

# CityNews



FALL 2015

A PUBLICATION OF THE CITY OF APPLE VALLEY, MN

## FALL CLEAN-UP

Saturday, October 3, 2015 • 8:00am—1:00pm  
Family Aquatic Center • 14421 Johnny Cake Ridge Road • Apple Valley, MN. 55124



### ACCEPTED ITEMS

- Air Conditioners, Furnaces, Lawn Mowers (must be drained), Tread-Mills, Ellipticals:** .....Free
- Appliances:** ..... \$5
- Tires:**
- Car ..... \$5
- Semi..... \$10
- Tractor .....\$25
- Scrap Metal:**
- Minimum—small items ..... \$7  
*(bikes, tools)*
- Minimum-large items .....\$10  
*(grills, snow blowers, water softeners)*
- Mattresses and Box Springs:** \$15 each
- Baby mattresses ..... \$5 each
- Furniture:**
- Recliner, sofa, love seat ..... \$15
- Pull-out sofa .....\$25
- Wooden chairs ..... \$5
- Carpet and Padding:** ..... \$1/square yard
- \*Home Remodeling Debris:**
- Pickup load .....\$50
- \*Miscellaneous: Volume based**
- Per car.....\$35 Per truck..... \$50
- \*Price varies depending on volume/weight*
- Electronics\* • Leaves, grass & brush  
Household hazardous waste\*  
Regular home recyclables  
Business waste • Railroad ties  
Car batteries • Motor oil & filters**
- \*Price varies depending on volume/weight*

### No Regular Home Recyclables

Visit [www.DakotaValleyRecycling.org/](http://www.DakotaValleyRecycling.org/) curbside for how to recycle at home. Also accepted at The Recycling Zone (see above); separate by material type. ....Free.

### No Business Waste

Call Dakota County at 952-891-7548.

### No Railroad Ties or Treated Lumber

Take to Pine Bend Landfill  
2495 E 117th St E, Inver Grove Heights  
651-457-2778 .....Fees apply

### No Car Batteries

Return to the store where you purchased the new battery. Also accepted at The Recycling Zone.

### No Electronics

Electronics such as TVs, VCRs, DVD players, computers, printers, stereos monitors and cell phones are accepted at The Recycling Zone (see above) .....Free  
*(See \*Electronics on left column)*

### No Paint, Cleaners, Pesticides,

Fluorescent Bulbs, Motor Oil/Filters, or Other Household Hazardous Waste  
Take to The Recycling Zone  
3365 Dodd Rd (Hwy 149) Eagan  
651-905-4520 .....Free

### No Leaves, Grass, Brush, Garden

Waste, Stumps or Tree Trimmings  
Take to a mulch store. Locations:  
16454 Blaine Ave, Rosemount  
651-423-4401 or 1030 W Cliff Rd,  
Burnsville 952-736-1915.....Fees apply

### \*Electronics &

### \*Household Hazardous Waste

City of Burnsville will accept

electronics and household hazardous waste for FREE from Dakota County residents at the Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day.  
Saturday, October 3rd, 9:00am—2:00pm  
13713 Frontier Ct, Burnsville, MN 55337  
For more information call 952-895-4511

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### Mayor:

Mary Hamann-Roland

### Council Members:

John Bergman  
Thomas Goodwin  
Ruth Grendahl  
Clint Hooppaw

CUSTOMER  
RESIDENTIAL  
ECSRWS

PRSRRT STD  
US POSTAGE PAID  
PERMIT #419  
TWIN CITIES, MN

## Special Pick-up Day for Appliances

Monday, Oct. 5

Call J.R.'s Appliance **651-454-9215**, Certified Appliance Recycling

**952-894-1448**, or A-1 Recycling

**763-712-1344** to schedule a pickup and obtain fee information.

**\*\*NOTE:** You must call before noon on Thursday, Oct. 1\*\*

Accepted appliances include: freezers, dryers, refrigerators, washers, furnaces, garbage disposals, dishwashers, water heaters, stoves, trash compactors, air conditioners, microwaves, dehumidifiers, heat pumps.

