

DISTRICT MANAGER'S REPORT

September, 2025

Office of Emergency Management (OEM) Reported: National Preparedness Month is recognized every September to help individuals, families, and communities get ready for emergencies. This year, NYC Emergency Management is focusing on **Back to Basics**, the essential steps that protect lives and support rapid response when disaster strikes.

- Sign up for emergency alerts
- Make a household emergency plan
- Pack a go-bag
- Check in on neighbors and family
- Protect pets and service animals
- Understand the risks of flooding, blackouts, heat waves, and winter storms
- Know your coastal flood evacuation zone
- Learn how renter's insurance can protect your belongings

We are also spotlighting high-risk conditions such as:

- Flooding in basement and below-ground apartments
- Heat illness among outdoor workers
- Emergency planning for pet owners and service animal handlers
- Gaps in coverage for renters without insurance

Use our **2025 National Preparedness Month Messaging Toolkit** to help share the word with your community and network. View the full event schedule here: **National Preparedness Month**

Mayor's Office Reported: From July through October, the NYC Public Engagement Unit is hosting free community resource and benefit enrollment fairs every Saturday in neighborhoods across all five boroughs. At each event, residents can get screened for benefits, apply for programs on-site, and connect with City resources and services.

Benefits On Your Block events will bring together dozens of NYC Agencies who will provide on-site program application assistance and offer other information about City resources. Participating NYC Agencies include:

- The Public Engagement Unit (PEU) and the Department of Social Services (DSS) will be on site offering support with a range of benefit applications available through ACCESS HRA, including SNAP and Fair Fares.
- The Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) will share information about the Homeowner Helpdesk, and Housing Inspectors will be on site to answer questions about apartment conditions.
- The Department of Veterans' Services (DVS) will assist with VA benefits and connect veterans to a range of essential support services.

- NYC Emergency Management will provide information on emergency preparedness, staying safe during extreme heat and coastal storms, and how to find your hurricane evacuation zone.
- The Department of Finance (DOF) will offer assistance with Rent Freeze and Homeowner Tax Exemptions, and provide guidance on avoiding Lien Sales.
- The Department of Health & Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) will have Health Insurance Enrollment Counselors available to help with enrollment and recertification for Medicaid, Child Health Plus, and the Essential Plan.
- Small Business Services (SBS) and Jobs NYC will be on hand to share information and resources about job support, including résumé and interview assistance, job search tools, and referrals, as well as support for small businesses, helping minority- and women-owned businesses get City-certified, access free resources, understand regulations, and apply for funding to start or grow their business.
- IDNYC will provide on-site application and renewal assistance for the free municipal ID card available to all New Yorkers aged 10 and up, regardless of immigration status. The card offers access to a wide range of City services, programs, and exclusive discounts at businesses and cultural institutions across the five boroughs.
- The Day Care Council of NYC will assist with childcare enrollment, MySchools and MyCity account creation, childcare voucher information, and connections to local childcare providers.

In most cases, residents will be required to upload clear images to their AccessHRA account before HRA can process applications. Documents must prove name, age, income and assets, residency, citizenship/alien status, and other eligibility criteria specific to each program.

Social Security Administration (SSA) Reported: Transition to Electronic Federal Benefit Payments by September 30. In accordance with **Executive Order 14247 – Modernizing Payments To and From America’s Bank Account**, federal benefit payments will transition primarily to **electronic delivery** beginning **September 30**. Paper checks will be **phased out** in most cases to improve efficiency and security.

What This Means:

- **If you currently receive paper checks**, you are encouraged to switch to **electronic payment options** (such as direct deposit or Direct Express®) **before the deadline** to avoid payment disruptions.
- The **temporary check option for new claims** is no longer available.
- Beneficiaries who wish to request an **exemption** from the electronic payment requirement must **file a waiver** with the **U.S. Treasury** by calling **1-800-967-5042**.

Need Help?

SSA technicians are available to assist beneficiaries with the transition to electronic payments and to answer any questions.

