



# sanitation

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## **DonateNYC Launches ReFashion Week NYC, a Fashion Event Series Celebrating Sustainability and Reuse in Fashion**

From February 23 to March 1, the Department of Sanitation's [donateNYC](#) program will host ReFashion Week NYC, the first-of-its-kind event celebrating sustainability and reuse in fashion. The week-long celebration will include events across the city, such as a pop-up market, clothing swaps, a mending and upcycling workshop, and a ReFashion show – all focused on reducing textile waste and making fashion sustainable.

Every year, New Yorkers send approximately 200,000 tons of clothing, shoes, and accessories to landfill. With fast-fashion wear becoming more popular and accessible, textile waste has the potential of increasing. ReFashion Week NYC is connecting the fashion world, sustainability experts, the re-use industry and consumers to reduce textile waste.

“The amount of textile waste that New Yorkers discard every year is equivalent to the entire height of the Empire State Building – and that needs to change. The vast majority of these items can be recycled, donated, or mended and repaired to extend their life-cycle,” said Acting Sanitation Commissioner Steven Costas. “ReFashion Week NYC is focused on starting conversations and action between the fashion world, businesses and consumers on how we can make fashion more sustainable and reduce this waste.”

ReFashion Week NYC is done in collaboration with members of the [donateNYC Partnership](#), including FABSCRAP, Housing Works, Goodwill, NYC Fair Trade Coalition, and others. In addition to holding events, ReFashion Week NYC has issued a [lookbook](#) – a sampling of fashionable outfits styled with secondhand clothing from our donateNYC partners.

ReFashion Week NYC will officially kick-off with a pop-up reuse market and clothing swap at LIM College in Manhattan on Monday, February 25. It will culminate with a ReFashion Show on Friday, March 1, at Project Farmhouse, in which seven stylists will create unique looks using clothing from donateNYC partner thrift stores. A high-profile emcee will lead the evening, while experts in fashion and sustainability will judge the looks and pick a “best in show”.

For a full listing of events and to view the *ReFashion Week Lookbook*, visit [refashionweek.com](http://refashionweek.com).

### **About the New York City Department of Sanitation**

The Department of Sanitation (DSNY) promotes a healthy environment through the efficient management of solid waste and the development of environmentally sound long-range planning for handling refuse, including recyclables. 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.

### **About donateNYC**

DonateNYC is a program of the Department of Sanitation that makes it easy for New Yorkers to donate and reuse goods instead of throwing them away. DonateNYC provides digital tools for residents to locate reuse outlets and for businesses and nonprofits to exchange used goods. DonateNYC also supports the city's nonprofit reuse sector through the donateNYC Partnership program, which includes members such as thrift stores, social service providers, and creative reuse organizations.



