



THE CITY GARDENS CLUB  
*of*  
NEW YORK CITY

The City Gardens Club is a unique educational organization dedicated to the natural environment of New York City. Its programs are designed to foster an appreciation of nature, especially among young people, and to encourage preservation and restoration of green spaces throughout the city. Founded in 1918, The City Gardens Club is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization run by its member-volunteers.

A number of beneficial activities are supported by the Club. Among the projects funded is a longstanding scholarship program enabling science teachers in the New York City public schools to participate in advanced nature study seminars at institutions such as the New York Botanical Garden, the Maine Audubon Society, and The Nature Conservancy-Mashomack Preserve on Shelter Island. The Club also provides grants to local botanical institutions and to selected community gardens and environmental outreach programs in underserved neighborhoods.

Each year a variety of leaves, seeds, pinecones, shells and other specimens are collected and packaged into compact "Nature Kits" with an explanatory teaching manual. These kits are distributed to teachers in the New York City public schools. This program, which gives City children a special opportunity to touch and examine natural phenomena in the classroom, has been awarded a special Citation by the National Audubon Society.

THE CONSERVATION COMMITTEE OF THE CITY GARDENS CLUB

The mission of the Conservation Committee is to present timely environmental issues to our membership and community, to further the restoration of the environment and beautification of our city and to educate children about nature and the environment.

Based on The City Gardens Club guidelines, the Committee selects recipients for CGC's Awards Luncheons and oversees the recipients' use of funds for specific projects. Such projects have included a planting project and children's nature walk in St. Nicholas Park in Harlem, two green roofs on the Alfred E. Smith High School and Rocking the Boat in the South Bronx, a restoration project and expansion of the education program at Von King Park in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn, and most recently, restoration of two Queens beaches in the Rockaways, devastated by Superstorm Sandy.



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### Sustainable New York City: The Next Ten Years January 14, 2015

**Nicholas A. Robinson, Esq. (Moderator)** Mr. Robinson is the University Professor for the Environment at Pace University, and Gilbert and Sarah Kerlin Distinguished Professor of Environmental Law Emeritus at Pace University School of Law. He has served as general counsel of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and on the legal Advisory Committee to the President's Council on Environmental Quality. He was Chair and Legal Advisor to the Commission on Environmental Law of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources.

**Kathryn Garcia, Commissioner, NYC Department of Sanitation.** The NYC Department of Sanitation (DSNY) is the largest such agency in the world. The DSNY protects public health and safety by collecting, recycling as well as disposing of waste and keeping streets and sidewalks clear of litter and snow. DSNY collects and disposes of more than 3.2 million tons of refuse per year and recycles more than 600,000 tons of material, including textiles and electronics. Before her appointment as NYC's 43<sup>rd</sup> Sanitation Commissioner in March 2014, Ms. Garcia was the Chief Operating Officer at the NYC Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), the city's water and wastewater utility.

**Liam Kavanagh, First Deputy Commissioner, NYC Department of Parks & Recreation.** A lifelong New Yorker, Mr. Kavanagh was born in Manhattan, raised in the Bronx, and now resides in Brooklyn. A graduate of the City University's Herbert H. Lehman College, Mr. Kavanagh joined Parks in 1981. He has served as Brooklyn Forestry Director, Deputy Chief of Operations in Brooklyn and Manhattan, and Chief of Operations in Manhattan before his appointment as Deputy Commissioner by Parks Commissioner Adrian Benepe on February 25, 2002.

**Colin Smart, Section Manager Energy Efficiency and Demand Management at Con Edison.** Mr. Smart is responsible for the development and deployment of energy efficiency, demand management and demand response programs at ConEd. During his eight years with Con Edison, Colin's work has involved complex projects ranging from metering infrastructure issues to targeted network solutions to benchmarking Con Edison's financial management processes.

**Daniel A. Zarrilli, P.E., Director, NYC Mayor's Office of Recovery and Resiliency; Acting Director, NYC Mayor's Office of Long-Term Planning and Sustainability.** Mr. Zarrilli is a professional engineer in the State of NY and holds an MS in Civil and Environmental Engineering from MIT and a BS in Civil Engineering from Lehigh University. He is leading the implementation of *A Stronger, More Resilient New York*, the City's efforts to improve resiliency by strengthening coastal protections, upgrading buildings, improving infrastructure, and making neighborhoods safer and more vibrant. He is also serving as the Acting Director of the Office of Long-Term Planning and Sustainability.