

For Immediate Release: July 15, 2005

MEDIA ADVISORY

- Who:** Philadelphia Water Department, Philadelphia Department of Public Health, and Oliver Evans Chapter of the Society for Industrial Archeology Atwater Kent Museum of Philadelphia, Army Corps of Engineers
- What:** 200th Anniversary of the *Orukter Amphibolos* & Christening of the S.S. R.E. Roy, its 21st Century Successor
- When:** Saturday, July 16, 10:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- Where:** See attached program

Orukter Amphibolos Day will be proclaimed in Philadelphia on July 16 celebrating 200 years worth of efforts to clean up the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers. In July 1805, Oliver Evans invented The *Orukter Amphibolos*, the first motorized vehicle in America. The *Orukter Amphibolos* rolled up Market Street, around City Hall, and then down to the Delaware River sparking a long-standing tradition of river revitalization.

Two hundred years later, the Water Department has recently commissioned a new skimmer vessel, the S.S. R. E. Roy, as part of pilot project designed to remove trash from the Delaware and Schuylkill Rivers. The S.S. R.E. Roy, a Rover 12 seaworthy boat, will be christened by Elaine Roy, wife of former Deputy Water Commissioner Richard E. Roy (retired). This pilot project is intended to mirror similar waterfront enhancement programs that have been successful in New York City and Passaic Valley, New Jersey.

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