

Dear East West School of International Studies,

The 11th annual service day hosted by Riverkeeper (a New York environmental watchdog and enforcement organization) is a sweep of the shorelines of the Hudson River and its tributaries. In 2021 Riverkeeper was engaged with 146 projects and 2,600 volunteers from Brooklyn to the Adirondacks removing 29 tons of trash and hundreds of pounds of invasive species.

The Guardians of Flushing Bay and Empire Dragons NYC will again host the event at Flushing Bay. We hope that you'll encourage your students, teachers, and their families to participate. Not only will everyone see that they are making a difference locally, they'll also receive a certificate for community service for their volunteer hours.

**Date:** Saturday, May 7, 2022

**Time:** 11:00am – 3:00pm

**Location:** Flushing Bay World's Fair Marina, Pier One

(Parking is available at the Marina OR Take the 7 Train to Mets-Willets Point and walk past Citifield to the marina)

**\*Please note: The COVID guidelines established by Riverkeeper will be followed.\***

Cleaning resources (gloves, pickers and bags) will be provided by Riverkeeper and NYC Department of Parks and Recreation. Water and light healthy snacks will be available for all volunteers. Students will have the opportunity to learn about green infrastructure initiatives designed to restore our waterways. And, the Billion Oyster Project will be there to share their exciting hands-on work of reintroducing oysters into the New York Waterways, in an effort to naturally clean up the water.

Please share the flyer with your school community and let me know if you have any questions. Participants can register by clicking the link on the flyer "Jennifer's Flushing Bay Cleanup" named in honor of one of our founders, Jennifer Merendino. You can also register upon arrival.

It will be a fun day and a worthwhile endeavor. Thank you!

Best regards,

Nanette Vaughn  
Empire Dragons NYC