

WHERE DOES NYC'S TRASH GO?

In **1657**, NYC's first waste law limits dumping to 5 spots in NYC (including rivers).



NYC Department of Sanitation founded. In the 1880's, 75% of NYC's waste is dumped into the Atlantic Ocean.

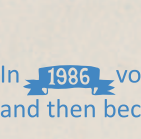
Commr. George E. Waring, Jr. modernizes waste management and eliminates ocean dumping.



Labor shortage caused by World War I leads to ocean dumping being re-legalized.

In **1934**, New Jersey coastal communities sue NYC to stop ocean dumping, again.

NYC Dept. of Sanitation builds and operates 22 municipal incinerators and 89 landfills.

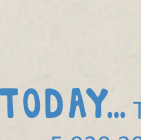


In **1986**, voluntary curbside recycling starts and then becomes mandatory in **1989**.



New York City's last active municipal incinerator is finally decommissioned.

Fresh Kills, NYC's last landfill, closes. NYC no longer has room for its own waste.



TODAY... Trucks, trains and barges deliver our 5,920,300 tons of waste (enough to fill 7 Empire State Buildings each year) to landfills in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, Ohio and South Carolina.

Handling NYC's waste costs the city \$1.25 billion annually.

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BEFORE YOU TRASH IT

FIX IT

Chinatown Repair Shops: Common in China, our Chinatowns have a bunch of cheap repair stalls for everything from shoes to electronics... Poke around!

Bike Collectives: Check out Flatbush Bicycle Rescue and #1 and #9 on reverse

Fixer's Collective: #5 on the flip side.

Fix It Yourself:

[instructables.com](#) [ifixit.com](#)
[howtofixyourstuff.com](#)

GIVE IT

Donate: Flip this map to find a bunch of organizations that want your stuff. Or, drop off at a nearby Goodwill or charity *and* get a tax break. Give your stuff a 2nd life! Don't be lazy!

Virtual Salvage & The Gift Economy: These sites connect people who have extra stuff to those who need it. Turn your waste into a gift:

[yerdle.com](#) [ourgoods.org](#)
[freecycle.org](#) [craigslist.org](#)
[brokenequipment.com*](#) [giftflow.org](#)
*For buying and selling broken stuff

RETHINK IT

Each time we buy something new, we are making an environmental decision. With everything you buy, consider: is this a want or a need?

'Shop at home' where there's great stuff simply overlooked. See [wehatewaste.com](#) for cool ways to consume less.

Business to Business waste reuse? Try [wastematch.org](#)

DISPOSE OF IT

Electronics: LES Ecology Center has regular collection events (or visit #6 on back). Also! NYC Law says retailers must recycle e-waste for FREE! Find locations at [earth911.com](#).

Compost: Organics, like food and garden scraps are ~25% of NYC's waste. Composting our scraps improves our soil. Drop off yours at community gardens, [OpenGreenMap.org/compostnyc](#) sites, Greenmarkets ([grownyc.org](#)) or at Earth Matter (Gov's Island). You can even schedule compost pickup with [vokashi.com](#)!

Everything Else: Visit [nyc.gov/nycwasteless](#)

BEFORE YOU BUY IT NEW

FREE MARKETS

The Price is Right! **The Really Really Free Market** (646-450-2457) is held quarterly near Washington Square Park. **Brooklyn Free Store** opens every Friday 12-6pm at Von King Park in Bed-Stuy. More at [inourheartsnyc.org](#)

STOP N' SWAPS

Bring your clean clothing and unwanted but useful items to a **Stop n' Swap** and take home "new" items for free! They are run by GrowNYC in all boroughs. Find the schedule of these exchanges at [grownyc.org/swap](#)

TRASH TOURS

NYC's active freegan community leads frequent "trash tours" where you can learn about dumpster diving while visiting popular dumpstering sites around town. Check out [freegan.info](#)

FLEA MARKETS

NYC has unrivaled flea markets for 2nd hand stuff: **Greenflea** in the Upper West Side, **Hell's Kitchen Flea** in midtown and **Williamsburg Flea** and **Park Slope Flea** in Brooklyn. Bargain hardy! More at [tagsellit.com](#)

REGULAR EVENTS

Mayor Bloomberg

has a Less=More mindset: according to the *New York Post*, the billionaire mayor has worn only two pairs of shoes during his years in office. When they get worn down, he just gets them resoled!

THE WONDERFUL WORLD OF SALVAGING

New Yorkers waste a lot, so NYC streets are full of reuse possibilities. From finding furniture on the sidewalk to gleaning supermarket dumpsters, many New Yorkers (from all-out Freegans to casual dumpster divers) maintain a healthy* and frugal lifestyle largely on the things that others discard. *Do be careful of bedbugs and spoiled food!

Salvage Heroes **Food Not Bombs** and **City Harvest** rescue more than 30 million pounds of food every year. They accept donations of leftover food from supermarkets and restaurants each night and deliver it to hungry New Yorkers at shelters and soup kitchens around the city.

1 TIME'S UP BIKES

[156 RIVINGTON ST.](#)
LOWER EAST SIDE

Time's Up! is a hub for environmental activism in NYC - hosting bike rides and community events, plus a great space to build or repair your bike (downstairs at **ABC No Rio**). In addition to cheap replacement parts, their Bike Co-ops have open shop hours and free classes for hardcore cyclists and complete beginners. Find times & more locations for repair classes at [times-up.org](#).