**Proof of Apple Valley residency required.** Cash or check payable to City of Apple Valley. **For more information, call 952-953-2729** Watch for updates at [www.cityofapplevalley.org](http://www.cityofapplevalley.org)

## No Prescription Drugs

Never flush down the toilet, pour down the sink, or place in the trash. Drop-off box located in the Apple Valley Police Station lobby, 7100 147th St W.

Mon-Fri, 8:00am-4:30pm. ....Free

## DISPOSAL OPTIONS FOR ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED

Questions about recycling or disposal of items? Contact the Apple Valley recycling department: Dakota Valley Recycling [www.DakotaValleyRecycling.org](http://www.DakotaValleyRecycling.org) • **952-895-4559**

## METRO RED LINE

Apple Valley is home to the METRO Red Line, the first Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) line in the Twin Cities region. BRT is an enhanced bus service that provides faster travel and higher reliability through frequent service, shoulder lane operation, off-board fare collection, traffic signal priority and improved passenger information. Red Line vehicles operate seven days a week, with service so frequent you won't even need a schedule. Apple Valley has three Red Line stations along Cedar Avenue providing convenient access for residents and visitors alike. Red Line service provides direct access to the Mall of America and access to the region's growing Light Rail Transit system. You can even transfer to the METRO Blue Line at Mall of America for service to the airport and downtown Minneapolis. For more information visit [www.metrotransit.org/metro-red-line](http://www.metrotransit.org/metro-red-line).



## LEBANON CEMETERY

### OF APPLE VALLEY

Pre-planning your cemetery arrangements can be a gift to your family at an emotional time. If you are considering Lebanon Cemetery, there are a variety of information sources. You can access cemetery formation on the City website at [www.cityofapplevalley.org](http://www.cityofapplevalley.org), under City Services, or request an information packet be mailed or emailed. Cemetery staff are available to answer questions or to meet with you, simply contact Public Works at **952-953-2400** or [pubworks@ci.apple-valley.mn.us](mailto:pubworks@ci.apple-valley.mn.us). Lebanon Cemetery is located on the southeast corner of County Road 42 and Pilot Knob Road. Entrance is from eastbound County Road 42 or northbound Pilot Knob Road. Lebanon Cemetery is owned by the City of Apple Valley and is open all year from sunrise to sunset.

## CEMETERY VOLUNTEERS

**Thank You!** The City of Apple Valley appreciates the dedicated volunteers who have given time and energy this year to Lebanon Cemetery of Apple Valley. Their efforts help provide an attractive setting for families and friends who are visiting the graves of loved ones.

## WHERE THE DRAIN LEADS

The storm drains on your street lead directly to neighborhood ponds or lakes in Apple Valley. Water entering the storm drain does **NOT** receive treatment before it flows to the neighborhood pond, so any pollutants that enter the storm drain will be flushed into local waterbodies during the next rain. **NEVER DUMP** any substance down the storm drain. Anything spilled on streets, sidewalks, and driveways should be cleaned up before it can be washed into the curblin and down the storm drain. Here are some common pollutants that make it into local ponds from properties:

- Grass clippings and other yard waste
- Fertilizers
- Oil and anti-freeze
- Soaps
- Pet waste

The next time you are doing yard work and household chores, please remember – only rain down the drain. Sweep up matter from driveways, sidewalks, and streets to protect the ponds and lakes.

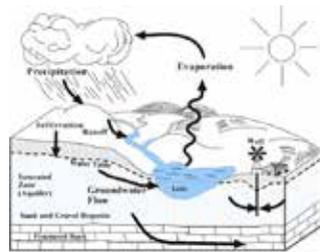
## WATER AND SANITARY SEWER

### SAFE DRINKING WATER

The City of Apple Valley relies on groundwater to supply our drinking water. Groundwater is the water that fills the small spaces between rock particles (sand, gravel, etc.) or cracks in solid rock. Rain, melting snow, and surface water become groundwater by infiltrating into the ground and filling these spaces. The top of the water-saturated zone is called the water table. When water infiltrates from the surface and reaches the water table, it begins moving toward points where it can escape, such as wells, rivers, or lakes.

