

City of Newburgh

Press Release

83 Broadway, Newburgh, N.Y. 12550
(845) 569-7354 – (845) 569-7370

For immediate release

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Citizens Help Newburgh Take Out Clean and Green Message: New Waste Management Regulations to begin October 15

City officials are partnering with community members and key stakeholders to help make Newburgh *Clean and Green*. New waste management regulations take effect Oct. 15.

The new regulations resulted from a team effort by the Community Revitalization Task Force (CRT) convened by City Manager Jean-Ann McGrane shortly after she took office. The CRT, made up of key staff from all City Departments, is taking an innovative approach to dealing with quality of life issues, said McGrane. Rather than trying to solve the problems of the entire City at once, they are focused on creating community-wide change by improving individual blocks and neighborhoods.

Revitalized neighborhoods require active partnerships between city government and residents, she continued. With this in mind, a series of community workshops in English and Spanish were held in addition to the mandated public hearing prior to City Council approving the regulations in September. Community education efforts spearheaded by local residents are continuing.

Four Sanitation Code Enforcement Officers have been hired to help ensure compliance. “The City is doing our part,” said McGrane, “now we need residents to do theirs.”

Every household will receive information in the mail highlighting the important aspects of waste removal in the city, and community members will hit the streets Saturday, Oct. 8 to spread the word about the new regulations. **The *Clean and Green Campaign* will begin at the City Activity Center, 401 Washington Street at 9:30 a.m.**

“These regulations are not to make our lives difficult – but to assure that the best of Newburgh comes shining through,” noted Aquanetta Wright, a local entrepreneur.

Changes include:

- Clear plastic bags must be used
- Garbage containers must be no more than 32 gallons in size, securely sealed, and clearly marked with the house address
- Filled containers must weigh no more than 50 lbs.
- A single family unit may only have a maximum of three cans per household

- Two and three family units- up to five cans total
- Commercial and four-plus family units: six containers

“We want to do our very best in maintaining clean, quality streets and if residents help us by having secure lids on their cans and garbage in clear plastic bags, we can begin doing a more effective and efficient job that will ultimately cost less in the long run for our tax payers,” said George Garrison, Deputy Superintendent of the Department of Public Works.

Another very important change: “We will begin to make appointments for Wednesday pickups,” said Garrison, “Charging a fee for pickup will allow us to recapture some of the resources lost each year as the City pays to have these items removed. These resources can now be reinvested into cleaning our streets.”

The fees for pick-up include:

- Large Metal Items (washers, dryers, dishwashers, metal cabinets, swing sets, water heaters): \$20
- Small Metal Items (bike frames, gas grills, storm doors, bed frames): \$10
- Large Furniture Items (sofas, chairs, dining table, entertainment centers, coffee tables): \$20
- Small Furniture Items (mattresses, box springs, carpet rolls): \$10
- Dump Truck (1 room furniture): \$250
- Refrigerators, air conditioner \$30
- Televisions 35” or under: \$20
- Television over 35”: \$30
- Computer monitors: \$20
- Leaves, brush: No Charge

Mayor Nick Valentine commented, “It’s a lot more than picking up garbage. Keeping our streets clean not only improves the quality of life for our residents, but also sends a message to visitors and future developers that we are taking care of our homes.”

For further information and to participate in this effort visit the City of Newburgh website at www.cityofnewburgh-ny.gov and contact Courtney Kain, Special Projects Coordinator at 569-7342.