



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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~ Media Advisory ~

SPRINGFIELD LEAF PICKUP STARTS DECEMBER 1

The City of Springfield promotes the disposal of leaf accumulations through the bag program. Sanipac is contracted to pickup and haul the leaf bags placed at curbside for City of Springfield residents.

Springfield's Leaf Program promotes bagging up leaves:

Our program promotes public safety by keeping leaves out of bike lanes, streets and sidewalks. Large piles can also be considered a nuisance and by City Code - it is illegal to place debris in the right-of-way. (City Code violation 5.002).

Large piles of leaves on the side of the road can be very hazardous, examples include:

- Vehicles may swerve out of their lane to avoid piles of leaves.
- Dangerous items may be covered up inside piles (large rocks, bicycles, etc.)
- Attractive nuisance for children to play in.
- Forces bicycle commuters into the travel lane of vehicles.

When Sanipac picks up the bagged leaves they rip the bags open and deposit the leaves into the truck. The leaves are then taken to a site to be recycled for landscape uses. Sanipac also runs a leaf vacuum to pick up leaves that city street sweepers can't pickup. The vacuum assists the sweepers by attacking "hot spots" where large amounts of leaves accumulate in gutters and at catch basins to help prevent flooding. This limited use of the vacuum is not scheduled nor can it go from house to house.

Through the bag program, neighborhoods are cleaned up sooner than if everyone blew leaves into the street. Having bagged leaves sitting at curbside versus piled in the street gives the neighborhood a cleaner appearance. Residents who prefer to not have bags at curbside in front of their residences are encouraged to haul their leaves to Lane Forest Products or Rexus for disposal. Sanipac also offers a landscape debris pick up program. Please contact them directly for more information.

If you live in Springfield (within city limits)

- *Place leaves in large garbage bags* (be sure that the bags contain *ONLY* leaves)
- *Place the bags at the curbside, not in the street*, the Monday of the week your neighborhood is scheduled for pickup.

Area of Springfield	First Round	Second Round
<i>West of 28th</i>	December 1st - 9th, 2008	January 5th - 9th, 2009
<i>East of 28th</i>	December 10th -19th, 2008	January 12th - 16th, 2009

For more information call 726.3637 or online at www.ci.springfield.or.us