

May, 2013

## HURRICANE SANDY BUSINESS RECOVERY INFORMATION



The City has a variety of initiatives designed to help businesses impacted by Sandy, including:

### Fee Relief

A new local law waives and refunds various fees required for rebuilding, recovery, and operation of businesses. Refunds are available until May 31, 2013. For new applications, a business must apply for a fee waiver by October 31, 2013 and may have fees waived until December 31, 2013. Businesses and vehicles operating prior to Hurricane Sandy and located in areas impacted by the Hurricane may be eligible for a fee waiver or a refund for City fees associated with rebuilding space or replacing a vehicle.

Business owners must apply to the Restoration Business Acceleration Team (RBAT) for certification of eligibility. Find more details on fee relief, including eligibility requirements, on the [RBAT website](#).

### Restoration Business Acceleration Team (RBAT) Services

**Client Management.** Impacted businesses will be assigned a client manager who will help evaluate their situation and guide them through the steps needed to meet requirements to re-open. The client manager will serve as a business owner's point person with the City, helping to answer questions, coordinate and expedite inspections and other interactions with a variety of City Agencies.

**Consultations/Inspections.** Impacted businesses can request a consultation where personnel from critical Agencies walk through an establishment and outline measures needed to bring the establishment back into compliance with government rules and regulations.

**Plan Examination.** Severely impacted businesses requiring substantial rebuilding will often need to submit drawings for plan review and permit issuance.

## NEW PROCESS FOR PLACES OF ASSEMBLY



Beginning May 7, 2013, any new or existing valid places of assembly will receive a Department of Buildings Place of Assembly Certificate of Operation that does not expire. The Certificate is valid and may be posted on its own for one year from the date issued. After one year, the Certificate is only valid when a premise also has a valid New York City Fire Department Place of Assembly Permit. This PA Permit expires annually and will be renewed based on the results of the Fire Department's inspection. The new process will be simpler and reduce the time it takes to receive a renewal. More information is available from the [Department of Buildings](#) and the [Fire Department](#) or by calling 311.

## HOW-TO VIDEOS



*Inform NYC*, a video series that provides New Yorkers with useful information about City services, has released six how-to videos on various topics that are useful to business owners. The videos focus on backflow prevention devices, food safety for mobile vendors, temperature and time, grease interceptors, hand washing sinks, and playing music in your establishment. Watch the videos [here](#).

## BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: DARINA CAFE



Darina Café in Staten Island, originally located on Midland Avenue, saw its space significantly damaged during Hurricane Sandy. The street in front of the original location [was used to distribute goods to needy neighbors after the storm](#). Owners Irina and Lenoid Zagarov contacted the Restoration Business Acceleration Team (RBAT) to obtain fee relief to help them rebuild. They were approved for fee refunds and waivers and were assigned an RBAT client manager to coordinate additional services. RBAT was able to provide the Zagarovs with Department of Buildings and Fire Department plan reviews, Department of Buildings site visits and inspection, a Department of Health and Mental Hygiene site visit and inspection and a Department of Environmental Protection site visit. These services enabled them to relocate and re-establish their business within six months of the Hurricane. Visit the new Darina Café at 315-317 Sand Lane, Staten Island, NY 10305.

## SAVE THE DATE

### Restaurant Management Bootcamp

To run a successful restaurant you must know how to manage your employees and expenses, as well as which licenses you may need. This course will help you understand all of the basic requirements to get your business up and running. Total course hours: 1 session.

Bronx: 5/14 or 6/18, 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm, 400 East Fordham Road, 7th Fl.

East Midtown Partnership: 6/5, 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm, 875 Third Avenue

Lower Manhattan: 6/6, 8/1, or 9/5, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm, 110 William Street, 4th Fl.

Queens: 5/23 or 6/20, 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm, 168-25 Jamaica Avenue, 2nd Fl.

Upper Manhattan: 5/22 or 6/19, 5:00 pm - 6:30 pm, 361 West 125th Street, 2nd Fl.

Cost: Free

[Register here](#)

### Mastering Marketing

Learn how to get the best customers for your business! When you start a new business, you need to become visible and attractive to your target customers. What do you do to catch their attention? What do you need to tell them so they will want to try your product or service? This course will provide answers to your most pressing marketing questions. Total course hours: 3 sessions, 7.5 hours.

Bronx: 6/6, 6/13, and 6/20; 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm; 400 East Fordham Road, 7th Fl.

Staten Island: 6/3, 6/5, and 6/10; 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm; 120 Stuyvesant Pl., 3rd Fl.

Upper Manhattan: 6/11, 6/12, and 6/13; 5:30 pm - 8:00 pm; 361 West 125th Street, 2nd Fl.

Washington Heights: 5/14, 5/15, and 5/16; 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm; 560 West 181st Street, 2nd Fl.

Cost: Free

[Register here](#)

### Experts and Answers: Personal Debt and Your Business

Join Workshop in Business Opportunities and Susan Ganz a Financial Services Professional with the Center for Wealth Preservation in discussing how personal debt can affect your business.

Date and Time: Thursday, June 13, 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm

Location: Edwin Gould Foundation for Children, 55 Exchange Place, 6th Floor, New York, NY

Cost: Register before May 24th \$15, After May 24th \$25.

Lunch will be provided.

[Register here](#)

### Summer Fancy Food Show

Discover 180,000 specialty foods and beverages from 2,400 exhibitors spanning 80+ countries. Network with thousands of your peers and build new relationships. Learn from industry experts with 15 + educational seminars tastings and tours.

Date: June 30 - July 2, 2013.

Location: Jacob K. Javits Convention Center, 655 West 34th Street, New York, NY Cost: Varies

[More information here](#)

Send us your event for our next issue! Email: [nbat@nbat.nyc.gov](mailto:nbat@nbat.nyc.gov)

## IN THE NEWS

### **El Aripo Prepares to Open at 172 Delancey St.**

<http://www.thelodownny.com/leslog/2013/04/el-aripo-prepares-to-open-at-172-delancey-st-with-help-from-city-program.html#more-75253>

### **New Business Acceleration Team Assists 5 Union Square Eateries**

<http://unionsquareblog.org/2013/04/11/new-business-acceleration-team-assists-5-union-square-eateries/>

### **City's red-tape team aids hurricane-hit businesses**

<http://mycrains.crainsnewyork.com/blogs/insider/2012/12/citys-red-tape-team-aids-hurricane-hit-businesses/>

## CONTACT US

For general inquiries concerning new restaurant locations, call 311 or email [nbat@nbat.nyc.gov](mailto:nbat@nbat.nyc.gov).

NBAT Mailing Address:  
100 Gold Street, Fl. 2  
New York, NY 10038

To Request a Food Service Pre-Operational Health Inspection:

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/nbat/html/inspections/food.shtml>

To Request a Construction Inspection:

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/nbat/html/inspections/construction.shtml>

To Request a Range Hood Inspection:

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/nbat/html/inspections/hood.shtml>

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