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CITY OF READING'S CURBSIDE LEAF COLLECTION 2016

The City of Reading's Public Works Crews will provide loose leaf curbside pickup from October 17 through December 2, 2016. This ending date is subject to change if the leaves should fall later than expected.

While the City is unable to set specific dates for curbside leaf collection on individual streets, the Public Works Department will make several collections during the time frame listed above.

We thank you for your cooperation as you keep the following tips in mind when preparing your leaves for curbside pickup:

1. Please rake all leaves to curb. The Public Works Department will not empty bags or other containers; this is the responsibility of the resident.
2. If leaves are not in place when the crews go by, they will be picked up on the following round through the City. No 'return trips' will be made to pick up leaves on the same day.
3. Grass clippings, branches, brush or any other debris cannot be included in or put under the loose leaf piles. These will all cause damage to the equipment.
4. Do not place pieces of wood, steel, rocks or concrete on the leaves to hold them down. These objects will cause damage to the leaf pickup units and put them out of service at a great expense of time and money to both the City of Reading and its residents.
5. To help facilitate the picking up of leaves, please have leaves as accessible as possible. The Public Works Department will not rake piles of leaves out from between parked cars or from under them.
6. Do not pile leaves on or around storm drains as this will cause flooding issues and create unsafe driving conditions.

The areas of the Reading slated for curbside leaf collection are the 18th Ward, South of Penn, and Center City; the Northeast and Hampden Heights areas; Hessian Camp and East Reading areas; and Northwest, Northmont, Riverdale, and Glenside areas.

As an alternative to raking leaves to the curb or bagging leaves, residents are encouraged to try chopping up moderate amounts of leaves with a lawnmower. This can be done during normal lawn mowing. Be sure you don't allow the leaves to mat and that ample grass shows through them. This will save you work and time, add nutrients to your lawn, reduce windblown leaves in your neighborhood and reduce the amount of labor and fuel the City needs to use for leaf collection. Composting your leaves in a backyard garden is another alternative which will provide you with useful organic material next year.

For more information, please visit the Public Works pages of the City of Reading's website, www.readingpa.gov.