

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# New Yorkers Celebrate Earth Month with the NYC Big Spring Clean Featuring Community Groups, Schools, and Businesses Throughout the Five Boroughs Taking Part in a Month of Cleanups

Sanitation Foundation Launches Innovative Community Volunteer Hub to Connect New Yorkers with Cleanups Near Them

*New York, NY, April 2, 2024* – New Yorkers will be cleaning up the places they love during Earth Month this April in the <u>NYC Big Spring Clean</u>, presented by the Sanitation Foundation. As the official non-profit partner of the New York City Department of Sanitation (DSNY), the Sanitation Foundation is bringing together community groups, schools, and businesses to keep the five boroughs clean.

"Earth Month is a time for every New Yorker to do their part for the cleanliness and sustainability of their neighborhood. The community clean-ups, school programs, and special events that make up the Big Spring Clean are a way to do just that, and I urge all New Yorkers to find an event nearby this April," said **Jessica Tisch, Commissioner, NYC Sanitation**.

"The NYC Big Spring Clean is a spectacular month of cleanups and activities where we'll champion New Yorkers and help them care for the places they love the most," said **Sanitation Foundation Board Chair, Caryl Englander.** "The Sanitation Foundation is committed to providing communities, schools, and businesses throughout the five boroughs with the leadership and resources they need to keep their favorite spaces clean."

## **Community Cleanups**

The Sanitation Foundation works year-round with New York City community groups and will partner with 40 organizations throughout the five boroughs during the NYC Big Spring Clean, providing cash grants, tools, supplies, and an online volunteer platform to help drive participation. The Sanitation Foundation <u>Volunteer Hub</u> is a directory that allows individuals and families to easily locate a NYC Big Spring Clean community cleanup near them, connect with the organization, and register to volunteer, all on the same online platform.

## **Corporate Cleanups**

Hundreds of employees from businesses throughout New York City will take part in the NYC Big Spring Clean. The Sanitation Foundation is matching locations that need a good spring cleaning with corporate partners who are committed to keeping the city clean, including Arup, Bloomberg, Société Générale, and Target.

### **School Cleanups**

The Sanitation Foundation is committed to helping New York City schools create a cleanup culture with programming throughout the school year. 50 New York City public schools in all five boroughs will join the NYC Big Spring Clean. The Sanitation Foundation is supporting those efforts by leading cleanups and training school leaders who are hosting their own cleanups, as well as providing all the resources necessary to do so.

### **Special Events & Activities**

A variety of NYC Big Spring Clean special events will be held throughout Earth Month to highlight the need to keep the city clean and what people can do to make a difference. As a community partner of the NYC Big Spring Clean, the International Center of Photography (ICP) will host a cleanup in the Lower East Side, lead a diverse panel of talented artists on a discussion around how art can shape views on trash, and feature other Earth Month activities at ICP. In addition, the Sanitation Foundation will be hosting a special NYC Big Spring Clean event on Earth Day, April 22, to announce a new program designed to support New Yorkers throughout the five boroughs as they keep their favorite spaces clean all year long.

The Big Spring Clean NYC is supported by the Association for a Better New York (ABNY) Foundation and NYC Service.

For more information on the Big Spring Clean, visit <u>sanitationfoundation.org</u>.

### **About the Sanitation Foundation**

The Sanitation Foundation is the official non-profit partner of the New York City Department of Sanitation (DSNY). Our mission is to support the work of the DSNY to clean up the city and reduce waste sent to landfill. We foster innovative public/private partnerships with DSNY, city residents, businesses, elected officials, schools and community organizations to achieve our shared vision. Together, we engage New Yorkers in making NYC a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable city for all New Yorkers.

## About the New York City Department of Sanitation

The Department of Sanitation (DSNY) keeps New York City clean, safe, and healthy by collecting, recycling, and disposing of waste, cleaning streets, attacking the scourge of illegal dumping, 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, 705 salt spreaders, and several dozen bike lane operations machines. Under the Adams Administration, the Department is aggressively cleaning more parts of the City than ever before, including over 1,000 long-ignored areas spread across every neighborhood, as well as cleaning the highways and managing.

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