

MAYOR'S MESSAGE
Craig A. Stough 10/24/2024

"Leaf Collection Underway for 2024"

Autumn has arrived and once again the leaves are changing color and blanketing the yards and gardens of Sylvania. Our "City of Trees" certainly lives up to its namesake by having tens of thousands of trees throughout the community. Approximately 7,700 street trees are growing in street right-of-ways alone, with many thousands more in parks and on private lands, including the towering oaks and maples native to the area.

As a result, leaf collection has already begun in our neighborhoods for this fall. Because of all those trees, leaf collection is a very big job in the City of Sylvania. Last year, City crews spent 3,044 hours loading and hauling 11,335 cubic yards of leaves for composting, about the same as the 11,993 cubic yards in 2022, but significantly more than the 9,830 cubic yards collected in 2021.

This year's leaf collection began the week of October 21st with one or two Streets Division collection crews as needed following predetermined routes through the City. As more leaves are raked to the curb, two additional crews will be added and work full time at leaf collection. In an effort to speed up leaf collection, temporary workers are used and overtime is offered to City workers in the Streets, Forestry and Utilities Divisions when needed.

The City crews load leaves raked to the curb into leaf boxes mounted on city dump trucks using diesel powered leaf loader vacuum units. Sticks, grass clippings, flowers, plants, etc. can clog or even break the leaf loaders and are not to be part of the leaf collection process. Those items should be set out separately for regular pick-up by the Yard Waste program of the Forestry Division. An unlimited free Yard Waste pick-up is scheduled for October 28th to November 8th on your regular Yard Waste pick-up day.

City crews will move as quickly as possible to collect all the leaves. The crews will make multiple sweeps through the City, five rounds last year. If we have good weather, the leaves fall on schedule, and it doesn't snow too much, the leaf collection will be completed by December 6th. But the weather and the trees don't always cooperate. Thanks for your patience! City of Sylvania crews will be making their rounds and will be to your street soon.

