

On Friday May 13th, as previously reported, a contingent of state, county and municipal officials were accompanied by representatives from the State Department of Environmental Protection, United Water, and Bergen Swan embarked on a seven mile hike along and through the Pascack Brook from the Woodcliff Lake Dam to the Oradell Reservoir in Harrington Park. The event provided many of us the opportunity to discuss the various issues related to waterway management and stream maintenance, and the effect on flooding in the Packsack Valley.

A team from United Water with the help of a GPS system documented all areas of concern, plotting each data point, photographing, and taking inventory of all areas that required attention. Currently this data is in the process of being reviewed and processed. A complete report will be made available on the Borough website once it is completed.

Overall, we were encouraged to note that the current flow of water was not being severely impinged on by trees or debris. Except for a few areas on either side of Broadway, litter and dumping was minimal.

It was clear along the route from debris that had become stuck in overhanging branches just how high the stream gets during a flood event.

On the State legislative front, Senate bill S-54 has been supported by the Borough and several municipalities in the Pascack Valley. S-54 has also has some opposition. We will keep you informed as all interested parties continue work on waterway management legislation.