



**In This Issue:**

- February 2020 Community Board & Committee Calendars

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- Rat Academy
- Most Valuable Merchant Award
- Irving Ladimer Community Service Award
- Van Cortlandt Park Events
- It's My Park Event: Henry Hudson Park
- Jerome Park Neighbors and Friends Clean Up Days
- NYPL Events
- Bronx Parks Speak Up

**NEWS:**

- Bronx Bus Redesign- Final Plan
- Community Board Application
- Code Blue
- Snow Response
- Department of Design & Construction Project: HEDA 003
- Fire Safety
- NYPD News
- Parks Capital Projects in Our Community Board
- Dealing with Rodents
- Heat Season is Upon Us
- SCRIE, DRIE & SCHE
- Leaf Season is Upon Us!
- NYC DOT Projects
- Alternate Side Parking Calendar
- U.S. Census
- NYC Culture Pass
- Voter Registration
- ID NYC
- Be a Clean Water Advocate!
- Window Guards

Visit our website to view agendas, minutes and information. Click on links below:

- Aging
- Board Meeting
- Economic Development
- Education, Libraries & Cultural Affairs
- Environment & Sanitation
- Executive Committee
- Health, Hospitals & Social Services
- Housing
- Land Use
- Law, Rules & Ethics
- Parks & Recreation
- Public Safety
- Traffic & Transportation
- Youth

# FEBRUARY

## COMMUNITY BOARD & COMMITTEE CALENDAR

**FULL BOARD MEETING**

**WHEN:** Tuesday, February 11, 2020

**TIME:** 7:00 PM- Preliminary Budget Responses for Fiscal Year 2021  
7:30- Full Board Meeting

**WHERE:** St. Patrick's Home, 66 Van Cortlandt Park South

[Click here to open Calendar on website](#)



**BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 8**  
FEBRUARY 2020 MEETINGS



PLEASE CHECK WEBSITE FOR UPDATES ([www.nyc.gov/bronxcb8](http://www.nyc.gov/bronxcb8))

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3 <b>LAND USE</b> Riverdale YM-YWHA Teen Lounge 5625 Arlington Ave 7:30 PM	4 <b>ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</b> <b>(NO MEETING)</b>	5 <b>EXECUTIVE</b> Board Office 5676 Riverdale Avenue, Ste 100 7:30 PM	6	7
10 <b>YOUTH</b> Board Office 5676 Riverdale Avenue, Ste 100 7:30 PM <b>(NOTE CHANGE OF DATE)</b>	11 Preliminary Budget Responses for FY 2021 St. Patrick's Home 66 Van Cortlandt Park South 7:00 PM <b>(PLEASE NOTE TIME)</b>	12 <b>HEALTH, HOSPITALS &amp; SOCIAL SERVICES</b> Board Office Mosaic Mental Health 5676 Riverdale Avenue, Conf. Room 7:30 PM	13 <b>AGING</b> Board Office 5676 Riverdale Avenue, Ste 100 4:00 PM	14
<b>LAW, RULES &amp; ETHICS</b> <b>(NO MEETING)</b>	<b>BOARD MEETING</b> 7:30 PM			
17	18 <b>PUBLIC SAFETY</b> 50 <sup>th</sup> Precinct 3450 Kingsbridge Avenue 7:00 PM	19 <b>ENVIRONMENT &amp; SANITATION</b> Mosaic Mental Health 5676 Riverdale Avenue, Conf. Room 7:00 PM	20 <b>TRAFFIC &amp; TRANSPORTATION</b> TBD 7:00 PM	21
24 <b>HOUSING</b> TBD 7:30 PM	25 <b>EDUCATION, LIBRARIES &amp; CULTURAL AFFAIRS</b> Board Office 5676 Riverdale Avenue, Ste 100 7:30 PM	26 <b>PARKS &amp; RECREATION</b> Park Gardens Rehabilitation & Nursing Center 6585 Broadway, Activity Room (1 <sup>st</sup> Fl) 7:00 PM	27	28

\*Dates & locations are subject to change. If you do not receive a meeting notice, please verify with the Board Office 718-884-3959

**PUBLIC GALLERY SESSION:** Each month the General Board meeting begins with a Public Gallery Session. If you wish to address the Board, contact the office at 718-884-3959. Please note there is a limit of five speakers, who are allotted 3 minutes each.

**BOARD COMMITTEE CALENDARS**

Please go to [www.nyc.gov/bronxcb8](http://www.nyc.gov/bronxcb8) for an update of our calendar.

