

**THE CITY OF NEW YORK
BOROUGH OF THE BRONX
COMMUNITY BOARD 7**



RUBEN DIAZ, JR., BOROUGH PRESIDENT

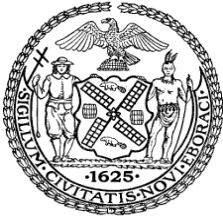
EMMANUEL MARTINEZ, CHAIRPERSON

ISCHIA BRAVO, DISTRICT MANAGER

ENVIRONMENT & SANITATION COMMITTEE

Chair	Betty Arce
Meeting Date:	November 4, 2021
Meeting Time:	6:30pm
Meeting Location:	Zoom
Members (Check Those In Attendance)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Helene Hartman-Kutnowsky <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rosalie Leslie_ <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jean Hill
Minutes Done By:	Betty Arce

- I) **Introductions**
- II) **Review of previous minutes**
- III) **Follow-up from previous month**
 - Chair shared the additional items to the CB budget request that had been discussed at the October 7th committee meeting.
- IV) **New Business**
 - Stephen Caruso, Citywide Community Affairs Officer, DSNY
 - Disposal of refrigerators and items with coolant, and other large appliances.
 - Call 311 for an appointment to put out item to remove gas and tagged.
 - Large appliances such as stoves, washing machines can be placed out for collection on recycling day.
 - Curbside e-waste collection is currently suspended
 - Pop up events can be organized with DSNY’s vendor for e-cycle program - ERI
 - Committee will explore hosting an event with an elected official in the future
 - Electronics can be brought to retail vendors such as Best Buy, Home Depot, etc. or brought to the Hunts Point facility.
 - <https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dsny/site/services/electronics/overview-electronics-guidelines>



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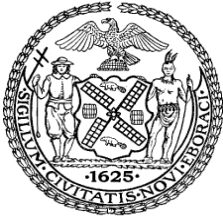
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- Hazardous household items and upcoming safe disposal events.
 - Last event was in October 2021.
 - Drop off sites – Hunts Point facility every Saturday from 10 -5 & every last Friday of the month
 - <https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/dsny/site/services/harmful-products/special-waste-drop-offs>
- Leaf Collection – dedicated leaf collection in November has been suspended. December collection TBD
- 7 day a week corner basket collection service has been resumed
- Snow plan
 - Steve provided a brief overview of snow preparations and trainings. A more detailed review will be held in January.
- New District Superintendent – Jorge Vasco
- Mentioned the past week’s slow down where trash collection was delayed in many parts of the city in response to the COVID vaccine mandate. Most service is back on schedule.

- Hillary Bosch, Community Outreach Coordinator
Composting Programs and Partnerships, DSNY
 - Curbside compost collection has resumed in Fall 2021
 - Ms. Bosch reviewed the composting program’s purpose & benefits
 - Process
 - Sign-up can be done by calling 311 or go online to nyc.gov/curbsidecomposting.
 - i. Sign up for 10+ unit apartment buildings will require management consent.
 - ii. Many challenges for apartment buildings. DSNY will assist with outreach where needed.



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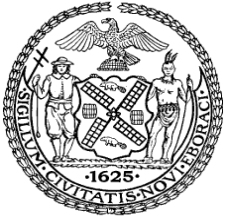
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- This year, DSNY wants the program to be efficient and cost effective. Service will resume on a rolling basis and based on the number of sign-ups in each CD. Service will be added in a CD where there are sufficient sign-ups.
- If a district has not had enough sign-ups, persons will be placed on a waitlist until a minimum threshold has been achieved. Based on geography and density.
- Benefits
 - i. Keeps neighborhoods clean & healthy – reduces vermin infestation & street litter
 - ii. Makes NYC more self-sufficient & more resilient
- Food scraps, food soiled paper, leaf & yard waste can be added to the brown bin distributed by DSNY once a person is signed –up and registered.
- DSNY is working to add more Food Scrap Drop Off Sites in areas of high demand that are not yet served by curbside composting.
- There is also a program for schools

- Fall leaf collection is suspended for November and in preparation for a December start up, DSNY will participate in street events and will have pop-up events to distribute leaf bags and information

- Effie Ardizzone, DEP
 - Water Quality
 - Ms. Ardizzone explained the matter of water quality during the spring and fall. Shutting down the Catskills Aqueduct for rehabilitation. Water from the Croton reservoir may taste or smell different. Nothing wrong with the water, it is temporary and seasonal. Water is tested throughout the day. Caused by growth of organic compounds Report to 311
 - Lead in water – Call 311 to request a free lead test kit



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- Cease the Grease – no grease down the drain or toilet bowl to prevent clogging the drain. Dispose of grease in kitty litter or sand and place with trash
- Flooding during rainstorms; property owners are encouraged to clear away any catch basins in front of their properties. Call 311 to report any catch basins that need to be cleared.
- New blueprint for weather related emergencies. Extreme Weather Response Task Force with a new blueprint to prepare for extreme weather conditions

V) Open Forum

- Dirty conditions under the East 204th Underpass.
- Outstanding Water bills experienced by homeowners due to Covid. DEP will work with property owners with a payment agreement/plan
- 718 595-7000

VI) Next meeting date – January 4, 2022

VII) Adjournment