



New York City Community Air Survey

The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) and Queens College of the City University of New York (QC-CUNY) is conducting the *New York City Community Air Survey*, or NYCCAS, a program to monitor air quality across New York City. This program studies how pollution from traffic, buildings, and other sources varies among our diverse neighborhoods. As part of the Mayor's blueprint for long-term planning and sustainability, PlaNYC, NYCCAS will help us better understand our air pollution problem and where more improvements may be needed.

NYCCAS monitors pollutants that cause health problems and come from motor vehicles and other sources like boilers or furnaces in buildings. These pollutants include fine particles, nitrogen oxides, elemental carbon, sulfur dioxide and ozone.

NYCCAS air pollution monitors are mounted at about 150 locations throughout New York City. These monitors will be mounted about 10 to 12 feet off the ground on public light poles or utility poles along streets and in some parks. The monitors use a small battery-powered pump and filters to collect air samples.



NYCCAS air pollution monitor

The NYCCAS monitors do not contain radiation or chemicals that can be released, and they do not take video or still pictures. Employees of QC-CUNY or DOHMH install each monitoring unit for two-week periods, four times a year. Technicians drive official vehicles and always carry QC-CUNY or DOHMH identification.

Monitors are being placed in a diverse array of streets and neighborhoods in all five boroughs, with at least one in each Community District. Many monitoring locations are in neighborhoods with busy traffic and many buildings. Others are areas that have less traffic and are less built up. Some monitors will be in neighborhoods near facilities with particular kinds of combustion sources, like bus depots and ferry terminals.

Reports detailing the results of NYCCAS can be downloaded from <http://www.nyc.gov/health/nyccas>.

For more information, please contact Iyad Kheirbek at the New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (212-676-2725) or Dr. Holger Eisl at Queens College of the City University of New York (718-670-4219).