The next Bronx Community Board No. 8 meeting will be held on March 10th at Kingsbridge Heights Community Center, located at 3101 Kingsbridge Terrace.

The Community Board Office will be closed for President's Day on Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup>.



# UPCOMING EVENTS

## CONTACT US

**Bronx Community Board 8**  
5676 Riverdale Avenue, Suite 100  
Bronx, New York 10471-2194

Phone: (718) 884-7895  
Fax: (718) 796-2763

E-mail: [bx08@cb.nyc.gov](mailto:bx08@cb.nyc.gov)

Website: [www.nyc.gov/bronxcb8](http://www.nyc.gov/bronxcb8)

## Office Staff

**CIARA GANNON**  
District Manager

**TANIA OCHOTECO**  
Community Coordinator

**PABLO ROMANO**  
Community Associate

**FOLLOW US FOR UPDATES**  
(Click on logo below)



### o Rat Academy

## Free Rat Academy Training

In partnership with Fort Independence Park Neighborhood Association and Bronx Community Board 8



**FREE TRAINING FOR:**

- Building supers and staff
- Homeowners and tenants
- Managing companies

**LEARN** about rat prevention methods.

**Rodent-resistant garbage cans** will be distributed on a first come first served basis.

**Saturday, February 8, 2020**  
2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Van Cortlandt Library  
3882 Cannon Place  
Bronx, NY 10463

RSVP: EMAIL [ratportal@health.nyc.gov](mailto:ratportal@health.nyc.gov)

The training is in English, but if language services are needed, contact us at least 72 hours before the event at 646-364-1816 or [ratportal@health.nyc.gov](mailto:ratportal@health.nyc.gov).

For more information, visit [nyc.gov/rats](http://nyc.gov/rats)



### o Most Valuable Merchant Award

Community Board 8 is pleased to announce that it is accepting nominations for its first annual Most Valuable Merchant (MVM) Award. The Most Valuable Merchant Award acknowledges the merchants that add to the betterment of our community. It is our belief that by recognizing our outstanding local merchants, we can in some small way reward those most deserving and inspire other businesses to follow their examples.

We are seeking to identify merchants within our community that have worked to enhance economic growth and improve community relations in some way, big or small.

**Nominations must be received by 3:00pm on Monday, March 16, 2020 addressed to:**

Bronx Community Board No. 8  
5676 Riverdale Avenue, Suite 100  
Bronx, NY 10471  
Attention: Tania Ochoteco



### o Community Service Award



Community Board No. 8 Bronx is pleased to announce that it is seeking nominations for its Annual Irving Ladimer Community Service Award. Community Board No. 8 established this award to acknowledge the many volunteer efforts of groups and individuals within our community. It is our belief that by recognizing our committed community volunteers, we can in some small way reward those most deserving and inspire others to follow their example.

**Nominations must be received by 3:00pm on Monday, March 16, 2020 addressed to:**

Bronx Community Board No. 8  
5676 Riverdale Avenue, Suite 100  
Bronx, NY 10471  
Attention: Pablo Romano

o **Van Cortlandt Park Events**

<p><b>Sunday, February 2, 2020</b>  <a href="#">Nature Exploration: John Muir Trail (Vigorous)</a>  <b>11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.</b>  <b>Location:</b> Mosholu Avenue and Broadway (in Van Cortlandt Park)</p>	<p><b>Saturday, February 15, 2020</b>  <a href="#">The Old Croton Aqueduct Hike</a>  <b>1:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m.</b>  <b>Location:</b> Van Cortlandt Nature Center (in Van Cortlandt Park)</p>
<p><b>Saturday, February 8, 2020</b>  <a href="#">Birding: Winter Residents</a>  <b>11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.</b>  <b>Location:</b> Van Cortlandt Nature Center (in Van Cortlandt Park)</p>	<p><b>Tuesday, February 18, 2020</b>  <a href="#">Kids Week: Survival Skills</a>  <b>1:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m.</b>  <b>Location:</b> Van Cortlandt Nature Center (in Van Cortlandt Park)</p>
<p><b>Sunday, February 9, 2020</b>  <a href="#">Valentine's Day Hike and Craft</a>  <b>11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.</b>  <b>Location:</b> Van Cortlandt Nature Center (in Van Cortlandt Park)</p>	<p><b>Friday, February 21, 2020</b>  <a href="#">Kids Week: Winter Scavenger Hunt</a>  <b>1:00 p.m.–2:30 p.m.</b>  <b>Location:</b> Van Cortlandt Nature Center (in Van Cortlandt Park)</p>



