



sanitation news online

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Commissioner's Column

As we move forward with our "Zero by 30" program, adding and upgrading recycling programs will be crucial in helping us reach our goal. An area of focus has been electronics, or e-waste. Because of a state law, we no longer are able to collect that material at curbside. While it's necessary to keep the harmful components in these items out of landfills, residents must now find other, legal ways to get rid of the items they no longer want.

Recently, I went to Albany to testify in front of lawmakers regarding the rule. In keeping with its intent, I believe electronic equipment manufacturers should be required to provide collection of e-waste that meets a higher standard of convenience for residents. That said, we have a number of programs to help residents properly recycle this material.

e-cycleNYC is our in-apartment building collection program for e-waste. Buildings have special clean-out days, or a permanent

collection cage is delivered. Then, our partner, ERI, takes the material away for proper recycling. Since its inception in November 2013, the program has grown to more than 6,700 residential buildings, servicing nearly 540,000 households, and has collected nearly 1,000 tons of waste. Another option is our SAFE Disposal Events, now held twice a year in each borough. Residents can drop off e-waste, along with other potentially harmful household items. In that same time period, we have collected more than 700 tons of e-waste from the events. Additionally, thanks to the urging of Council Member Steven Matteo, we now accept e-waste at our Special Waste Drop Off sites, and so far, the change has been well received.

Through added manufacturer responsibility, and our city-run programs, we will meet the needs of residents looking to recycle their items, and help bring us to "0 waste."

Kathryn Garcia



Thanks to the many volunteers from the Adventist Youth Ministries who served lunch to workers in BK 8 and BK 9 as part of their day of compassion.

Celebrating St. Patrick's Day



The Department was a proud participant in recent St. Patrick's Day parades, including the annual Rockaways and 5th Avenue processions. The **Emerald Society Pipes and Drums** performed at both parades, as well.

Mayor Thanks DSNY at State of Our City



At the State of Our City address, **Mayor de Blasio** himself face-to-face with one of New York's Strongest – recognized members of the City's uniformed services who performed acts of heroism. While some expect NYPD and FDNY to get all the glory, the Mayor was sure to say "...And don't forget our Sanitation workers, first responders and city employees who helped the city recover from the January storm. A would-be robber at a 7/11 found

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Collector's Items

Condolences to family and friends of **Robert Kuman**, on his passing. Bob was a DSNY employee for more than 30 years; before his 2010 retirement Bob was the Deputy Director of Administration for what was then the Bureau of Waste Prevention, Reuse & Recycling.

Congratulations to **Jim Strauss**, Legal Affairs' Assistant Commissioner, who is retiring after 20 years of DSNY employment, and nearly 40 years of city service.

Join us in wishing a happy retirement to Supervisor **Vincent Provenzano**, leaving after 30 years of city service.

Congratulations to **Linda Scott**, who is retiring from the Health Care Facility after 27 years of service.

Congratulations to **Chief Al Ferguson** who will assume the new post of Chief of Regulatory Compliance and Career Development. New regulatory requirements have been implemented recently, many with a heavy emphasis on training. Chief Ferguson's organizational strengths and interest in mentoring new supervisors make him particularly well suited for this role.

Welcome **Louise Bruce**, who joined the Commissioner's Office as Senior Program Manager for NYC Organics. She will oversee the development and expansion of NYC Organics to meet the Mayor's goal of organic waste recycling available to all.

The **Columbia Association** is sponsoring a bus trip to Atlantic City on April 16, and their 21st Annual Golf Outing is June 7. Contact your local rep for more information.

The **Uniformed Sanitation Chiefs Association** will hold their 25th Anniversary Dinner on May 10 at Russo's on the Bay. Contact sanitationchiefs@gmail.com for more information.

The **Holy Name Society** will hold its 24th Annual Golf outing on May 3 at Pelham Split Rock benefiting the Gerard A. Whelan Scholarship Fund, Autism Speaks and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation. Contact dsnyhns@aol.com for more information.

The **Cooley's Anemia Foundation** will honor the memory of the late **Steven Frosch** as Humanitarian of the Year at their 18th Annual Queens Dinner Dance at Russo's on the Bay on April 1. Contact Anthony Ferrino at aferrino@dsny.nyc.gov for more information.

Registration is open for the 4th annual **9/11 Memorial 5K Run/Walk & Community Day** on Sunday, April 24, and DSNY employees are eligible for a first responder discount. Use promotional code DSNY to receive special pricing of \$20, compared to the regular adult registration of \$45). Click [here](#) to register.



Kids of Sanitation



Say hello to Christopher, son of **Superintendent Chris Linares, Borough Operations Superintendent, BKNBO** as he helps shovel the sidewalk! Thanks for pitching in, Christopher! Want to see your child's photo here? Send photos to bmager@dsny.nyc.gov or tag the photo on Twitter or Instagram with a DSNY hashtag.

Heroes take the Court



Recently, MCU named two DSNY Sanitation Workers as "Most Valuable New Yorkers" before a St. John's basketball game!

This winter, **S/W Carlos Rosado** and **S/W Wilson**

Arroyo noticed four young children left alone in a locked car. The workers came to the rescue - staying with the vehicle and its precious cargo and flagged down a police officer for assistance.

Generous Donations



The New York Blood Center recently presented DSNY's **Central Repair Shop** with an Outstanding Achievement Award recognizing their increased blood donations. The CRS made 814 blood donations in 2015, a 43 percent increase over the prior year. Thanks to all at CRS, and all DSNY locations, for taking the time to donate blood.