

2020 LEAF COLLECTION PROGRAM

There are four ways the Town of Westfield assists residents in disposing of leaves:

- Provides curbside pickup of leaf piles
- Provides curbside pickup of bagged leaves
- Enables residents to bring leaves to the Conservation Center without a permit during leaf season
- Permits residents' lawn care companies to transport leaves to the Conservation Center

CURBSIDE PICKUP

For curbside pickup, the Town is divided into ten leaf collection zones. Collection will begin simultaneously in zones 1 and 7 on or about November 2, 2020, weather permitting. Once a zone is completed, collections will move to the next zone in numerical sequence. Please follow the guidelines below.

- Do not place leaves in the street prior to Monday, October 26.
- Place leaves in narrow rows alongside the curb, while leaving space near the gutters for drainage.
- Do not place leaves any closer than ten feet from any storm water inlet.
- Do not place twigs, tree branches, pumpkins, grass or other plant debris (including discarded mums) in the leaf pile. **Note that the Town will not pick up leaves with mixed debris**, as only leaves are accepted at the Union County compost facilities where the collections are deposited.
- Before raking leaves to the street, check the Town's website, www.westfieldnj.gov/leafcollection, to determine in which zone the leaf collection crews are working.
- Whenever possible, do not park on the street when the collection crew is in your zone.
- Do not place leaves in the street after Friday, December 18.

BAGGED LEAVES

Residents may bag their leaves by placing them in biodegradable paper bags made specifically for this purpose, which will be picked up on the same curbside schedule as leaf piles. Bagging leaves helps to minimize leaf piles in the roadway that obstruct parking and potentially block storm drains.

NEW THIS YEAR:

The Town will provide **up to ten free leaf collection bags per household**, which can be picked up with proof of residency at the Conservation Center (no permit required), beginning October 19. Bagged leaves must follow the applicable curbside pick-up guidelines (above).

- To stay informed about leaf collection progress:
 - Follow the Town of Westfield on Facebook.
 - Check the leaf collection page on our website: www.westfieldnj.gov/leafcollection.
 - Sign up to receive notifications through the Westfield Connect app.
 - Enroll in the Town Updates email notification system: www.westfieldnj.gov/townupdates.

The Westfield Fire Department warns residents to never park a vehicle on a pile of leaves, even if the pile is wet. Hot metal parts in the undercarriage may ignite the leaves and cause a potentially serious fire.

CONSERVATION CENTER

Residents may bring their leaves to the Conservation Center, at 1300 Lamberts Mill Road, for disposal. Residents do not need a permit to do so during leaf season, from October 19 to December 18, but must show proof of residency. Please note that depositing mixed organic debris other than leaves requires a permit.

- From October 19 to December 18, the Center will be open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and Saturdays and Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., weather permitting.
- The Center will be closed on Veterans Day (November 11), Thanksgiving (November 26), and the day after Thanksgiving (November 27), as well as from December 19 – January 1.
- The Center will re-open in January on the following Saturdays: January 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2021, from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., weather permitting, for the disposal of Christmas trees (which cannot be placed in the street).

LAWN CARE COMPANIES

Residents who employ lawn care companies are responsible for informing them of the leaf collection schedule and ensuring compliance with the guidelines.

You may authorize your lawn care provider to transport your leaves to the Conservation Center during leaf season. To do so, the lawn care company must be registered with the Town of Westfield as an authorized user of the Center. Please take note that lawn care providers will be charged \$700 per cubic yard of leaves deposited at the Center.

Please follow the guidelines below.

- Contact your lawn care provider before leaf season to make sure the leaf collection rules and schedule are made known.
- Make sure your lawn care provider does not mix trimmings, grass clippings, twigs, or any other organic plant waste in with the leaves.

Help Protect Our Storm Drains From Flooding: Adopt A Drain

Did you know there are nearly 3,000 storm drains in Westfield? While the DPW team performs regular cleaning and maintenance of these drains, leaf season is the ideal time to supplement these efforts by participating in the Adopt-a-Drain program. Keeping the Town's storm drains clear protects natural watersheds from pollution and helps reduce localized flooding. To volunteer, visit www.westfieldnj.gov/adoptadrain.

Leaf Mulching: An Alternative to Bagging or Curbside Piles

Here are some reasons to consider leaf mulching this season, which can be done with most lawn mowers:

- Better for the grass:** Mulching pulverizes leaves into fragments and adds nitrogen and other nutrients back into the soil as they decompose. It also helps to suppress weeds.
- Saves time:** Using the mower can take less time than raking and/or bagging leaves.
- Avoids issues caused by curbside piles:** Eliminates the need for a large leaf pile in the street, as well as the related parking and drainage issues.

TOWN OF WESTFIELD LEAF COLLECTION ZONES

W
TOWN OF WESTFIELD
425 EAST BROAD STREET
WESTFIELD, NJ 07090

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #683
RAHWAY, NJ



ECRWSS
POSTAL CUSTOMER
WESTFIELD, NJ 07090

KEY DATES FOR CURBSIDE LEAF PICK UP

- October 26:** Earliest day leaves can be placed curbside
- November 2:** Leaf collection to start in zones 1 and 7 (weather permitting)
- December 18:** Last day leaves can be placed curbside

NEW THIS YEAR:

Information on the Free Leaf Bag Distribution and Adopt-A-Drain Programs