

What Paterson's Great Falls looks like with water turned off (PHOTOS)

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PATERSON — Everything needs a little tidying up from time to time. On Thursday, the Great Falls in Paterson had its turn to get cleaned up.

The avalanche of water from the Passaic River was diverted from its 77-foot freefall and sent through an adjacent hydroelectric plant owned by Paterson and operated by Eagle Creek Renewable Energy.

Workers picked up garbage, cut and removed large trees and did general cleanup work.

Water levels were low enough for workers to go out on the rocks, usually inaccessible, and see graffiti carved into the stones in the early 1800s.

The falls — the second-largest waterfall in Northeast — became a national park in 2009.

If you can't actually make it to the falls, it can be seen on a [live cam](#).