



sanitation



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It's Nearly Christmas "Tree-cycling" Time!

Using Curbside Collection? – Please, "Naked" Trees Only – No Bags or Decorations!

The New York City Department of Sanitation will begin its annual **curbside collection** of Christmas trees starting Monday, January 6, 2020. Collection runs through Friday, January 17, weather permitting. Residents should **remove all stands, tinsel, lights and ornaments** before putting trees out for collection. After collection, clean, **non-bagged** Christmas trees will be chipped, mixed with leaves, and recycled into compost for the city's parks, institutions and community gardens.

Those needing to get rid of mostly **plastic and metal artificial Christmas trees** should consider selling or donating them. Donation opportunities may be found at nyc.gov/donate. Otherwise if possible, take apart your tree to recycle the base and trunk (pole) with metal, glass, plastic and cartons. Remove all lights, ornaments and tinsel before placing at the curb.

The Department of Sanitation collected more than 200,000 Christmas trees for "tree-cycling" after Christmas 2018.

"Give your Christmas tree new life after Christmas," said Sanitation Commissioner Kathryn Garcia. "While Christmas trees are in our homes for only a short period of time, tree-cycling gives them a longer life. After collection, the trees are chipped and recycled into compost to help plants and trees in our city's parks and community gardens. Thanks to all residents for taking part in the program."

NYC Parks Mulchfest will run this year from December 26 through January 11, providing an additional option to recycle your tree. With 67 total drop-off sites—32 are chipping sites—across the five boroughs, including parks and GreenThumb gardens, New Yorkers will be able drop off holiday trees which are then chipped and recycled. This year, New Yorkers also have two consecutive Saturdays when they can actively mulch their holiday trees—Saturday, January 4 and 11.

"Recycling trees is one of the easiest ways to show our commitment to caring for our urban forest, giving holiday trees new life by turning them into much needed fertilizer," said NYC Parks Commissioner Mitchell J. Silver, FAICP. "I'd like to thank Commissioner Garcia and the Department of Sanitation for helping to support our mission to maintain sustainable parks and public spaces throughout the five boroughs."

For more information on Christmas tree collection and recycling or MulchFest, visit www.nyc.gov/dsny, www.nyc.gov/parks or call 311.

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 705 salt 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.