



# sanitation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 17, 2019

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Press Release #19-52

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

## **Manhattan Fall SAFE Disposal Event to be Held Sunday, September 22, 2019**

### **Event Gives City Residents Easy Way to Dispose of Potentially Harmful Household Items**

The New York City Department of Sanitation is reminding residents that the Manhattan fall SAFE (Solvents, Automotive, Flammables, and Electronics) Disposal event will be held Sunday, September 22 in Union Square. The event, held rain-or-shine from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m, provides residents with an opportunity to safely dispose of potentially harmful household products.

Household products such as pesticides, strong cleaners, mercury-containing devices, paints, automotive fluids, and medications may be brought to the drop-off events. Residents can also bring electronics, which may no longer be collected with trash and other recycling, due to a New York state law. To identify harmful products, look for items marked DANGER, WARNING, POISON, or CAUTION. Only city residential waste will be accepted.

“Our SAFE Disposal events give city residents a quick, convenient way to dispose of potentially harmful products,” said Commissioner Kathryn Garcia. “From time to time, we see items that were incorrectly disposed of. This is bad for the environment and dangerous for our Workers and passerby. Earlier this year, someone threw out an oxygen tank in the trash, and it ended up in the truck. The tank exploded in the back of the truck and injured two of our Workers, luckily not too seriously. However, it could have been much worse. We hold these events for the residents, and we encourage everyone to take advantage of them.”



Earlier this year, the Department held springtime SAFE Disposal Events in each of the five boroughs. The Department of Sanitation held a fall event in Brooklyn earlier this month. Upcoming events include:

- **Manhattan - Sunday, September 22, 2019**  
Union Square, North Plaza  
South side of 17th Street, between Park Avenue South & Broadway  
Cars approach from Park Avenue South & 20th Street
- **Staten Island - Saturday, September 28, 2019**  
Midland Beach Parking Lot

Father Capodanno Blvd & Hunter Ave  
Cars Approach from Slater Blvd

- **Bronx - Saturday, October 5, 2019**  
Orchard Beach Parking Lot  
Follow Park Drive to the end
- **Queens - Saturday, October 12, 2019**  
Cunningham Park, Ball Field Parking Lot  
Cars enter on Francis Lewis Boulevard between Union Turnpike & Grand Central Parkway

### **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, 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](#). 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, 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 options.

### **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.