An aquifer is any type of geologic material, such as sand or bedrock, that can store and supply water to wells or springs. The groundwater that supplies public wells often comes from within one to two miles of the well. How fast groundwater moves depends on how much water is pumped from the well and what type of geologic material the water is moving through.

Apple Valley's water comes from deep wells in the Prairie du Chien, Jordan, and Mt. Simon sandstone aquifers, located several hundred feet underground. Despite this



depth, the aquifers can be vulnerable to contamination from human land surface activities. Potential sources of pollution can include:

- Improperly disposed of household hazardous wastes
- Abandoned wells that haven't been properly sealed
- Poorly-maintained septic systems
- Overuse of fertilizers and pesticides
- Leaking storage tanks
- Unreported spills and illegal dumping
- Contaminated stormwater runoff

### Wellhead Protection Plan

The City of Apple Valley is working to protect drinking water by carrying out a Wellhead Protection Plan. This plan has been prepared in conjunction with several local, county, and state agencies. The Minnesota Department of Health is the lead agency for the State's program. These are the steps the City took to develop a Wellhead Protection Plan:

- Identified the aquifer recharge areas to be protected.
- Determined how vulnerable the recharge area is to pollution.
- Identified land uses and potential sources of pollution in the wellhead protection area and implemented ways to prevent groundwater contamination.
- Established a plan to work with property owners and residents to ensure that pollution doesn't degrade our groundwater supplies.

### What Can You Do?

- Help identify land uses and potential sources of contamination on your property (wells, tanks, septic systems, hazardous wastes, etc.).
- Make sure any potential sources of contamination under your control meet local, state, and federal regulations.
- Use hazardous products only as directed and dispose of them properly when no longer needed.
- Practice proper turf management techniques and avoid over-fertilization of your lawn and garden.
- Seal any unused wells on your property according to Minnesota Well Code.
- Conserve water whenever possible.
- Report spills (or illegal dumping) of hazardous wastes, fuels, or chemicals to law enforcement.

For additional wellhead protection information, contact the Minnesota Department of Health at **651-201-4700**, or visit their website at [www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/whp](http://www.health.state.mn.us/divs/eh/water/swp/whp).

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## Water Testing

The City of Apple Valley regularly samples the quality of the water pumped by our wells to ensure the water supply meets all State and Federal drinking water standards.

**Everyone has an important part to play in protecting drinking water wells—today and for the future.**

## DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

The annual Drinking Water Quality Report can be found at <http://mn-applevalley.civicplus.com/DocumentCenter/Home/View/967>. The 2015 report is posted on the website in June. The Safe Drinking Water Act determines water quality tests included in the report. The City of Apple Valley meets every water quality standard. The purpose of the report is to advance consumers' understanding of drinking water and heighten awareness of the need to protect precious water resources. To request a paper copy, please call **952-953-2400** or contact us at [pubworks@cityofapplevalley.org](mailto:pubworks@cityofapplevalley.org).

## HYDRANT FLUSHING IN SEPTEMBER

Public Works crews will be flushing hydrants throughout the City this fall. The tentative start date is Monday, September 28. Hydrant flushing takes place Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. for approximately four weeks. Flushing allows for the purging of rust and stagnant water from the distribution system. In addition, hydrants in need of maintenance are identified. Due to the hydrant flushing, some residents may receive rust-colored water for a brief period. Please check that water coming into the house is clear before doing laundry during this time. If you have any questions, please contact the Public Works Department at **(952) 953-2400**.

