



# sanitation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 25, 2016

CONTACT: Vito A. Turso/Belinda Mager

646-885-5020

Press Release #16-17

[www.nyc.gov/sanitation](http://www.nyc.gov/sanitation)

## Queens SAFE Disposal Event is Saturday, April 30

### Event Provide Residents Easy Option for Disposal of Potentially Harmful Household Items

Residents looking to dispose of potentially harmful household materials may do so at the **Queens SAFE** (Solvents, Automotive, Flammables, and Electronics) Disposal event, held this **Saturday, April 30**, at the Cunningham Park baseball field parking lot. Residents driving to the free event should enter on Francis Lewis Boulevard, between Union Turnpike and Grand Central Parkway. The drop-off event is rain or shine, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Household products such as **pesticides, strong cleaners, mercury-containing devices, paints, automotive fluids, and medications** may be brought to the drop-off event. Residents can also bring **electronics**, which may longer be left for curbside collection due to a New York state law.

To identify harmful products, look for items marked DANGER, WARNING, POISON, or CAUTION. Please also bring other materials stored in your home that you know may be harmful. Only NYC residential waste will be accepted.

“Our SAFE Disposal events give city residents a quick, convenient way to dispose of potentially harmful products, the items many of us have in under the sink, or in the back of a closet,” said Commissioner Garcia. “We are also thankful to our partners in helping make these events a success year after year.

In 2016, DSNY will hold ten SAFE Disposal events, two per borough. The first Brooklyn and Staten Island events were held earlier this month. Upcoming events include:

- **Queens**  
**Saturday, April 30**  
Cunningham Park, Baseball Field Parking Lot - Cars enter on Francis Lewis Blvd, between Union Turnpike & Grand Central Pkwy  
Walk-in area available for residents taking public transportation
- **Bronx**  
**Saturday, May 14**  
Orchard Beach Parking Lot - Follow Park Drive to the end

- **Manhattan**

- **Sunday, June 26**

- Columbia University/Teachers College - 120th St between Broadway & Amsterdam Ave  
Cars approach from Seminary Drive down Amsterdam Ave  
Walk-in area available for residents taking public transportation

All events are rain or shine, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

**Examples of Accepted Items**

- Automotive products such as motor oil, transmission fluid, and auto batteries
- Personal care items like unwanted medicines or cosmetics
- Thermometers
- Syringes (clearly labeled and packaged in a “sharps” container or other leak proof, puncture-resistant container)
- Household products such as pesticides, paint, hazardous cleaners, spent compact fluorescent light bulbs
- Electronics, such as computers, televisions, and printers.

Materials collected are either recycled, blended for fuel, or sent to licensed hazardous waste treatment facilities for safe disposal.

Electronics are responsibly recycled or refurbished for reuse through [e-cycleNYC](#).

Unwanted medications are managed by environmental police and incinerated to prevent unintentional poisonings or entry into the water supply.

DSNY relies on several partners and contractors to make these events a success, including the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation, Columbia University, Teachers College, Covanta Energy, Electronic Recyclers International, and Veolia ES Technical Solutions.

For those unable to participate in these events, visit [www.nyc.gov/safedisposal](http://www.nyc.gov/safedisposal) or contact 311 for other year round options to handle auto products, batteries, cell phones, electronics, fluorescent lamps, latex paint, mercury devices, and syringes.

**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 2,022 rear-loading collection trucks, 450 mechanical brooms and 365 salt/sand spreaders. The Department clears litter, snow and ice from approximately 6,000 miles of City streets and removes debris from vacant lots as well as abandoned vehicles from City streets.