

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

www.sanitationfoundation.org CONTACT: Julie Raskin, 646-885-4928

## SUSTAINABILITY IN EDUCATION: SANITATION FOUNDATION LAUNCHES FOLLOW YOUR WASTE GAME FOR AGES 8+, NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FOR SCHOOLS

The Sanitation Foundation, the official non-profit partner of the New York City Department of Sanitation, today announced two new related initiatives to promote sustainability in schools: *Follow Your Waste*, a game that shows kids 8-and-up the journey trash takes through the invisible inner workings of our city, and the *Follow Your Waste Prize*, a prize of up to \$1000 in new funds to spend on sustainability in schools.

"There's no such place as 'away,' and every item thrown *away* goes somewhere. The Sanitation Foundation is proud to be sharing this journey with New York's youngest sustainability advocates, and to be supporting school Green Teams and other projects through the Follow Your Waste prize," said **Julie Raskin, Executive Director of the Sanitation Foundation**.

When playing Follow Your Waste, users will learn how to sort their trash and recycling and where it goes after being collected. Along the way, they'll learn behind-the-scenes facts about the workings of DSNY, the nation's largest municipal solid waste and sustainability agency. The game is available in English, Spanish, and Chinese.

The game is accompanied by a "Meet the Workers" section, introducing users to the faces behind DSNY - the 10,000 people who remove 12,000 tons of trash and recycling from the streets each day - as well as a set of free curricula for educators of grades 4-12 that align to NYS learning standards.

For the Follow Your Waste prize, the Sanitation Foundation and DSNY will be awarding \$1000 in Spring 2022 to NYC K-12 public schools who participate in the new Follow Your Waste game and commit to a waste diversion project. Details are available <a href="https://example.com/here/">https://example.com/here/</a>.

The Follow Your Waste program was developed in partnership with the NYC Department of Sanitation's Bureau of Recycling and Sustainability's Schools Unit, housed within the Department's Bureau of Recycling and Sustainability, and with input from the GrowNYC Zero Waste Schools program. The game was built and designed by Haruka Aoki, Corey Tegeler, and

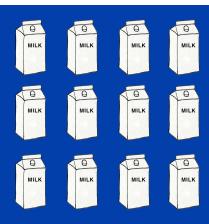
Jon Packles. The curriculum was developed by Garima Sharma. The program is made possible with support from PepsiCo Recycling and the Lily Auchincloss Foundation.

**About the Sanitation Foundation:** The <u>Sanitation Foundation</u>, founded in 2016, is the official nonprofit organization of the New York City Department of Sanitation. Supported by private funding and in-kind donations, the Foundation leverages non-traditional strategies to promote sustainability and advance the essential services of Sanitation employees.

The Sanitation Foundation is supported, in part, by grants from Covanta Environmental Solutions, National Grid, the Lily Auchincloss Foundation, Con Edison, Bloomberg LP, ABNY, and the Verizon Foundation. We'd like to extend our deepest appreciation to all donors and friends of the Sanitation Foundation, who make our programs possible.

**About the NYC Department of Sanitation:** The Department of Sanitation (DSNY) keeps New York City healthy, safe and clean by collecting, recycling and disposing of waste, cleaning streets and vacant lots, and clearing snow and ice. The Department operates 59 district garages and manages a fleet of more than 2,000 rear-loading collection trucks, 450 mechanical brooms and 705 salt spreaders. The Department clears litter, snow and ice from approximately 6,500 miles of City streets and removes debris from vacant lots as well as abandoned vehicles from City streets.







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