

Leaf Season is Here

It is time to pull out the rakes, blowers, and leaf collectors. Fall season is a beautiful time of year in the mountains, but how leaves are removed from yards can cause issues if not done responsibly. To help make things easy, the Town of Waynesville provides curbside leaf and woody debris pickup service to their residents. Residents can rake their leaves to the curb and the town will automatically collect them from mid-October to mid-January. Please do not bag leaves. The Town uses a specialized leaf vacuum truck that is not equipped to collect bagged leaves. Woody debris less than ten feet in length and four-inch diameter must also be placed curbside in a separate pile.

Don't place leaves or woody debris in stormdrains, ditches, or streets. Stormdrains and ditches are designed to remove water from urban areas but they are easily clogged by yard waste, which leads to localized flooding of parking lots, roads and personal property. Since stormdrains carry water directly to rivers and streams, yard waste can easily enter those waterways and degrade water quality. As yard waste breaks down, decomposing bacteria use up oxygen, which can lead to fish kills. Also, released nutrients can cause nuisance algal blooms, which makes the oxygen issue worse. Keeping storm drains clean benefits wildlife and reduces flood hazards.

For questions regarding yard waste pickup, including the collection schedule, call the Town of Waynesville at 828-456-3706. To find out other ways Waynesville is reducing stormwater impacts to local streams visit www.waynesvillenc.gov.



Yard waste left in streets block stormdrains and lead to flooding. Place yard waste on the curb for free pickup.