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NYS holding 4th annual 'Canal Clean Sweep' this weekend

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UTICA, N.Y. (AP) - The New York State Canal System is holding its fourth annual "Clean Sweep" event this weekend.

Held in recognition of Earth Day, the statewide event kicking off today and running through Sunday is aimed at preparing the 524-mile system of waterways for the upcoming 184th canal navigation season.

Clean-up events are being held in more than 85 canalside communities from the Buffalo area to the Vermont border.

The canal system consists of the Erie, Oswego, Cayuga-Seneca and Champlain canals.

The official kickoff for the cleanup effort is being held later this morning at the Aqua Vino Restaurant along the Erie Canal in Utica.

The complete listing of Canal Clean Sweep events can be found on Parks and Trails New York's Web site -- <http://www.ptny.org>.

On the Net:

<http://www.nyscanals.gov>

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