



## LEAF & YARD WASTE COLLECTION

# Rules & Regulations

The Streets Division conducts curbside leaf and yard waste collection during the spring and in the fall. There is no fixed schedule for when yard waste collection will occur during the collection periods. Also, there is no curbside leaf and yard waste collection in the summer. Residents are guaranteed two collection opportunities in the spring, and at least three collection opportunities in the fall. Failure to follow these rules & regulations may result in your yard waste not being collected.

### Yard Waste Information

- » Yard waste is plant debris, such as the following:
  - Leaves
  - Pine needles
  - Grass clippings
  - Weeds
  - Rose canes
  - Corn stalks
  - Sunflower stalks
  - Vines
  - Pumpkins
  - Pine cones
  - Black walnuts
  - Crabapples
  - Flowers
- » Small sticks and thin twigs less than 18 inches in length are also considered yard waste.

### Yard Waste Placement

- » Only place yard waste to the curb during the collection periods.
- » Where possible, pile yard waste at least four feet from any obstruction such as mailboxes, trees, fire hydrants, street signs, parked cars, and so on.
- » Do not pile yard waste material in the street or gutter.
  - Piles in the street create a water run-off that leads to algae blooms and weed growth in our lakes, plus they can wash away to clog storm drains, which can lead to flooding during rains and the spring thaw.
- » Do not mix brush and yard waste together.
  - Brush and yard waste are separate collections picked by separate crews and are taken to different processing locations.
- » Yard waste should be placed on the terrace or at the roadway edge.
  - Yard waste can be loose on the terrace or roadway edge.
  - Yard waste piles can be covered with a tarp.
  - Yard waste can be bagged in compostable paper bags, or plastic garbage bags.
    - Bags must be left open at the top.
    - Compostable bags are preferred. Crews may need to slit open plastic bags, and they must leave plastic bags behind after collection because they have nowhere to store them on their collection vehicles.

### When to Place Yard Waste for Collection

Check the pickup schedule map on the Streets Division's yard waste website [www.cityofmadison.com/yardwaste](http://www.cityofmadison.com/yardwaste). The maps are updated daily during the collection period and will direct residents when to place material to the curb to ensure collection. Residents can also call the yard waste collection hotline at 608-267-2088, or contact the Streets Division office that services your home.

### Drop-Off Sites

Sites can only be used by City of Madison residents. Proof of residency is required prior to use. Contractors may not use the site. Non-residents and contractors will be denied use of the site. Residents are restricted to one trip a day, and loads must not exceed what would fit into the back of a standard pick-up truck or a 5' x 8' trailer. Oversized loads will be denied use of the site.

- » **East:** 4602 Sycamore Ave.
- » **West:** 1501 W. Badger Rd.
- » **Far West:** 402 S. Point Rd.  
Open only during April to November.

### HOURS:

- » **April - November**
  - Monday, 8:30am - 4:30pm
  - Tuesday, 8:30am - 8:00pm
  - Wednesday, 8:30am - 4:30pm
  - Thursday, 8:30am - 8:00pm
  - Friday, 8:30am - 4:30pm
  - Saturday, 8:30am - 4:30pm
  - Sunday, 8:30am - 4:30pm
- » **December - March**
  - Monday, 7:30am - 3:00pm
  - Tuesday, 7:30am - 3:00pm
  - Wednesday, 7:30am - 3:00pm
  - Thursday, 7:30am - 3:00pm
  - Friday, 7:30am - 3:00pm
  - Saturday, Closed
  - Sunday, Closed

### Contact Information

- » Areas east of S. Park Street, including the isthmus:
  - Phone: (608) 246-4532
  - Office: 4602 Sycamore Ave.
  - Office hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30am to 4:00pm
- » Areas west of S. Park Street:
  - Phone: (608) 266-4681
  - Office: 1501 W. Badger Rd.
  - Office hours: Monday-Friday, 7:30am to 4:00pm
- » Online: [cityofmadison.com/streets](http://cityofmadison.com/streets)

## **Collection Rotation Explained**

At the start of the collection season, crews are deployed into the area of Madison with a Monday refuse collection day. Crews will collect yard waste from each street within that collection district. After crews collect from each street within the Monday district once, they rotate into the Tuesday collection district. Upon completion of the Tuesday district, they rotate into the Wednesday district followed by the Thursday district and then the Friday district. Upon completion of the Friday district, crews return to the Monday district to begin another round. Collection crews will complete at least two collection rounds in this manner during the spring collection period and at least three collection rounds during the fall period. Fall leaf collection typically ends when snow accumulation on the curb obstructs piles from view.

The start of the spring and fall collection periods is weather dependent and will be announced when the date is known.

## **Damage from Yard Waste Collection**

When curbside collection crews damage a terrace, the Streets Division will repair the damage. Contact the Streets Division office that services your home to be sure you are on the list for repair.

## **Street Sweeping After Yard Waste Collection**

During curbside leaf collection operations, and when weather conditions allow, the Streets Division sends street sweepers to clean the debris left in the roadway after pick up. Sweepers work slowly and they do not hold very much collected material, which means there will be a gap between when leaf collection occurs and when the sweepers arrive.

## **Yard Waste Set Out After Collection Season Ends**

When the official collection season ends, yard waste may sit on the curb until collection restarts. When curbside collection is not occurring, residents should take yard waste to a drop-off site.