Example documents include:

- **Identification:** State-issued ID, Passport, Naturalization Certificate, or Birth Certificate
- **Residency and expenses:** Current lease or statement from landlord or primary tenant
- **Income and Assets:** Previous 30 days of:
 - Earned income (pay stubs, employer letter, tax returns)
 - Unearned income (VA, SSI/SSD, Family Court, Unemployment)
 - Assets (bank accounts, settlements, tax returns—including EITC—owed)
- **Citizenship Status:** Social Security Number, Green Card, etc. (not required for all programs)
- **Unpaid bills:** Rent ledger, landlord demand letter, housing Court filing, Utility cut-off notices

Employment Opportunities:

2025-2026 NYC Civic Corps program

NYC Service is recruiting for the next cohort of NYC Civic Corps members. From October 2025 to July 2026, members will serve full-time at City agencies and nonprofits to address NYC's most pressing issues—like youth education, food access, environment, and more.

Members receive:

- A \$24,500 living stipend
- Healthcare coverage
- Unlimited MetroCard
- 150+ hours of professional development
- A \$5,176 education award upon completion

The application deadline is **September 28**. Learn more and apply at nyc.gov/servenyc. Questions? Contact servicerecruitment@cityhall.nyc.gov

Upcoming Events/Announcements:

Join OEM for expert tips and essential resources to help you prepare your service animal or pet for emergencies. You will learn how to build a Go Bag for you and your furry companion and how to create an emergency plan for the whole family. OEM will also have dog licensing, portable water bowls, information on adoptions, and more on:

Date: Saturday, September 13th

Time: 10a.m. – 2p.m.

Place: Madison Square Park

This Saturday, September 13, from 11:30 AM to 3:30 PM, the City of New York is bringing *Benefits On Your Block* to Washington Heights. Join your fellow New Yorkers on Audubon Avenue for a free resource and enrollment fair where you can connect with City agencies and community organizations.

Get screened for benefits, apply for programs on-site, and learn about services that can support your health, housing, and financial well-being—all in one place, right in your neighborhood. Find full event details and the summer schedule at on.nyc.gov/benefitsonyourblock.

City College is CELEBRATING their Bachelor of Science Degree in DIGITAL GAME DEVELOPMENT, interested parties are invited to attend a half-day symposium celebrating the launch of City College’s Bachelor of Science in Digital Game Development. The symposium will explore how New York City can increase the economic impact of the video game industry on the city’s economy and strengthen its technology ecosystem, foster entrepreneurship, and create new pathways for high-quality employment.

Date: Tuesday, September 16th, 2025

Time: Refreshments @9a.m.; Symposium @10a.m.

Place: STEINMAN HALL, Lobby & Auditorium – City College of New York, Corner of W. 140th Street & Convent Avenue; Seating is limited please register here: <https://hgsgamesexhibit.resova.us/items/view/5>

Morningside Park:

Join NYC Parks, West Harlem Arts Alliance, and Harlem Late Night Jazz for final Second Saturday Jazz event of the season featuring Danaya Band! Second Saturday in Morningside Park will be held on the lawn across from the Morningside Pond Waterfall. Bring a blanket.

Saturday, September 13th: [Jazz Series in Historic Harlem Parks](#)

From 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at **113th Street and Manhattan Avenue** (lawn across from Morningside Pond Waterfall)

Saturday, September 20th: Our Common Grounds - Join the Friends of Morningside Park for their annual Common Grounds Festival. More details to come

From 12: 00 p.m. -6:00 p.m. at **114 Street and Morningside Ave**, the lawn across from the Morningside Waterfall.

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St. Nicholas Park:

Saturday, September 13th: [Tree Count at St. Nicholas Park](#) - Join NYC Parks for music and dance celebrating Hispanic Heritage. More details to follow.

From 10:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. at **West 135th Street Plaza** (West 135th Street and St. Nicholas Avenue).

Saturday, September 20th: Celebrate Hispanic Heritage

From 3:00pm to 6:00pm at **West 135 Street Plaza** (West 135th Street and St. Nicholas Avenue).

Did you Know???

New York City began enforcing mandatory residential composting on April 1st this year and the city now has the largest curbside organics collection program in the country. On average, NYC residents produce 12,000 tons of waste every day. But by separating compostable materials – food scraps, soiled compostable paper, and yard waste – we substantially reduce that amount by about one-third, or 4,000 tons.

What happens to all that organic waste? The City’s ambitious program to recycle food scraps from all residential buildings utilizes both City agencies and private contractors:

The NYC Department of Sanitation (DSNY) provides free curbside collection of compostable material, which is then transferred to processing stations operated by independent contractors.

This material is then both directly composted and/or anaerobically digested to produce biogas.

[Click here for more information about where your food scraps go.](#)

Respectfully Submitted by:

Eutha Prince, District Manager

September 18, 2025