



GrowNYC  
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## **GrowNYC Celebrates its 250<sup>th</sup> Stop 'N' Swap®!**

**August 16, 2018, Brooklyn, NY** – While New Yorkers continue to make strides in reducing waste by separating recycling and compost from their refuse, Stop 'N' Swap®, a free community reuse event organized by the local non-profit GrowNYC, offers a different way to divert waste: reuse! Stop 'N' Swap provides New Yorkers the opportunity to keep gently used materials out of the waste stream by reusing in their own neighborhoods.

### **Since launching the program in 2008, GrowNYC just hosted its 250th Stop 'N' Swap!**

The average NYC household discards about 2,000 pounds of waste a year. And, compared to 16 years ago, a typical person buys 60% more clothing and keeps it for half as long. By reusing through events like Stop 'N' Swap, NYC residents can take part in diverting over 40 million pounds of material a year from the landfill.

“Of the three R’s, reduce and reuse come before recycle for good reason,” said GrowNYC’s Executive Director Marcel Van Ooyen. “Most waste programs are funded to capture material at the end of the pipe to be reprocessed into something new. GrowNYC is fortunate to have the support of DSNY to provide Stop 'N' Swaps throughout New York City that reduce waste and promote reuse.”

At Stop 'N' Swap, the public is invited to bring clean, portable, reusable items to share with those who can use them. No one is required to bring something to take something — you can simply show up with a bag and see what’s free for the taking. Clothing, books, housewares, electronics, and toys are just some of the offerings.

Stop 'N' Swap events have developed a regular following among thrifty and environmentally conscious New Yorkers. In response to increasing demand for the events, GrowNYC has set a goal of hosting one swap in each of the city’s 59 community districts each year. We’ll be at 500 in no time!

“DSNY has funded GrowNYC’s Stop 'N' Swap events over the years to help the city reach its goal of sending zero waste to landfills by 2030,” said Sanitation Commissioner Kathryn Garcia. “These events not only reduce waste and promote reuse, they also foster community, charity and good will at the neighborhood level. Congratulations to GrowNYC on this milestone!”

**More information:** [www.GrowNYC.org/swap](http://www.GrowNYC.org/swap)

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GrowNYC is *the* sustainability resource for New Yorkers: providing free tools and services anyone can use improve our city and environment. More gardens, Greenmarkets, recycling, and education for all. GrowNYC’s Zero Waste programs are funded by the NYC Department of Sanitation. Learn more at [www.grownyc.org/swap](http://www.grownyc.org/swap).



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