



sanitation

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DSNY Releases 2018 Annual Report

The New York City Department of Sanitation has published its 2018 Annual Report highlighting the Department's achievements in the fiscal year. Highlights include the release of its latest Waste Characterization study, the promotion of the first female Chief to a four-star position, the continued expansion of the organics curbside collection program, and the launch of the BetterBin litter basket design competition.

“Sustainability is a driving force in so many of our programs, and our progress relies upon reliably measuring results. Our 2017 Waste Characterization Study has done just that. For example, the study confirmed that residents are tossing less and recycling more than we did five years ago, but revealed that expanded polystyrene remains ubiquitous in our waste stream. This reiterated the importance of banning single-use foam packaging products to keep them from reaching our waterways — and beginning next year foam food service products and packing peanuts will be banned in New York City,” Sanitation Commissioner Kathryn Garcia noted in the publication.

In Fiscal Year 2018:

- The Department collected 644,300 tons of recycling and 3,193,300 tons of refuse.
- More than 95 percent of streets were rated “acceptably clean.”
- DSNY deployed 31 members of New York’s Strongest to support Puerto Rico’s Emergency Management Agency and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, following Hurricane Maria.
- Chief Shari Pardini became a four-star Chief – the first uniformed women to rise to this rank in the Department’s history.
- The Department released its Waste Characterization Study outlining what, and how much, New Yorkers throw out.
- The curbside organics program expanded to an additional 1.88 million New Yorkers, and another 95,000 New Yorkers enrolled in our high-rise building program.
- Through its partners, donateNYC successfully put 2,238 tons of “things” to reuse.
- Our refashionNYC program kept 1,800 tons of clothing and accessories out of landfills and put them to beneficial reuse.
- ecycleNYC, our electronic-waste collection program, kept nearly 500 tons of material from landfills.

- The Department launched the BetterBin Competition, a design contest to reimagine the iconic New York City litter basket.

The full report is published [online](#).

About the New York City Department of Sanitation

The Department of Sanitation (DSNY) keeps New York City healthy, safe and clean by collecting, recycling and disposing of waste, cleaning streets and vacant lots, and clearing snow and ice. The Department operates 59 district garages and manages a fleet of more than 2,000 rear-loading collection trucks, 450 mechanical brooms and 695 salt/sand spreaders. The Department clears litter, snow and ice from approximately 6,500 miles of City streets and removes debris from vacant lots as well as abandoned vehicles from City streets.