

THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER & POWER AUTHORITY CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

NEWS RELEASE

(340) 774-3552 • communications@viwapa.vi / www.viwapa.vi

April 25, 2024

WAPA Celebrates Earth Day and Week of the Young Child on St. Croix and St. John



Image: WAPA Linemen interact with the youth during Earth Day on St. John on Monday.

U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS – The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority ("WAPA" or "Authority") was thrilled to join in the celebration of the Eco Fair, Earth Day, and the Week of the Young Child on both St. Croix and St. John. These events highlighted the importance of environmental awareness, sustainability, and early childhood education in our communities.

Last week, WAPA proudly participated in the Week of the Young Child event hosted by the VI Department of Education at the Canegata Ballpark, emphasizing the significance of early childhood education in shaping environmentally conscious citizens. Several WAPA linemen participated and showcased one of the new hybrid bucket trucks alongside Communications in educating on electric safety and career opportunities in the utility field.

On St. Croix, both events occurred last week Friday. WAPA actively participated in the Eco Fair hosted by the St. Croix Environmental Association (SEA) at the St. George's Botanical Gardens, where over 400 young people met with several agencies sharing their innovative ideas and projects

focused on environmental conservation and renewable energy. Children from various schools from across St. Croix had the opportunity to learn about WAPA's efforts on increasing renewable energy on St. Croix as well as their individual role in conserving water and electricity. This initiative aligned with WAPA's commitment to promoting a greener and more sustainable future for the Virgin Islands.

Additionally, the Earth Day celebration on St. John took place on Monday at the Franklin Powell Sr. Park hosted by the Friends of the Virgin Islands National Park. WAPA was proud to be part of this event, where efforts to protect and preserve our natural resources were celebrated and encouraged. As an essential provider of electricity and water services, WAPA recognizes the critical role it plays in promoting environmental stewardship and sustainable practices.

WAPA encourages everyone to continue taking proactive steps towards a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable future. Together, we can make a positive impact on our environment and create a better world for future generations.

To watch recap video of these youth Outreach events, please visit WAPA's YouTube page at: https://youtu.be/11Cbu2YC8k8

For more information, please visit <u>www.viwapa.vi</u> and/or social media pages on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>Twitter</u> and <u>LinkedIn</u>.

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.

###

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.