**IT'S MY PARK: HENRY HUDSON PARK**

Date/Time: Saturdays, rain or shine, 8:30 am – 12:00 pm  
 Location: Palisade Avenue, Kappock Street, Independence Avenue  
 Contact: For more information, contact [dp.reynolds@verizon.net](mailto:dp.reynolds@verizon.net)

**JEROME PARK NEIGHBORS AND FRIENDS: CLEAN UP DAYS**

This It's My Park season, volunteer with Jerome Park Friends and Neighbors (Jerome Park FANS) as they begin the spring season with their weekly clean ups and horticulture and more! Meet at Fort Independence Playground.

Date/Time: Sundays, rain or shine, 9:00am- Noon  
 Location: Fort Independence Park  
 Contact: For more information, contact [jeromeparkfans@gmail.com](mailto:jeromeparkfans@gmail.com) or call 917-841-603



[Click here for more NYPL Events](#)

o **Riverdale Library Events – 5540 Mosholu Ave**

Saturday Story Time: A librarian will share favorite picture books, providing children with the wonder of books and the joy of reading.

Every Saturday in February from 11:00am to 11:30am.

o **Kingsbridge Library Events- 291 W 231<sup>st</sup> Street**

Adult Acting Circle: Are you a fan of the dramatic arts? Do you enjoy acting? Come to adult acting circle! No registration required, adults 18+!

Every Wednesday in February from 5:30pm - 6:45pm.

o **Van Cortlandt Library Events – 3882 Cannon Place**

College and Career Pathways: 1-on-1 College/Career Counseling Sessions

- Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 - 4 p.m.
- Monday, February 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> from 3:30 - 4 p.m.



o **Bronx Parks Speak Up**



*SAVE THE DATE!*  
**The 26th Bronx Parks Speak Up**  
**Sustaining the Future**  
**Saturday, February 29th**  
**11am – 5pm**

Lehman College, Music Building, Faculty Dining Room  
For more info contact [bxspeakup@gmail.com](mailto:bxspeakup@gmail.com)



## CONNECTED TO YOUR COMMUNITY

o **BRONX BUS REDESIGN- FINAL PLAN**

The MTA will have a Public Hearing on the Bronx Bus Redesign Final Plan:



The Bronx Museum of the Arts  
1040 Grand Concourse  
Bronx, New York 10456  
Room: South Wing, Lower Gallery

Hearing begins at 6 PM  
Registration is from 5 PM to 8 PM

For More Information [click here](#).

The good news is that the MTA announced that they would postpone any changes to Bronx Express Buses for another year. Express Bus Services will not be cut at this time. Thank you too all our concerned residents for attending meetings, submitting testimony and reaching out to the Community Board with concerns.

o **Apply for Membership on Your Local Community Board: Due Friday, February 7<sup>th</sup>**

The Office of The Bronx Borough President will be accepting applications for all 12 Community Boards from city residents who reside, work or have professional or other significant interests in The Bronx.

“Participation on local Community Boards can provide Bronx residents with a forum to share with their community their expertise and talents,” stated Borough President Diaz. “There are great things happening in The Bronx that involve the participation of community boards. It is important that community residents participate in the decisions that are building and revitalizing our borough, and our community boards are a great place to do so,” said Borough President Diaz.

For application please [click here](#).



o **Helping Our Homeless Neighbors This Winter**

## NYC #CODEBLUE

Each winter, thousands of homeless New Yorkers struggle to survive on the streets, while high winds, frigid temperatures, snow, and freezing rain can put them at risk of life-threatening illnesses like hypothermia and frostbite. The City declares a Code Blue warning in extreme weather.

Cold weather is dangerous for this vulnerable population, but here are a few ways you can help homeless New Yorkers this winter:

- Unless you feel unsafe doing so, ask if the person is ok, has someplace to go and needs help.
- Call 311 and ask for "Homeless Outreach" to let the City know that there is a person in need of emergency shelter.
- If the person seems to require medical attention, call 911 for emergency assistance.
- Provide information about the Coalition's Grand Central Food Program (GCFP), which offers warm food, coats, blankets, sleeping bags and assistance 365 days of the year – even during dangerous winter weather like blizzards.
- Share this graphic with your friends and family, and spread the word on how to help our neighbors in need

