

Where to Find Information on the Department of Sanitation

by Christine Bruzzese

Annual Reports. The City Hall Library collection includes *Annual Reports* from the Department of Sanitation (DSNY) from 1930 to 2004. This is the best source for statistics, discussion of agency operations, names of key personnel and photos of equipment and employees. Prior to 1930, the Department was known as the Department of Street Cleaning. *Annual Reports* from 1886 to 1929 provide statistical and other information as well as photographs that may be useful.

Newsletters. *Sweep* was a magazine of the DSNY, published quarterly from 1959 to 1965. Employee and agency news, articles on sanitation topics and a crossword puzzle are featured in each issue. Currently, *DSNY Newsletter*, a quarterly publication, is available on the agency website. This also covers agency and employee news, accomplishments and various sanitation topics.

Digest of Codes. The *Digest of Codes* summarizes laws, rules and policies of the Department of Sanitation. It is prepared for the homeowner or other Sanitation customer. Published in 2004, the latest version includes new regulations on recycling.

Atlases. *Atlas of New York City* from DSNY appeared in 1934 and again in 1968. These are maps of sanitation districts with operations offices, incinerators and other facilities indicated. An index is included.

Other Publications. *Statistical Review and Progress Report* appeared from 1954 to 1973. Various statistics on operations and projects of DSNY are here. *The Big Snow* includes thank-you letters to Sanitation employees for their assistance in cleaning up after the 1947 blizzard. Excerpts from newspaper editorials and features can also be found in this report. Other reports and booklets on waste prevention, recycling and snow removal may be of interest plus proposed and final solid waste management plans.

Websites. Department of Sanitation website at www.nyc.gov/dsny is a source for news, publications, collection schedules, history, recycling and much more. At www.nyc.gov/records, the Department of Records website, check the link for “Sanitation” under the “Publications” heading for reports.