

OTHER QUESTIONS???

For other questions about the Leaf and Yard Waste Collection Program, call the Recycling Hotline at 349-4005.

For missed pick-ups or other questions that need an immediate response, call 349-4860 or 349-4862.

Paper leaf bags are available from the following Cambridge retailers:

Bread & Circus

Cambridge Food Co-op

Dickson Bros. Hardware

Ferro's Foodtown

Johnnie's Foodmaster

Masse Hardware

Pill True Value Hardware

Purity Supreme

Star Market

Stop & Shop

Paper leaf bags may also be available

at other local hardware and department stores - just ask when you go in.

The Cambridge Public Works Department appreciates your cooperation.

Nap jwen tradikson Kreyol papye sila nan CHAMA, 105 Windsor St., Cambridge.

Poderá obter cópias deste folheto em Português na COPA, 1046 Cambridge St., Cambridge.

Hay cópias de este folleto traducidos al español en el Centro Presente, 54 Essex St., Cambridge, y Concilio Hispano, 16 Cherry St., Cambridge.

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Bulk Rate
U.S. Postage
Paid
Cambridge, MA
Permit No.
59648

Cambridge Recycling Program
Department of Public Works
147 Hampshire St.
Cambridge, MA 02139



Leaf and Yard Waste Collection in Cambridge



Starting on October 7th, and continuing until December 13th, Cambridge will collect Leaves and Yard Waste (grass clippings, weeds, hedge clippings, and twigs less than 2 feet in length and 1/2 inch in diameter) from buildings that receive city trash collection.

These materials will be composted.

Composting is a process where organic materials, such as leaves and yard waste, decompose into humus, the dark, sweet-smelling substance found naturally in fertile soils.

The reason for composting is two-fold: Humus can be used to enrich soil to grow healthy plants. Composting also saves landfill space. (In fact, Massachusetts landfills and incinerators will stop accepting leaves by the end of 1991 and yard waste by the end of 1992.)

City residents who receive city trash collection have two options for handling leaf and yard waste:

1) Residents may compost leaves and yard waste in their yard.

Call Cambridge Public Works at 349-4800 for a free brochure on building your own compost bin or purchasing a pre-assembled one.

A backyard composting class will be held on October 19th from 9:00am to 12:00pm at the Tobin School auditorium, 197 Vassal Lane.

2) Residents may pack leaves and yard waste in special 30 gallon degradable paper leaf bags or clean labeled barrels for collection at the curb.

LEAVES AND YARD WASTE IN PLASTIC BAGS WILL NO LONGER BE PICKED UP.

How to Use 30 Gallon Paper Bags

Pack leaves and yard waste into bags, stamping the leaves down in order to fill the bag completely. The square bottom will allow the bag to stay open, making them easy to load. Well packed bags will stand up so that leaves will not fall out. Paper leaf bags are sturdy enough to hold together even in the rain.

Fold over the top to contain the yard waste, but do not close the bag with



tape, staples or string as they contaminate the material for composting. Bags will not be collected if they have closures.

A list of retail stores where bags can be purchased may be found on the reverse.

How to Use Barrels

Barrels used for yard waste must be identified. Labels for this purpose may be obtained at the Public Works Department at 147 Hampshire Street or by calling 349-4800.

Place bags or barrels on the curb (a few feet away from other materials for collection, if possible) by 7:00am on your scheduled collection day.

Some Common Questions...

Q: Why can't I use plastic bags for my leaves and yard waste?

A: Paper bags decompose with leaves over time in a composting pile, eliminating secondary handling of leaves and consequent disposal of the plastic bags. Paper bags also hold more than plastic bags, requir-



ing fewer bags.

Q: How many paper bags or barrels may I put out each week?

A: You may put out as many as you deem necessary.

Q: May I use one of my trash cans for yard waste?

A: Yes, as long as it is identified with a Yard Waste Label.

Q: Can apartment buildings and condominiums participate in the curbside leaf and yard waste collection program?

A: Apartment buildings and condominiums that receive city trash collection and have traditionally put leaves and yard waste out for City pick-up are required to participate in the program. Buildings that have a landscaping company handle their leaves and yard waste should continue to do so. Buildings that do not receive city trash collection should continue to have their private hauler or landscaper pick up leaves and yard waste.

YARD WASTIE



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CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL 349-4300
FAX 349-4307

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

September 23, 1991

To the Honorable, the City Council:

As the next step in our curbside collection program, the Department of Public Works (DPW) is implementing leaf and yard waste collection in Cambridge beginning the week of October 7, 1991. Laidlaw Waste Systems will be picking up leaves and yard waste until December 13, 1991 on the same day that trash is picked up.

Enclosed is a leaf and yard waste collection brochure that will be mailed to all curbside collection households, as well as a sample of the paper leaf bags that are available in stores and a sample of the yard waste label that will be available from the DPW for identifying barrels that residents use for yard waste.

Residents should feel free to call the Recycling Hotline at 349-4005.

Very truly yours,

Robert. W. Healy
City Manager

Attachments

S-1005