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Fall SAFE Disposal Events Announced; Events Give City Residents Easy Way to Dispose of Potentially Harmful Household Items

First Fall Event: Brooklyn - Sunday, September 16

The New York City Department of Sanitation has announced the five fall SAFE (Solvents, Automotive, Flammables, and Electronics) Disposal events. The events provide residents with a one-stop drop-off to safely dispose of potentially harmful household products. All events are rain or shine, and open 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 events. Residents can also bring electronics, which may no longer be collected with trash and other recycling, due to a New York state law. Last year, more than 23,000 attendees brought nearly two million pounds of materials to our SAFE Disposal Events.

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 city 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 under the sink, or in the back of a closet," said Commissioner Garcia. "We are also thankful to our partners for helping make these events so successful year after year."

Earlier this year, the Department held springtime SAFE Disposal Events in each of the five boroughs. The fall events are:

• Brooklyn - Sunday, September 16 Floyd Bennett Field at Flatbush Avenue and Marine Parkway Cars - enter on Flatbush Ave, and turn left into the main entrance, just before the bridge

• Manhattan - Sunday, September 23

Union Square North - South side of 17th Street, between Park Ave South & Broadway Cars – approach from Park Ave South & 20th Street Walk-in area available

• Bronx - Saturday, October 6 Orchard Beach Parking Lot

• Staten Island - Saturday, October 20

Midland Beach Parking Lot at Father Capodanno Boulevard & Hunter Avenue Cars - approach from Slater Boulevard

• Queens - Saturday, October 27

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 <u>e-cycleNYC</u>. 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 or contact 311 for other 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) 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 693 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.