[www.coalitionforthehomeless.org/code-blue-2018](http://www.coalitionforthehomeless.org/code-blue-2018)

o **Congratulations to the Van Cortlandt Park Staff**

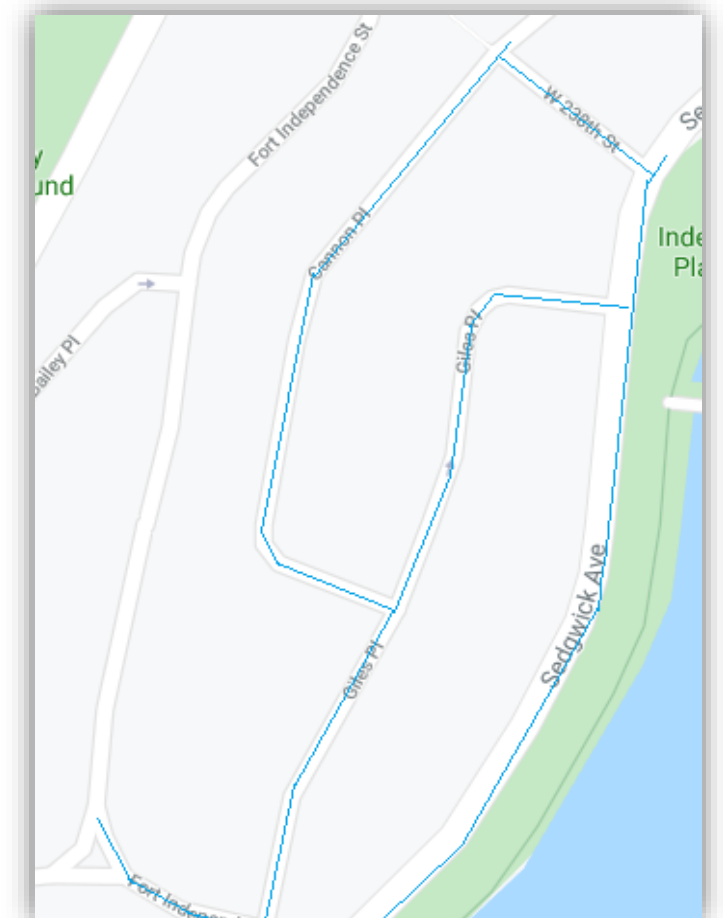
Congratulations to Van Cortlandt Park District 13 staff winning a cityward award for Outstanding District. Bronx Community Board 8 praises your hard work and dedication to our beautiful park.



o **Department of Design & Construction Project: HEDA 003 (Kingsbridge Neighborhood)**

The New York City Department of Design & Construction recently began an accelerated Distribution Water Mains Replacement of Sewer Rehabilitation in Community Board 8. The DDC has assigned Tara Figueroa, as the Community Construction Liaison (CCL) for this project. Please contact Ms. Figueroa for any project related inquiries/concerns you may have or, to be added to the Neighborhood Notification Network (NNN) list.

Phone: 718-931-2404 Fax: 718-931-2400  
Email: [Heda3ccl@gmail.com](mailto:Heda3ccl@gmail.com)





○ **SNOW RESPONSE**

Snow Season is upon us and below are a few reminders from The Department of Sanitation:

## Residents and Businesses Responsibilities

Snow and ice on a sidewalk can severely injure pedestrians. Without pushing snow and ice into the street, clear a path that's at least four feet wide and remove snow and ice from around fire hydrants and sidewalk corner ramps.

*Fine Avoided \$100-\$250.*

Snow and ice must be cleared from sidewalks within these specific timeframes:

- Snowfall Ends between 7am and 4:59pm: Clear within 4 hours
- Snowfall Ends between 5pm and 8:59pm: Clear within 14 hours
- Snowfall Ends between 9pm and 6:59am: Clear sidewalks by 11am



○ **FIRE SAFETY**

**In a Fire, Close All Doors Behind You!**  
Keep Fire and Smoke Out of Building Hallways and Stairs.

Keep Apartment and Stairwell Doors Closed at All Other Times.  
Protect Your Neighbors and Your Home!



NYC Admin Code §15-135

○ **News from the NYPD**

## Vehicle Theft.

### Safeguard your vehicle..

Vehicles are stolen for a variety of reasons, including theft for parts, insurance fraud, re-tagging, exporting, and joy riding. To help prevent the theft and damage to your vehicle, we suggest the following:

### What Can I Do?



**Lock**  
Always lock and secure your vehicle. Always activate your alarm every time you leave your vehicle. Consider locking lug nuts to deter rim theft.