## NEED THE WATER SHUT OFF TO MAKE A REPAIR?

If you plan to make a repair to your water system and need the water turned off outside the house, the Utilities Division will shut off the water at the curb box. Please call the Public Works Department at least 48 hours before the repair is to be made to schedule the water shut off at **(952) 953-2400**. The curb box will be located ahead of time and checked for operability. A utilities technician will meet with you or your representative at the scheduled time to shut off the water. Plumbing work may require a permit. Please call Inspections at **(952) 953-2588** for information.

## WHERE DOES WASTEWATER GO?

**The faucet is turned on; the toilet is flushed . . .**

Wastewater leaves the house and flows by gravity through a service line that connects to the City sanitary sewer main system, until it reaches a lift station. Here pumps lift the wastewater to a level where it can once again flow by gravity to the wastewater treatment plant. Most of Apple Valley's sanitary sewer flows to the Empire Wastewater Treatment Plant in Farmington, but some flows into Burnsville and Eagan.

**What part of the sanitary sewer system is the homeowner responsible for?**

The homeowner is responsible for any blockage in the service line between the home and the City sanitary sewer main. This includes debris and tree roots. The homeowner is responsible for any repairs on the service line from the home to, and including, the connection at the property line. The City is only responsible for defects within the public road right of way.

**What can cause blockages in sanitary sewer lines?**

Roots, grease, and improper disposal of items are the main causes of sewer line blockages. Tree roots can enter the sanitary sewer system at joints and cracks in the sewer lines. Grease can solidify in the sewer lines and restrict other waste from flowing through. Never flush or dump grease down the drain. Wipes, even those marketed as flushable should never be disposed of by flushing. Sewer pipes can be blocked by disposable wipes and towelettes, feminine hygiene products, disposable diapers, washing machine lint, or any items flushed down the drain or the toilet. Toys, clothing, lumber, rocks, asphalt, rope, and wire have been found in the collection system.

## SEWER AND WATER EMERGENCIES

In the event of a sewer or water emergency, please use the following contact numbers.

**952-953-2400** (Public Works)

Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**952-322-2323** (Dakota Communication Center)

After hours, weekends and holidays



## HIRING A CONTRACTOR

You are finally ready to begin that long-awaited home improvement project. Your next big decision is hiring a contractor. In Minnesota, building permits can be issued to either a licensed contractor or the homeowner. Here's what you need to know before beginning a major home improvement project.

### Applying for a permit –

If you decide to apply for the permit yourself, you will be acting as an owner/builder. By taking out an owner/builder permit, you become the general contractor, which means you assume all legal liabilities for the job, including workers' compensation insurance, state and federal withholding taxes, permits, planning, problem-solving and scheduling inspections. If the work fails to meet the City Code, you may be issued an order to correct violations.

### Licensing requirements and consumer protection –

Minnesota law requires that most residential building contractors, remodelers, roofers and manufactured-home installers be licensed by the state. Specialty contractors who perform only one skill (e.g. concrete and masonry, excavation or interior finishing) are exempt from state licensing. State licensing is intended to ensure a minimum level of competency and to afford consumer protection.

### Hiring a licensed contractor –

Here's how you can determine whether a contractor has a state license. The license number must appear on a contractor's business cards, contracts, proposals, vehicles and permit applications. Contractors are licensed by the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry. Complaints should be referred to the Department of Labor and Industry at **(651) 284-5069**. For more information on contractor licensing visit: <http://www.dli.mn.gov/Main.asp>.

From City of Bloomington *Briefing*.

