

City of Findlay: No leaf pickup

Due to budget cuts and aging equipment, Findlay will not pick up leaves this fall.

Residents and businesses will have to dispose of leaves themselves, or hire someone to do it.

According to Jim Rhodes, Public Works Department Director, residents can bring their leaves, along with any grass clippings, yard prunings and limbs, to the city's "green" waste drop-off site at 350 W. High Street. High Street is in central Findlay, and intersects North Main Street just north of the Norfolk Southern railroad tracks. From Main Street, motorists should go west on High Street, across Cory Street, and the dump is on the right.

Leaves can be dumped there in bulk, or dropped off in one-bushel paper biodegradable bags that are made especially for green waste. These bags can be purchased at hardware, building supply and some grocery stores.

The site will be manned by city employees and they will not permit plastic bags, building material, furniture, food and animal waste to be dumped.

Private firms also perform this service, and can be contacted to collect bulk leaves or other green waste. They are listed in the local phone book under lawn maintenance, Rhodes said.

City street sweepers will be working Monday through Friday picking up leaves that fall on city streets to keep catch basins open, said Rhodes. But residents are warned not to sweep leaves from yards into the streets.

Rhodes said those who blow or rake leaves into streets will be in violation of city traffic law, and complaints will be forwarded to the police department.

Leaf piles in streets are a danger to children who like to play in them, and in many areas they reduce traffic to one lane or cause drivers to drive around them into oncoming traffic.

The "green" drop-off site is now open every Friday from 7:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m., and the first and third Saturdays of each month from 8 a.m. to noon.

The site will open for extended hours for the leaf season beginning Sept. 22 and ending Dec. 19. Hours will then include Mondays from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesdays through Fridays from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturdays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Commercial contractors doing work for hire will be charged \$10 per load for dumping yard waste and limbs.

Also at the site, garden compost can be bought for \$25 per cubic yard scoop, and wood mulch for \$10 per pickup truck or equal size trailer load.

The city will not be held responsible for any damage or injury to people, vehicles or equipment resulting from the unloading or loading of yard debris and products.