controls
- 4. Institutionalize adaptive management, model impacts, measure CSOs, and monitor water quality
- 5. Sustain stakeholder engagement

Green Infrastructure Examples

Construction of Enhanced Tree Pit Transforms a Commercial Strip in Sutter Avenue, Brooklyn

June 2010

Staten Island Bluebelt

Before

Positive Co-Benefits of Green Infrastructure

Annual benefits of green infrastructure	e per acre	Acres of planted green infrastructure in 2030	
Reduced energy demand:	\$5,513	25% planted green infrastructure 1,085 acres	
Reduced carbon dioxide:	\$117		
Improved air quality:	\$759	ZEO/ planta di pre ancieta estructura	
Increased property value:	\$4,725	75% planted green infrastructure	3,255 acres

DEP Climate Change Program Goals

- 1. Improve Regional Climate Change Projections
- 2. Quantify Potential Climate Change Impacts on NYC Water Systems
- 3. Determine and Implement Appropriate Adjustments to NYC's Water Systems
- 4. Inventory and Reduce GHG Emissions
- 5. Improve Communication and Tracking Mechanisms

QUESTIONS?

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