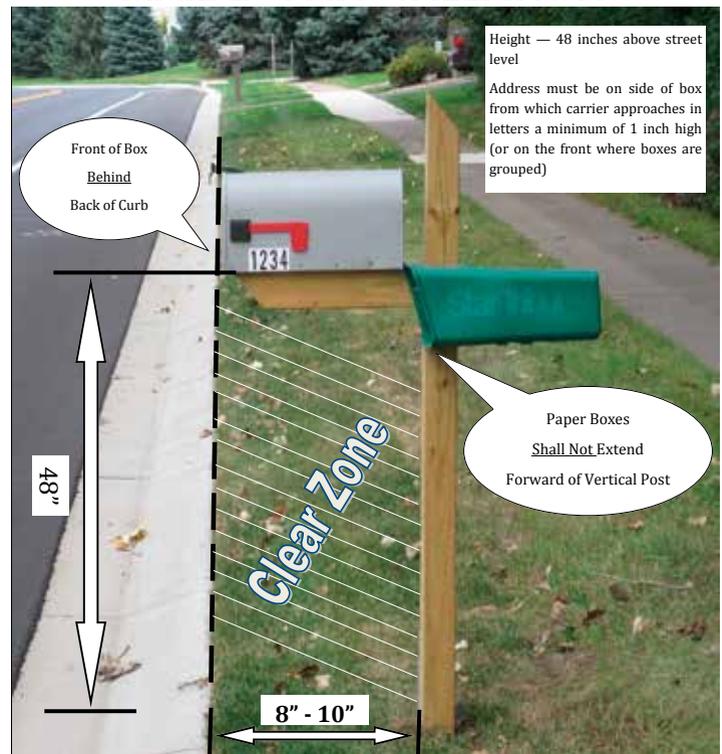
## MAILBOX MAINTENANCE

The Public Works Department encourages residents to inspect their mailboxes now and make necessary repairs to ensure the mailbox can withstand the winter plowing season when snow is pushed up against the posts and boxes on the boulevards. Make sure the post is sturdy enough to withstand heavy snows coming off of the plow.

Apple Valley's mailbox repair policy provides that the City will repair or replace a mailbox if it is hit by the plow. However, the City will not repair or replace any additional items that may be attached to the mailbox post. These include, but are not limited to newspaper boxes, planters, flags, or decorative items. The City will not be responsible for repairs if the mailbox or attachments are damaged due to snow discharge or snow storage. Mailbox damage should be reported as soon as the damage is discovered. Damage from the current plowing season must be reported to the Public Works Department by May 1.

Residents should also check for the proper installation height and placement of their mailbox. Details regarding the policy and mailbox installation standards are available on the City's website at [cityofapplevalley.org](http://cityofapplevalley.org).

## MAIL BOX INSTALLATION



## BUCKTHORN MANAGEMENT



Buckthorn is an invasive plant introduced into the United States from Europe many years ago, and today is commonly found in most natural and wooded areas. If left unmanaged,

buckthorn generally will out-compete native understory plants and become the dominant plant species. Property owners are encouraged to remove buckthorn to sustain and/or promote native plant communities.

The Apple Valley Public Works Department will assist residents with buckthorn management by providing on-site consultation and use of City-owned pulling tools. Residents can make arrangements with their private waste hauler to dispose of buckthorn material. Buckthorn wood is safe to store and use for firewood. Buckthorn can also be disposed of at Resource Recovery Technologies, 16454 Blaine Avenue, Empire **(651-423-4401)**.

Residents can request City-owned buckthorn removal tool(s) to pull buckthorn out of the ground (\$200 deposit required per tool, cash or check). The tools are about the size of a large shovel with a wrench on the end and fit easily into most vehicles. These tools are designed to pull buckthorn plants with relative ease. Pulling buckthorn eliminates the need for chemical stump treatment. Buckthorn plants larger than 2" diameter are usually best removed by cutting at ground level and treating each stump chemically to kill the root system.

Additional buckthorn information can be found on the City website or by calling the Public Works Department at **952-953-2400**.

## WATCHDOG WALKERS



There are dozens, if not hundreds, of dog walkers throughout the community at all times of the day, all days of the week, in all weather conditions, who are often preoccupied with texting, emailing, music and phone calls during their neighborhood walks. Watchdog Walkers is a crime awareness program that encourages dog walkers

and walkers of all kinds to assist the Apple Valley Police Department as extra "eyes and ears" of the community. By watching for and reporting suspicious activity you are helping to keep your community safe. A large portion of police arrests are a direct result of a citizen's phone call. You are not bothering us by calling in suspicious activity.

