



Department of Public Works

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MEDIA ADVISORY

Rake Your Leaves into the Street Beginning October 1st

City of Milwaukee residents may start raking leaves into the curb lanes starting Monday, October 1st. City of Milwaukee Department of Public Works (DPW) Sanitation crews will begin collecting the leaves on Monday, October 15th. Leaf collection will end on Friday, November 30th.

Leaves and brush, along with other yard waste, are banned from landfills and must not be placed in garbage or recycling carts. DPW collects leaves, brush and yard waste separately from garbage and composts it, which conserves natural resources while saving the City money. Residents are also encouraged to mulch leaves, and leave grass clippings on the lawn. This saves time and money, and adds nutrients to the soil.

Tips for a successful fall leaf collection:

- Keep leaves away from storm drains in the street
- Keep piles away from sewer grates
- Place garden debris on top of leaf piles
- Do not put leaves in plastic bags
- Do not put leaves in garbage carts
- Do not put brush into the street – call 286-CITY (2489) through November for a pick-up

A fall DPW newsletter has been mailed to all City of Milwaukee households of four or fewer units. This year's newsletter includes information on a new automated garbage and recycling collection process, a hazardous waste drop-off opportunity (Oct. 12-13, www.mmsd.com/dukes), winter collection news, and a contest challenging residents to be better recyclers and possibly win a compost bin in the process.

Sanitation staff collects an average of 15,000 tons of leaves each year between mid-October and the first week of December. Last year, 16,343 tons of leaves were collected.

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