**Keys**  
Never leave the keys in the ignition when you exit the vehicle -- even for a minute!



**Property**  
Never leave property in your vehicle. Items such as loose change, shopping bags, GPS, cell phones, laptops, tablets and the charging cords are targeted by thieves.



**Parking**  
Park in high traffic or well lit areas, when possible.



**Enroll**  
Enroll in NYPD anti-theft programs such as VIN Etching, Operation ID and Combat Auto Theft.



**Report It.**  
Contact your local precinct crime prevention officer or visit our website at [www.nyc.gov/nypd](http://www.nyc.gov/nypd) for more information on the programs we offer.

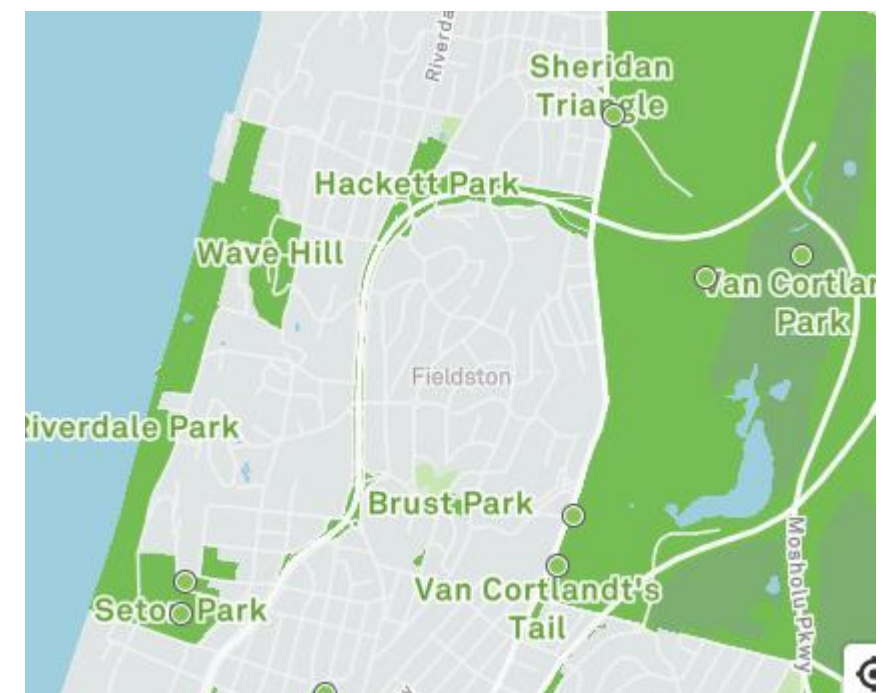


[www.nyc.gov/nypd](http://www.nyc.gov/nypd)

○ **PARKS CAPITAL PROJECTS IN OUR COMMUNITY BOARD**

As many of you can see, The Parks Department is working in several parks in our community. To track ongoing and future projects, check out the [Capital Project Tracker](#). The following parks in Community Board 8 are under construction:

- Ewen Park- Adult Fitness Equipment
- Henry Hudson Park- Basketball & Handball Court Construction
- Seton Park- Ballfields Reconstruction
- Spuyten Duyvil Playground- Playground & Spray Shower Reconstruction
- Van Cortlandt Park- Playground Construction
- Van Cortlandt Park- Putnam Greenway Construction
- Van Cortlandt Park- Skate Park Construction
- Washington's Walk Fort Four Playground- Comfort Station Construction.





○ **HEAT SEASON IS UPON US**

Between the hours of 6 a.m. and 10 p.m., if the outside temperature falls below 55 degrees, the inside temperature is required to be at least 68 degrees Fahrenheit; and,

Between the hours of 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., the inside temperature is required to be at least 62 degrees Fahrenheit.

To report a problem, please call 311 and then reach out to the Board Office with the 311 confirmation number and we can assist.

○ **SCRIE, DRIE & SCHE**

The Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) program offers eligible tenants an exemption from rent increases. To be eligible for SCRIE, you must be 62 or older, have a household income of \$50,000 or less after allowable deductions and lease a rent controlled apartment, rent stabilized apartment or rent regulated hotel/SRO that costs at least one third of your monthly household income.



