

Mandatory Composting in NYC

NYLCV Lunch & Learn

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NYC Waste Context

- Organic waste, including yard waste, food scraps, and food-soiled paper, makes up 34% of all residential waste in NYC
- NYC's previous zero waste efforts
- Why reaching zero waste is important:
 - Public health
 - Environmental justice
 - Fighting climate change

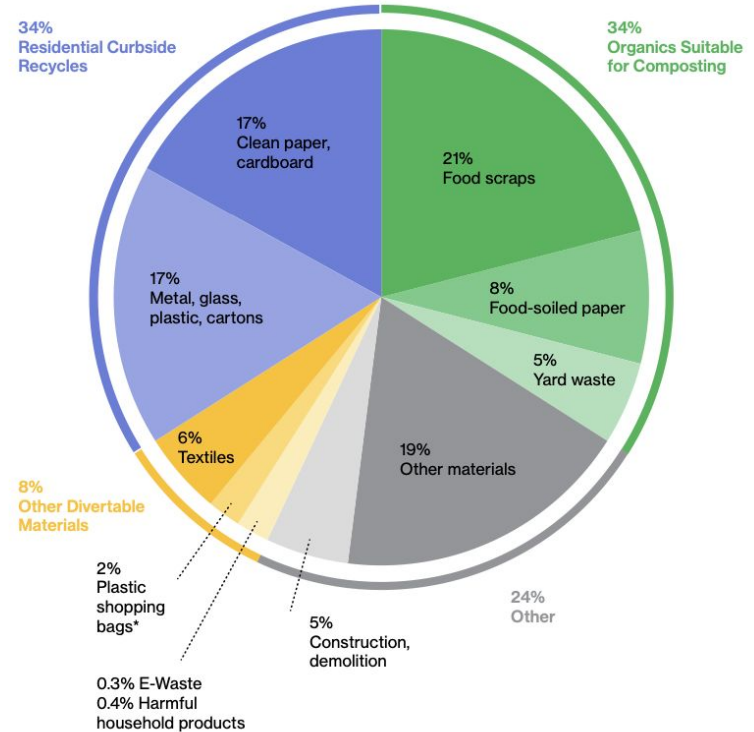


Image from PlaNYC

What is the City Doing?

- Adams Administration
 - Queens curbside composting pilot announced last year
 - In just three months in Queens, curbside composting kept 12.7 million pounds of yard and food waste out of our landfills
- City Council Zero Waste legislative package – passed in June!
 - Consisted of 5 bills

Intro 274-A (Local Law 86 of 2023)

- Sponsored by Council Member Sandy Nurse
- Codifies a goal of zero waste in NYC by 2030
- It also requires DSNY to report to the Council if this goal cannot be reached, provide recommendations on how to achieve the goal



Image from MOCEJ

Intro 275-A (Local Law 87 of 2023)

- Sponsored by Council Member Sandy Nurse
- Requires DSNY to report on the agency's efforts to meet the zero waste by 2030 goal and increase waste diversion rates.
- It also requires DSNY to develop a plan to achieve the goal of zero waste.



Image from DSNY

Intro 280-A (Local Law 88 of 2023)

- Sponsored by Council Member Keith Powers
- Requires DSNY to create community recycling centers in each borough to collect materials that are not collected through curbside collection but can still be recycled or reused



Image from DSNY

Intro 281-A (Local Law 89 of 2023)

- Sponsored by Council Member Keith Powers
- Requires DSNY to establish a minimum number of organic waste collection drop off sites in each borough



Image from Cafeteria Culture

Intro 244-A (Local Law 85 of 2023)

- Sponsored by Council Member Shahana Hanif.
- Establishes a mandatory residential organics collection program citywide.
- Residents will be required to separate both yard and organic waste like food scraps for regular weekly curbside collection, similar to how recycling must be separated from trash for curbside disposal.



Image from NY Times

Mandatory Composting

- Queens - already started
- Brooklyn - October 2, 2023
(currently only services CD 1, 2, 6, and 7)
- Bronx - March 25, 2024 (currently only services CD 8)
- Staten Island - March 25, 2024
- Manhattan - October 7, 2024
(currently only services CD 6 and 7)



Image from DSNY

What to Compost

- DSNY will pick up ALL leaf and yard waste, food scraps, and food-soiled paper.
- This includes meat, bones, dairy, prepared foods, and greasy uncoated paper plates and pizza boxes.



Image from DSNY

How to Compost

- Food scraps and food-soiled paper
 - Place in any compost labeled bin (55 gallons or less) with a secure lid *or* in your DSNY brown bin.
- Leaf and yard waste
 - Beginning in October, leaf and yard waste separation will be mandatory in Brooklyn.



Image from DSNY

FY24 Budget

- \$23.2 million allocated for expanding DSNY's curbside organics program citywide
 - This includes \$4.5 million for bin deliveries, outreach and communications.
 - This also includes 289 new staff this year, including 233 Sanitation Workers for collection operations.
- In FY25, funding increases to \$24.43 million, including 335 new staff.



Image from NY Times

More Information

- DSNY is hosting virtual info sessions over the next month:
 - Friday, September 29, 12:00 PM
 - Monday, October 2, 6:00 PM
 - Friday, October 6, 12:00 PM
 - Tuesday, October 10, 6:00 PM
 - Friday, October 13, 12:00 PM

- DSNY website:

<https://www.nyc.gov/assets/dsny/site/services/food-scraps-and-yard-waste-page/composting-residents-organics>

Thank you!

<https://nylcv.org/>

