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More should pay for Passaic cleanup

Regarding "Save the Passaic – now" (Editorial, Sept. 27):

I appreciate the newspaper's comments regarding the need to "turn the tide" on the Passaic River. And, most certainly, The Record's recent four-part series about the Passaic has helped further raise awareness about the river's condition. The details emerging from Staff Writer Bob Ivry's 70-mile kayak ride down the river hammer home the need for all responsible parties to work with state and federal agencies to clean the waterway.

The Lower Passaic Cooperating Parties Group includes 31 companies that concur with you in the desire to see one of the most valuable natural resources in northern New Jersey restored.

Members of the group have already committed \$10 million toward funding the EPA's investigation of the contamination in the Passaic. It is important to note, however, that while there are currently 31 companies stepping up to help address the situation, there are hundreds of other entities, both public and private, that have had a hand in creating the lower Passaic's environmental condition.

They must be brought into the process and required to pay their fair share. It is the only way the river can truly be restored to good health and its enormous potential realized.

Jonathan Jaffe

Newark, Sept. 30

The writer is spokesman for the Lower Passaic Cooperating Parties Group.