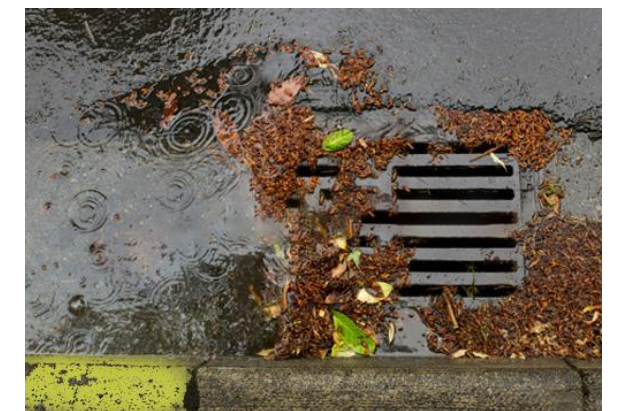
The Disability Rent Increase Exemption (DRIE, also known as the NYC Rent Freeze Program) is an exemption against future rent increases for eligible disabled persons living in rent-controlled, rent-stabilized, Mitchell-Lama and other eligible apartments. Applicants must meet certain eligibility requirements for DRIE benefits.

Senior Citizen Homeowners' Exemption (SCHE) is a property tax break for seniors who own one-, two-, or three-family homes, condominiums, or cooperative apartments.

For more information on any of these programs please [click here](#) or feel free to reach out to the Community Board 8 Office. Staff has been trained to help enroll residents in these programs.

○ **LEAF SEASON IS UPON US!**

Bronx Community Board 8 needs eyes on the street to watch for clogged catch basins and sewers. Clogging causes flooding and runoff, polluting our waterways. Call 311 to report a clogged sewer and forward your 311 call to the Community Board office. We need your help to prevent local flooding.



○ **NYC DOT UPDATES**

For an updated & interactive map of DOT permits throughout our community [click here](#).

NO STOPPING	NO STANDING	NO PARKING
Can I stop to drop off or pick up passengers?	No	Yes
Can I stop to load or unload a package, or merchandise at curbside?	No	Yes
Is waiting allowed?	No	No



○ **U.S. CENSUS 2020**

The once-a-decade population count affects your representation in government, determines how much funding your community receives, and provides data to help you plan for the future. For more information [click here](#) and for more information on US Census employment opportunities [click here](#).



○ **NYC CULTURE PASS**

NYC's three library systems launched **Culture Pass**, a program that will enable cardholding library patrons to check out free day passes to over 30 cultural institutions across the City, including MOMA, Wave Hill, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, the Children's Museum of the Arts and many more! Feel free to use your library card and reserve passes for some of these great institutions.

○ **VOTER REGISTRATION**

Register to vote. You can obtain a Voter Registration Form from the New York City Board of Elections by visiting the Board Office, 5676 Riverdale Avenue, Suite 100 or by [clicking here](#).



○ **IDNYC (NYC IDENTIFICATION CARD)**



Get your IDNYC identification card. This is a free resource for all New York City residents. This is a government-issued photo identification card that secures the peace of mind and access to City services that come from having recognized identification. For more information and to book an appointment [click here](#).

○ **BE A CLEAN WATER ADVOCATE!**

The Environment and Sanitation Committee of Bronx Community Board 8 announces a new community initiative to help clean our waterways. Be a Clean Water Advocate! It's as easy as 311.

Garbage in streets clogs sewer grates and catch basins. A clogged catch basin causes flooding, and sends dirty water and garbage from our streets into our waterways.

But you can help. When you see clogged catch basins or flooded street, just follow these 3 steps:



- Call 311 and report the location of the flooding or sewer grate.
- Call or email Bronx Community Board 8 with the 311 number so we can follow up.
- If you have not received an email resolving your call in two weeks, call the Community Board office.

○ **WINDOW GUARDS**

Each year, young children are injured or die in falls from unguarded windows, even from the first floor. These tragedies are preventable with properly installed and approved window guards, which are required in many residential buildings.

You must have window guards if you live in a building that has at least three apartments and a child 10 or younger lives in your apartment. If you do not have window guards, ask your landlord to install them. If the landlord doesn't fix the problem, [file a complaint online](#) or **call 311**.

Even if you do not have a child 10 or younger who lives with you, you can still get window guards installed. Ask you landlord for them.



**Bronx Community Board 8**

5676 Riverdale Avenue, Suite 100 • Bronx, NY. 10471-2194  
Phone: 718-884-3959 • Fax: 718-796-2763 • E-Mail: [bx08@cb.nyc.gov](mailto:bx08@cb.nyc.gov) • Website: [www.nyc.gov/bronxcb8](http://www.nyc.gov/bronxcb8)

Proudly serving the neighborhoods of Fieldston, Kingsbridge, Kingsbridge Heights, Marble Hill, Riverdale, Spuyten Duyvil, and Van Cortlandt Village