

## May is National Allergy and Asthma Awareness Month

ERIC ADAMS May 1, 2013



## Dear Constituents:

May has been dubbed National Allergy and Asthma Awareness Month. While New York City is 43rd on the list of most challenging places to live for individuals with allergies and 48th on the list of most challenging places to live for individuals with asthma, there are still steps we can take to alleviate the suffering of those with seasonal sensitivities and asthma.

Allergies involve more than just pollen, however. Food allergies have become a constant part of our collective health concerns. The U.S. Food Allergy Labeling Consumer Protection Act (FALCPA) now requires food labels to clearly identify all allergen ingredients (even if it's a spice or flavoring), and to discourage labels with 'may contain' statements.

Asthma affects 20 million Americans and can come in various forms. The air we breathe, as well as lifestyle factors, can influence one's susceptibility to asthma. The Asthma Allergy Foundation of America provides many ways to get involved in the prevention effort. Through Wedding Favors, donations, and various participation programs, you can learn more and help those who are afflicted.

Please visit http://www.aafa.org/index.cfm for more information. However, be sure to consult a doctor for any official diagnosis!

Very truly yours,

NYS Senator Eric Adams