The Apple Valley Police Department is launching a new program called Watchdog Walkers to encourage those who are out and about in the city to report suspicious activity. Come join us for our kickoff event on Wednesday, August 12, 2015 from 6-8 p.m. in Kelley Park. We will have reflective tags for your four legged friends, reduced fee veterinary services provided by Palomino Pet Hospital and representatives from Dogday Getaway and Petco on hand in support of this initiative.

For more information, please contact Pam Walter at **952-953-2706** or by email at [pwalter@cityofapplevalley.org](mailto:pwalter@cityofapplevalley.org).

## STREET LIGHT MAINTENANCE

Is there a faulty street light in your neighborhood? If so, contact Dakota Electric at **651-463-6287** or [www.dakotaelectric.com/residential/service\\_requests/streetlights/streetlight\\_repair](http://www.dakotaelectric.com/residential/service_requests/streetlights/streetlight_repair). If possible, note the identification number found at eye level on the pole. With this number, Dakota Electric can find the pole's exact location. If you do not know the pole number, please provide the closest address or cross streets. In addition to replacing burned out bulbs, Dakota Electric repairs broken globes and adjusts the sensitivity of the light sensors.

## SAFETY REMINDERS

The Apple Valley Fire Department invites you to review the list below to make sure you are keeping your home safe during the warm days of summer and early fall. Don't get so busy enjoying the dog days of summer that you forget to make sure your home, yard, and even campers and motorhomes are safe for family and friends to enjoy.



**IN THE HOUSE:** Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors need to be checked every month. Check those fire extinguishers, too. Are you running anything on an extension cord? Make sure it's not overloaded and replace any that are damaged. Your fire escape plan is good all year around, but check that your windows are not swelled tight with the humidity-they need to open and close easily. Newspapers and junk mail that pile up can really add to the intensity of a fire – recycle them right out of your home.

**IN THE YARD:** Are your address numbers visible from the street? That's how the fire department will find you if we are called. Check them at night as well. Keep an eye on the fire hydrant in your neighborhood to make sure that 3' of clearance is maintained around it all year long. Don't let leaves and other combustibles collect in your garage and make sure that all paints, pool and yard chemicals, and fuel containers are intact and stored properly. Do not extinguish or dispose of smoking materials in anything except an ashtray, sand filled container, or bucket of water. The Apple Valley Fire Department has gone to several deck fires that began when someone put their cigarette out in a potted plant. At least they thought they did!

**RECREATIONAL FIRES:** Small recreational fires that comply with the City Ordinance are allowed in Apple Valley; fire must be contained in an area no larger than 3' in diameter with flames that are no more than 3' high, only clean burning firewood may be used, an adult resident of the home must be present at all times and an extinguishing source must be ready and available from start to finish. Fires may not burn within 25' of any combustible object and not within 15' of the nearest property line. Residents living in townhomes, manufactured homes, or condominiums usually are not able to meet these criteria and should check with their Association or the Fire Marshal for clarification before lighting a recreational fire.

**BARBEQUE GRILL:** Do not allow your grill to be positioned near any combustible objects; buildings, fences, railings, even some landscaping. Don't forget to keep your grease catch emptied. Never leave a lit grill unattended and be extra careful when children are around. Live in an apartment, condo, or townhome? Ask your management or association if and where grilling is permitted.



**AT THE CABIN:** (or camper, or houseboat, or RV) Test those smoke alarms each time you arrive. Keep a spare with any needed batteries on hand in case it's needed. Does your vacation spot have a fuel burning appliance? Be sure to include carbon monoxide detectors in your regular checks. Make sure you have at least one flashlight and plenty of spare batteries. Just as important as at home, have an escape plan and be sure you know how to reach the area fire department. Make sure you are aware of your cell phone service availability when you are away from home.

