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PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

Food Scrap Recycling

CompostED

Compost & Education Facility



**REDUCE
 REUSE
 RECYCLE**

**Department of Environmental Facilities
 Solid Waste Division- Recycling Office**


all Westchester's municipalities. In addition, the State Department of Environmental Conservation is offering grants that will cover up to 50% of the startup investment in things like sealed bins that prevent leakage for municipalities looking to begin food scrap collection.

The project also includes construction of a food scrap recovery and information center at the County's Household Material Recovery Facility in Valhalla.

With this exciting new program, I hope Westchester will be able to lead the way for other counties in New York and across the nation. ■


This year we approved plans for a dramatic, expanded food scrap recycling program for Westchester County. Food scraps are one of the biggest components of the material sent to landfills. Instead of discarding them, by recycling them into useful compost, or converting them to energy, we can reduce greenhouse gases and saving money on trash disposal for our local municipalities.

Municipalities are now able to join in a new County-sponsored program, which will collect and transport food scraps to our private partner for composting. The procedure is designed to minimize the number of truck trips, reducing the environmental cost of the program. And the financial cost will be lower than the cost of garbage disposal for nearly




Westchester County Board of Legislators NEWS

Voice of the People of Westchester County for over 300 years



Winter 2020 Newsletter



Legislator Catherine Parker

District 7 ~ Mamaroneck, Rye, Larchmont,
 part of New Rochelle, part of Harrison

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

What a year 2020 has been! Never did we imagine when you received my 2019 newsletter that within a few short months a pandemic would change the world as we knew it. I hope that you are healthy and have been able to manage through such extraordinary and challenging times. My office is here to serve you. We have assisted with food and PPE distribution, eviction prevention, enrollment in the Payroll Protection Program, navigation of unemployment insurance, and we even helped a couple get married! Special thanks to my legislative aide, John Filiberti, who has answered so many of your calls and emails, and generally has started many balls rolling towards a solution to someone's problem.



You will be glad to know your county government has been hard at work throughout the pandemic, providing essential service in a myriad of ways. Our Office of Emergency Management, Dept. of Community Mental Health, Dept. of Health, and Dept. of Public Safety were operating around the clock. At the Board of Legislators, my colleagues and I have focused on working with the administration and Offices of both Budget and Finances to stabilize our financial picture to keep everything afloat. A special note of thanks to County Executive George Latimer who has managed all with tireless dedication. While, we may be meeting only virtually, we have all been hard at work to ensure that Westchester's residents are getting the help needed to manage through a year like no other.

Stay safe, wash your hands, wear a mask, and be well.

Regards,

Catherine F. Parker



Westchester's Pandemic Re-opening Taskforce Has Led to a Successful Reopening



In June, County Executive Latimer announced the formation of a new task force to focus on helping Westchester's businesses open safely. We serve as an advocacy and policy group to best assist and ensure that our businesses thrive. I was honored to be recommended by both the County Executive and BOL Chairman Ben Boykin to serve as Co-Chair with Westchester entrepreneur, Lou Lanza. As someone who owned a small business for over twenty years, and who has worked extensively on downtown revitalization, I have been only too happy to focus my energy on this important task. I would like to thank Bridget Gibbons, our Director of Economic Development for her assistance. We are fortunate in Westchester to have so many talented business leaders willing to dedicate much time and effort to help our community, and who make my job look easy. Here's what we have accomplished in four short months:

1. We brought together a bipartisan group of over 100 statewide elected officials, business leaders, school officials, and unions to advocate to our federal delegation to provide more pandemic relief funding to local governments, businesses, non-profit partners, and schools
2. Have safely helped our business community in the four phases of reopening
3. Created a Safety Pledge for businesses to display to build community confidence
4. Passed a cap on what Third Party Delivery Services can Charge Restaurants and Food Establishments

JOIN ME IN A SERIES OF CONVERSATIONS

CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR NEW HOME IN WESTCHESTER

Tuesday, February 9, 2021

Join me for a virtual discussion on frequent quality of life and environmental issues that are common to homeownership. Learn about leaf blowers, wildlife annoyances, what to do with your old kitchen when you remodel, Con Ed vs. Westchester Power, among many other topics.

WHAT IS COUNTY GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBLE FOR AND HOW DOES IT RELATE WITH LOCAL, STATE, AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Tuesday, March 9, 2021

Join me for a civics lesson and understanding on what your taxes support.

Details to follow. For more information, sign up to receive my E-News at www.westchesterlegislators.com.



For the third year, I partnered with Rye City Councilwoman Sara Goddard and Rye resident Kristin Jautz to hold Zero Waste Day at Playland in conjunction with Household Waste Recycling Day sponsored by Westchester County Department of Environmental Facilities. Thanks goes to all the volunteers, the staff from DEF, and County Executive George Latimer for bringing back the event to the Sound Shore during the first year of his term.

Now is the Time to Make Sure you are Receiving Crucial Information by Email

During the pandemic, we have sent out important notices on a regular basis. Many of the announcement are also provided in Spanish. Topics have included:

1. Housing programs to assist households impacted by COVID-19
2. Guidance for food service establishments during the public health emergency
3. New York State Department of Health program to test your tap water for free
4. Supporting and helping nonprofit businesses make smart decisions to address the challenges ahead resulting from COVID-19
5. Information on the flu and how to obtain free flu shots
6. User friendly social service discovery applications to help individuals unfamiliar with state social programs
7. Westchester County Office of Economic Development Launch1000 program showing residents how to start a business or develop an income stream for themselves and their families
8. New affordable housing opportunities countywide
9. Zero waste initiatives that highlight recycling and donation opportunities to reuse items and to reduce garbage
10. Programs that highlight the numerous Westchester County Parks and how to enjoy them
11. These and many more are available to you if you sign up to receive our newsletters



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