

Brownie Troop 652 Earns Water Conservation Patch

by Rea Gonzalez, Water Conservation Coordinator

March 26, 2013 – “Are you excited to learn about water today?” Enthusiastically they answered, “Yes we are!” We began the tour by taking the troop to the Lancaster Waterworks yard on Avenue J. Jeff Spencer, Electro-mechanic Working Supervisor, showed them the well site and explained that the well is drilled 400 feet deep and water is pumped up into the pipes and into the tank. In one line, the troop followed Jeff as he walked to the tank marking the path of the pipeline. The girls were awed when Jeff mentioned that the tank holds 500,000 gallons of water. They tested the water coming out of the tap and were marveled by the clean taste and cold temperature.

We then proceeded to the Lancaster office for a water presentation. Ron De Vera, Water Service Supervisor, explained how water reaches their homes and showed the parts of a water main and meter. They were amazed at the components of the water system and what it takes to deliver water to their faucets.

For the next part of the presentation, I explained where water comes from, the importance of water, and why we should conserve it. I encouraged them to think of ways they can conserve water as soon as they got home that day: “I can turn off the water while brushing my teeth”, “I can tell my dad to turn off the sprinklers when it rains”, “I can tell my brother to take shorter showers”. It was a rewarding experience to see their newfound eagerness to want to conserve water. We concluded the tour by giving them 5-minute shower timers along with an activity worksheet to take home. The following day, we heard back from the troop leader that the girls had a blast and several of them came back to school boasting of their 5-minute showers using their new timers. This troop definitely deserves to earn their water conservation patch!

