



sanitation

For Immediate Release

Release #23-13

www.nyc.gov/sanitation

CONTACT: pressoffice@dsny.nyc.gov

REMINDER: RAT BUFFET ENDS SATURDAY AS NEW TRASH SET-OUT TIME RULES GO INTO EFFECT

As of April 1, unless it is in a sealed container, trash must go out after 8 pm

March 31, 2023 — NEW YORK: The New York City Department of Sanitation reminds residents that new rules take effect tomorrow — no joke — substantially adjusting the time of day trash may be placed on the curb.

As of tomorrow, April 1, 2023, residential buildings have up to three options, all of which would substantially decrease the amount of time trash is on the curb:

- Place trash out after 6pm in a secure container
- Place trash out after 8pm if putting bags directly on the curb
- For buildings with nine or more residential units, the property owner may opt in to a 4-7am set-out window. The opt-in period runs for the month of January each year, allowing the Department of Sanitation to design quick and efficient routes that take effect April 1. The opt-in period is now closed and will reopen January 1, 2024.

These rules apply to recycling and curbside composting as well.

Businesses that place waste at the curb have two options:

- Place trash out after 8pm if putting bags directly on the curb
- Place trash out one hour before closing in a secure container

This does not apply to businesses that have waste collected from a loading dock.

Previously, trash and recycling were placed at the curb after 4pm the night before collection — the earliest of any major American city — meaning that in many neighborhoods it sat out for more than 14 hours, including the evening pedestrian rush hour.

DSNY is not just asking New Yorkers to put their trash out later; the Department is also picking it up earlier, doing more of its collection on the midnight shift than pre-pandemic. Overnight

collection now accounts for approximately one quarter of all collection operations, roughly five million pounds per night.

Taken together, this means trash will sit on the curb for a fraction of the time it does currently

“Piles of black trash bags have been robbing us of clean and usable public space for more than 50 years,” Sanitation Commissioner Jessica Tisch said. “Seeing the bags for a few hours a day instead of more than half the day will make a huge, huge difference in our streetscape — and it will cut off the all-you-can-eat rat buffet and send rats packing.”

Enforcement of the new rules will begin with a one-month grace period, meaning businesses and residents will receive written warnings until May 1, 2023. Written warnings will be tracked, and warning recipients will be among the first places inspected for compliance in May.

For more information, visit nyc.gov/setouttimes.

About the New York City Department of Sanitation

The Department of Sanitation (DSNY) keeps New York City clean, safe, and healthy by collecting, recycling, and disposing of waste, cleaning streets, attacking the scourge of illegal dumping, 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, 705 salt spreaders, and several dozen bike lane operations machines. Under the Adams Administration, the Department is aggressively cleaning more parts of the City than ever before, including over 1,000 long-ignored areas spread across every neighborhood. With the highest wintertime uniformed headcount in 20 years, DSNY is more equipped than ever to remove snow and ice from the approximately 19,000 lane-miles of City streets.

--###--