

Waterford Borough will soon be starting the annual leaf collection along the streets and neighborhoods of the borough. Residents are reminded to rake their leaves to the curb for pickup and to be careful not to include rocks, large sticks or other debris in the pile that would damage the large vacuum the streets department uses to collect these leaves. In areas where there are no curbs, please be sure to have the leaves raked to within 5 feet of the roadway edge to make the collection process as efficient as possible.

Please do not block storm drains with piles of leaves. Cars parked on top of the piles will make it impossible for crews to pick up the leaves as we make our rounds. There is also a danger of fire, if cars with a hot exhaust system are parked on top of a pile of dry leaves.

During the major weeks of leaf pickup, all leaves along the curb and from some piles may not be gotten. This is normal. When the streets department makes the final rounds before the first snowfall, they will perform what is called "gutter wiping," which includes the vacuuming of the majority of the leaf debris left behind from previous cleanups and using the street sweeper.

The first few weeks in November are typically the peak time for leaves. Leaf collection will take place daily, weather permitting. Initially, the crews will begin their routes and continue cyclically throughout the borough. There are no set days or times for leaf collection in any specific area of the borough. As more leaves fall, the service time for certain areas may lengthen to 4-7 days before crews return to a neighborhood. Leaf collection will continue as long as possible, again weather permitting. The trucks used for leaf collection are the same trucks used in winter for de-icing operations and plowing, and time must be allowed for the changeover of equipment to ensure safe passage for travelers in the event of a winter storm.

In previous years, the street department has made multiple trips through the borough, collecting nearly 100 loads totaling several hundred tons of leaves per season. These collected leaves are transported to the boroughs local DEP certified composting site where they are turned into free compost and mulch for borough residents to use year after year.

If you have any questions concerning the borough's leaf pickup program, contact borough office at 814-796-4709.