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High res photos of the composting program available for download here:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1OoOpOnzVRoiCmKv3_AEujlr0bCGfwOnC

(Credit: Max Giuliani for Hudson River Park)

HUDSON RIVER PARK REOPENS LARGEST COMPOST SITE IN NYC

Program launches with three new drop off sites in the West Village, Chelsea and Hell's Kitchen

Last year the program collected 450,000 lbs of organic waste which was then converted into compost for plant beds

NEW YORK (October 6, 2020) -- The Hudson River Park Trust restarted its compost program this fall with three new sites, bringing the total number of drop off points to 10 throughout the four-mile park. This is the largest operational compost site in Manhattan at a time when many compost operations are closed.

"Promoting a greener, more sustainable city is a core part of our mission at Hudson River Park and we have worked hard over the years to build out one of the largest, most accessible park-based composting programs," **said Madelyn Wils, President and CEO of the Hudson River Park Trust.** "Composting food scraps has become an embedded part of New Yorkers' routines and we are proud to welcome them back to the Park as the program starts back up again this fall."

Drop off sites are open everyday from 7am - 7pm and accept the following food scraps: fruit and vegetable scraps, coffee grounds and filters, tea bags, rice, pasta, bread, cereal, eggs, nutshells and dried/cut flowers. New Yorkers can find sites at:

- Pier 25 @ N Moore St
- Pier 40 @ Morton St
- Pier 46 @ Charles St (NEW)
- Pier 51 @ Horatio St
- 14th Street Park @ W 14th St
- Chelsea Waterside Park @ W 23rd St
- Pier 66 @ W 26th St (NEW)
- HRPK's Compost Center @ W 34th St
- Pier 84 @ W 44th St
- Pier 96 Boathouse @ W 55th St (NEW)

The Trust began composting horticulture waste, including grass clippings and pruned tree material, in 2015 using an automated Earthflow composting vessel. Since then, the Trust has launched the Community Compost Program sites in partnership with NYC's Department of Sanitation (DSNY) and then Council Member Corey Johnson. The food scraps donated at any of

these 10 sites are mixed with horticulture waste to make healthy compost that enriches plant beds and trees throughout the Park.

Last year, the Trust collected approximately 86,000 pounds of food scraps from the local community -- an 23 percent increase from 70,000 pounds collected in 2018. Combined with horticulture waste, the Trust diverted a total of 450,000 pounds from landfills in 2019. Instead of food and plant waste slowly decomposing in landfills, the Trust returns this organic matter to the earth and uses it to nourish plant beds.

This green initiative grows out of Hudson River Park's mission to protect its 400-acre Estuarine Sanctuary and maintain a green open space that provides relaxation, recreation and nature to millions of New Yorkers each year.