**FIREWORKS:** The Apple Valley Fire Department does not recommend any type of family or neighborhood fireworks displays. Fireworks that explode, shoot projectiles, and/or leave the ground are illegal in Minnesota. Remember that sparklers and other streamer type fireworks burn extremely hot. Don't forget that they remain hot long after the "show" is over. Be sure to deposit spent fireworks into a water filled bucket. It's best to enjoy the public shows. They are required to meet all safety guidelines and are able to provide the biggest and loudest displays!



The Apple Valley Fire Department thanks you for your attention to safety. If you have any questions about how you can make sure your home, yard, and even vacation site are as safe as possible for family and friends, please call the Apple Valley Fire Marshal at **952-953-2679**. **BE SAFE!**

## PROPER YARD WASTE DISPOSAL KEEPS OUR LAKES CLEAN

When we think about pollution in our lakes, we don't generally think of ourselves. Usually, we picture a big, greedy corporation pouring the contents of some mysterious barrel into the local pond in the



dead of night. Or, we have a vision of the farmer applying pesticides and fertilizers to acres of exposed highly erodible soil. In reality, most of us don't live near an industrial area, and farmland is limited to less than 2% of Apple Valley. So where is all the algal bloom causing phosphorus that turns our neighborhood lakes and ponds green in the summer coming from? **Our yards.** Leaves and grass clippings, though seemingly harmless, actually contain high amounts of phosphorus.

You may ask, "How can that be?" The soils in Minnesota generally contain lots of phosphorus. As the plants in your yard grow, they mine the phosphorus out of the soil through their roots, using it to grow bigger and stronger. Each time you mow the lawn, the phosphorus that was in the ground and has now transferred to the blades of grass, has been made mobile as clippings. When trees drop their leaves every fall, the same thing happens. If grass clippings or leaves are washed from our driveways, sidewalks, and streets into the nearest storm drain during the next rain, all that phosphorus ends up in the local pond.

"How much phosphorus is that, really?" You may be surprised. Estimates indicate that one pound of phosphorus (P) can produce 300-500 pounds of algae. One bushel (about 8 gallons) of grass clippings contains about 0.1 pound of P and 5 bags of leaves contain about one pound of P. There are approximately 20,000 homes in Apple Valley. If each home allowed one bushel of grass clippings and one bag of leaves to stay in the street, that would amount to over 4,000 pounds of phosphorus capable of producing 1.6 million pounds of algae. Consider the actual amount of grass clippings and leaves your yard produces each year and the importance of disposing of yard wastes properly becomes clear.

What are the best options for disposing of yard waste? Bag

it, compost it, or leave it on the lawn. Most trash haulers will accept yard waste if properly stored in a compostable bag. Many will also provide special yard waste bins for a modest annual fee. Yard waste can also be taken to several private composting sites throughout the County for a small fee. For more information see <https://www.co.dakota.mn.us/Environment/FoodYardWaste/Residents/Pages/compost-sites.aspx>. You can also compost grass clippings and leaves in the yard for use in gardens. Additional information about composting is available at <http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/horticulture/DG3296.html>. The easiest method is to leave yard waste on the lawn. As long as clippings are swept out of the street, you will not add to pollution. A quality mulching mower can also allow you to leave a large portion of leaves on the lawn. An added benefit of the "leave it on the lawn" approach is that it reduces fertilizer needs by as much as 75%.

So don't wait for the street sweeper to come by and risk having all that phosphorus wash into the storm drain during the next rain; sweep leaves and grass clippings up off of hard surfaces and bag it, compost it, or leave it on the lawn.



## BIG SWEEP KICKS OFF IN OCTOBER

Each fall street sweeping begins around area lakes and then progresses throughout the City during the next few weeks as weather permits. Fall sweeping reduces the potential for street flooding and keeps much debris out of storm sewers and holding ponds, improving water quality.

Residents can help by removing leaves and debris from the boulevard, curb line and nearby catch basins. Leaves and debris washed into catch basins during fall rains can plug storm drains and cause street flooding. In order to protect the storm water system, residents may not rake leaves and yard waste into the street.