

In Re Public Hearing Amendment of Penalty for Improper Disposal
of Regulated Household Waste - NYC - Department of Sanitation
September 18, 2026

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THE CITY OF NEW YORK
DEPARTMENT OF SANITATION
PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED RULE RELATING
TO THE VIOLATION AMOUNT FOR THE
IMPROPER DISPOSAL OF REGULATED HOUSEHOLD WASTE

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September 18, 2026
10:03 a.m.

Remotely via
Microsoft Teams

Julia M. Speros
Court Reporter

In Re Public Hearing Amendment of Penalty for Improper Disposal
of Regulated Household Waste - NYC - Department of Sanitation
September 18, 2026

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A P P E A R A N C E S:

Madelynn Liguori, Esq.
Assistant Commissioner
Bureau of Legal Affairs
Department of Sanitation

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PROCEEDINGS

MS. LIGUORI: Good morning and welcome. My name is Madelynn Liguori. I am the Assistant Commissioner of the Bureau of Legal Affairs with the Department of Sanitation. Thank you for attending this public hearing this morning.

The agency is conducting this remote hearing in accordance with the requirements of the City Administrative Procedure Act. The purpose of this hearing is to receive comments from the public on DSNY's proposed rule relating to the violation amount for the improper disposal of regulated household waste.

This rule was published in The City Record on August 19, 2026, with a scheduled hearing date of today, September 18, 2026. Additionally, copies of the rule were emailed to all New York City local-elected officials, the City's 59 community boards, media and interested parties, and published the proposed rule on its website.

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1 DSNY has seen an uptick in regulated
2 household waste not being disposed of
3 properly. Regulated household waste
4 means any item that may cause puncture
5 or cuts that is used in the
6 administration of medication and is
7 disposed of with residential solid
8 waste, including, but not limited to,
9 intravenous tubing and syringes with
10 needles attached.

11 In 1991, pursuant to Section
12 16-120.1 of the New York City
13 Administrative Code, DSNY promulgated
14 rules relating to the safe disposal of
15 regulated household waste. The penalty
16 permitted in the Administrative Code for
17 a violation of such rules is not less
18 than \$50, nor more than \$250. The
19 current penalty of \$100 has been in
20 effect since 2002.

21 Over the past three calendar years,
22 DSNY employees have been stuck by
23 needles over 140 times. This number
24 does not include those instances where
25 needles are improperly disposed of and

1 did not result in an injury. As this
2 number continues to climb, and the
3 reasons for the use of needles for
4 medical purposes have increased over the
5 years, DSNY proposes to increase the
6 penalty amount for the improper disposal
7 of regulated household waste from \$100
8 to \$250.

9 The increased penalty is necessary
10 to ensure the safety of our workers and
11 to dis-incentivize the improper disposal
12 of such waste.

13 A court reporter is present today
14 and will record the hearing. You may
15 present an oral statement or submit
16 written comments concerning the proposed
17 rule.

18 We have been accepting written
19 comments on the proposed rule since it
20 was published. Today is the deadline
21 for submission of written comments.
22 Such comments may be emailed directly to
23 nycrules@dsny.nyc.gov by 5 p.m. today.

24 DSNY will make available a copy of
25 all written comments received through

1 today, together with the hearing
2 transcript, for viewing on its website
3 within the next few weeks. DSNY will
4 carefully consider all the comments it
5 receives today at the hearing and all
6 written comments it receives.

7 I will begin calling those of you
8 who wish to speak this morning in the
9 order in which you have signed up to
10 testify.

11 While the notice asked that persons
12 wishing to testify sign-up in advance of
13 this hearing, anyone wishing to testify
14 at this time may do so by indicating in
15 the chat area that you wish to testify
16 by indicating your name and affiliation,
17 if any.

18 When you speak, please say your name
19 and affiliation, and speak slowly and
20 clearly so that the court reporter can
21 understand and accurately record your
22 statement. We also ask that you limit
23 your statement to three minutes.

24 Currently, I have no one signed up
25 to testify. So, if you would like to

1 testify at this time, you may do so by
2 indicating in the chat area or using the
3 "raise hand" function.

4 (No response.)

5 MS. LIGUORI: Comments may continue
6 to be submitted to the Department of
7 Sanitation by 5 p.m. today. You may
8 email them to nycrules@dsny.nyc.gov or
9 you may post them on the NYC Rules
10 website.

11 (No response.)

12 MS. LIGUORI: Once again, if you
13 wish to testify, please indicate so in
14 the chat or use the "raise hand"
15 function. We will keep the hearing open
16 for a little longer.

17 (No response.)

18 (Record remained open.)

19 MS. LIGUORI: If anyone wishes to
20 testify, you may use the "raise hand"
21 function or indicate so in the chat.

22 (No response.)

23 (Record remained open.)

24 MS. LIGUORI: For those that just
25 joined, if you wish to testify, you may

1 indicate so in the chat or use the
2 "raise hand" function.

3 Comments will continue to be
4 accepted through close of business today
5 at nycrules@dsny.nyc.gov or they can be
6 posted on the NYC Rules website. I will
7 post both links in the chat.

8 (No response.)

9 (Record remained open.)

10 MS. LIGUORI: We are going to keep
11 the hearing open for another five
12 minutes.

13 If you wish to testify, please
14 indicate so in the chat or use the
15 "raise hand" function.

16 Once again, comments will continue
17 to be accepted through close of business
18 today at nycrules@dsny.nyc.gov or they
19 can be posted on the NYC Rules website,
20 which I will indicate so in the chat.

21 (No response.)

22 (Record remained open.)

23 MS. LIGUORI: For those that just
24 joined, if you wish to testify, please
25 indicate so in the chat or use the

1 "raise hand" function.

2 Comments will continue to be
3 accepted through close of business today
4 at nycrules@dsny.nyc.gov or you can post
5 them on the NYC Rules website and we'll
6 post the link in the chat.

7 (No response.)

8 (Record remained open.)

9 MS. LIGUORI: As of right now, we
10 are going to leave the hearing open to
11 10:30.

12 If anyone wishes to testify, please
13 indicate so in the chat or use the
14 "raise hand" function.

15 Comments will continue to be
16 accepted through the close of business
17 today at nycrules@dsny.nyc.gov or you
18 can post them on the NYC Rules website.

19 (No response.)

20 (Record remained open.)

21 MS. LIGUORI: This is the last
22 opportunity to testify in-person. If
23 anyone would like to testify, please
24 indicate so in the chat or use the
25 "raise hand" function.

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1 (No response.)

2 MS. LIGUORI: You can continue to
3 submit comments until 5 p.m. today. You
4 may email them to nycrules@dsny.nyc.gov
5 or you may post them on the NYC Rules
6 website.

7 I'm going to close -- call this
8 hearing to a close. Thank you to
9 everyone that participated.

10 The Department will post all
11 comments and the hearing transcript on
12 its website over the next few weeks.

13 Thank you very much and have a great
14 day.

15 (Time noted: 10:31 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF NEW YORK)

:SS

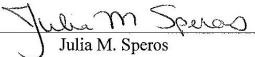
COUNTY OF NASSAU)

I, Julia M. Speros, a Notary Public
within and for the State of New York, do hereby
certify:

I reported the proceedings in the
within-entitled matter, and that the within
transcript is a true record of such proceedings
to the best of my ability.

I further certify that I am not
related to any of the parties to this action by
blood or marriage; and that I am in no way
interested in the outcome of this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
set my hand this 18th day of September, 2026.



Julia M. Speros

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