4 SALVAGED PROPS

[540 PRESIDENT ST.](#)
GOWANUS

Film Biz Prop Shop's massive warehouse isn't only for buying severed mannequin limbs and 90's cell phones. Come here for great deals on normal furniture and merchandise (as well as crazy oddities) rescued from theater and movie sets after shooting wraps. The Prop Shop redirects items that might otherwise end up in the trash, while donating 60% of their proceeds to charity.

6 E-WASTE WAREHOUSE

[469 PRESIDENT ST.](#)
GOWANUS

LES Ecology Center recently opened this truly amazing warehouse where you can buy electronics, including computers, printers, speakers, cell phones and TV's that have been recycled by fellow eco-minded New Yorkers. Find great deals on refurbished and 2nd-hand stuff, also listed online at [lesecolgycenter.org/ewaste](#).

7 THRIFT BY FERRY

MULTIPLE LOCATIONS
ST. GEORGE

As if the fabulous free ferry from Manhattan wasn't reason enough to visit Staten Island, the North Shore also hosts an unusually high volume of thrift stores within walking distance from the dock. Three **Everything Goes** Thrift Shops (run by residents of Ganas Intentional Community) are particularly fun. Double-check the map of the island's many thrift stores at [etgstores.com](#).

2 TOOL LIBRARY

[245 WATER ST.](#)
FINANCIAL DISTRICT

How often do you need an Electric Drill or a Pocket Digital Oscilloscope? Probably not often enough to buy one. But when the need arises, the **Seaport Tool Library** has you covered. They have a huge selection of tools and gadgets available to borrow for free. Don't bring another tool into this world if you don't have to!

5 FIXERS COLLECTIVE

[543 UNION ST.](#)
GOWANUS

The Collective meets once a month in Proteus Gowanus' beautiful library/curio-museum/reading room space to restore, mend and tinker with items needing to be fixed. Bring a dead lamp, a busted blender, or a pair of old shoes and work with resident experts to bring them back to life. \$5 donation suggested.

3 FREE STORE

[LUDLOW ST. AT RIVINGTON](#)
LOWER EAST SIDE

Vicki Rovere is a one woman reuse revolution. A devoted "environmental scavenger", Vicki trawls the streets of Manhattan gleaning what others have left for trash. She sets up a temporary "shop" most every night on Ludlow Street where every item is free!

9 RECYCLE-A-BICYCLE

[40-15 5TH ST.](#)
LONG ISLAND CITY

What happens to cobwebbed, unclaimed bikes when your landlord finally cleans out your building's basement? Every year, over 1,200 used bikes find their way to R-A-B, where skilled mechanics rebuild, fix and resell the bikes for cheap. In every borough, R-A-B hosts community outreach programs, including repair workshops and riding clubs for school-aged youths.

10 BUILD IT GREEN

[3-17 26TH AVE.](#)
ASTORIA

New York discards nearly 20,000 tons of building materials annually. Build it Green! NYC sells building materials, fixtures and furniture salvaged from construction, demolition and renovation projects all over the city. At both their Brooklyn and Queens store locations, find anything from claw-footed bathtubs to window frames available for a fraction of their retail value.

11 FREE FOR ART

[33-00 NORTHERN BLVD.](#)
ASTORIA

The venerable **Materials for the Arts** is a mammoth warehouse filled with aisles and aisles of donated materials from local stores and manufacturers. Registered art-related nonprofits can come fill up shopping carts with paint, fabric, furniture, and random oddities - all for FREE!

12 PELHAM BAY PARK

[PELHAM BRIDGE RD.](#)
NORTHEAST BRONX

An active landfill from 1963-79, Pelham Bay Park was leaking hazardous waste until 1990 when the Coastal Fishermen's Association sued NYC. They won, and today these 2,766 acres have been repurposed as a wildlife refuge, recreation area and scenic waterfront, attracting millions of visitors each year.

13 GREEN EILEEN

[2350 CENTRAL PARK AVE.](#)
YONKERS

Fashion leader Eileen Fisher has a novel approach - she organized her brand stores to take back its gently worn clothing. Each donated item earns the customer a \$5 credit, and the garments are re-sold at Green Eileen storefronts. Profits are donated to charities supporting women around the world.

BROOKLYN

STATEN ISLAND

8 PRATT PAPER

[4435 VICTORY BLVD.](#)
TRAVIS-CHELSEA

Pratt Industries seeks to "harvest New York's urban forest", and they do a really good job. They take in 100% of the 5 boroughs' paper recycling by truck and barge, and use it to produce paper packaging and display materials. Their giant, automated recycling plant keeps it local and saves millions of trees a year.

GREEN MAP
LESS = MORE
GREEN MAP NYC

Convenience, habit and affordability lead us to waste tons of perfectly good stuff. Reducing waste is key to making a more sustainable city. Reshape how you consume with this map!



A Map for New Yorkers
- who want to -
Consume and Waste Less

LESS = MORE



[OpenGreenMap.org/less-moreNYC](#)

Find more sites, suggest new ones, add comments, photos and ratings! Want print maps? Contact: [apple@greenmap.org](#) | 212.674.1631



Less = More NYC Green Map
Green Map System
GreenMapNYC.org

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Dozens of experts informed and supported this project. Thanks to them and the Blank Plate Project for graphic inspiration, and to Con Edison for funding this print map.

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