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Love Your Lakes, Don't Leaf Them.

Leafism #1

What you do with your leaves affects your lakes.

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Leafacts:

Leaves contain nutrients that fertilize algae, which can turn your lakes green.

When leaf piles sit in the street, wind and rain carry them to storm drains and eventually into lakes and streams.

Rain seeping through leaf piles creates a rich "nutrient tea" that flows along the curb and into storm drains, even if leaves themselves don't move an inch!

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Love Your Lakes, Don't Leaf Them.

Leafism #2

Composting your leaves saves you time and money.

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Leafacts:

Composted leaves make a great fertilizer and are a valuable mulch in gardens and around trees.

Flower beds under trees reduces yard maintenance during the growing season and provides a natural place for fallen leaves.

Mulching leaves on your lawn can replace one fertilizer application each year.

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Love Your Lakes, Don't Leaf Them.

Leafism #3

Your municipality has rules for leaf collection. *Do you know what they are?*

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Leafacts:

Most municipalities ask that you place your leaves in the area between the street and sidewalk.

Wet the leaves down or put a tarp over them to help keep them in place.

If you bag your leaves, keep them open at the top for easy emptying.

Find out what the specific guidelines are in your municipality.

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Love Your Lakes, Don't Leaf Them.

Leafism #4

Keeping your leaves out of the street shows you care for your lakes.

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Leafacts:

Leaves and dirt in the street can end up in the nearest lake or stream each time it rains.

Because leaves account for a significant portion of the algae-feeding nutrients in your lakes, we can all help reduce their impact.

Follow your municipality's rules for leaf collection or just compost them on site for valuable fertilizer.

Learn more at myfairlakes.com