



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER & POWER AUTHORITY
CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS
NEWS RELEASE

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WAPA Promotes Water Awareness with Educational Events Leading Up to World Water Day



Tuvia Blake-Hodge, WAPA's Water Plant Operations Supervisor and Jahmaul Joseph, Seven Seas Water Group Representative, educate students at Joseph E. Gomez on the science of reverse osmosis and its role in providing clean water.

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS (March 24, 2025) – The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority (“WAPA” or the “Authority”) proudly celebrated World Water Day with a week of educational and community events. These activities emphasized the importance of water conservation, the technology behind water production, and WAPA’s dedication to a reliable and sustainable water supply for the Virgin Islands. Leading up to the official World Water Day celebration on Saturday, March 22, the events reinforced the importance of protecting and valuing water, an essential resource.

As part of its commitment to educating future generations, WAPA organized two school outreach events for second-grade students. The Authority visited Pearl B. Larsen School on St. Croix and Joseph E. Gomez School on St. Thomas, where over 50 students participated in an interactive learning session. The sessions covered essential topics, including where water comes from, how it is processed, and why protecting this vital resource is crucial. Students also learned about WAPA’s

partnership with [Seven Seas Water Group](#), which utilizes reverse osmosis technology to transform seawater into safe, drinkable water for the community.

A hands-on [aquifer experiment](#) gave students an exciting look at how groundwater moves and how pollution can impact drinking water. This engaging activity helped them understand the delicate balance of the water cycle and the importance of maintaining clean water sources.

WAPA also provided six University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) undergraduate students with an in-depth look at water production by hosting a tour of the Seven Seas Water Group facility on St. Thomas located at the Randolph Harley Power Plant. This behind-the-scenes experience allowed the UVI students to see firsthand how water is processed from ocean intake to household distribution, reinforcing the importance of a reliable water infrastructure.

“Ensuring a clean, reliable water supply for our community is at the heart of what we do,” said Noel Hodge, WAPA’s Chief Operating Officer for WAPA Water Systems. “Through education and community engagement, we aim to deepen public understanding of where our water comes from while highlighting the hard work and dedication of our water team and partners.”

To further educate and engage the community, WAPA launched Water Wednesday highlights (#WaterWednesday) this month. Shared on social media, this initiative provides insights into water production in the territory through Seven Seas Water Group, updates on key water infrastructure projects, and practical tips on water conservation.

WAPA encourages the community to join in celebrating and appreciating its water team and its valued partner, Seven Seas Water Group. To learn more about WAPA’s water projects and ongoing infrastructure improvements, visit <https://www.viwapa.vi/stxwater>.

The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority Communication’s department is committed to reaching, informing, and connecting with the youngest members of the community to the eldest, through meaningful, transparent and effective communication.

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About WAPA: The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority is an autonomous agency of the Virgin Islands Government which produces and distributes electricity and drinking water to residential and commercial customers in the territory. WAPA was created by the Fifth Legislature of the Virgin Islands in 1964 through Act No. 1248. Today, WAPA generates electrical power at production plants on St. Thomas and St. Croix and distributes electrical service through smart grids to customers on St. Thomas, St. Croix, St. John, Hassel Island, and Water Island. Potable water is distributed to almost 13,000 customers through water lines and standpipes. WAPA also has the responsibility of installing and maintaining streetlights.

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