





# Leaf-free Streets

## *For Clean Waters*

Did you know that leaves left in the street every fall can harm our waters?

When it rains water runs through street leaves forming a “leaf tea” rich in phosphorus that drains to our lakes and rivers through storm sewers. Phosphorus can fuel toxic algae blooms harmful to animals and people.

-  More than 50% of the annual amount of phosphorus in urban stormwater can come from leaves in the street.
-  In the fall, timely removal of street leaf litter can reduce the amount of phosphorus in urban stormwater by 80% compared to no leaf removal.

Communities across Dane County are working hard to protect our waters, but they can't do it alone.

*Join us in keeping streets  
leaf-free this fall.*

 See reverse to learn how. 

# It's easy! Before the rain...



1. Safely remove leaves from the street in front of your home.

2. Follow your community's leaf collection guidelines or recycle leaves on your property.

## Sign up for **Leaf-free Streets** **Rain Alerts** this fall!

Alerts will be sent (via text or email) 1-2 days before a rain event reminding you when it's time to remove street leaves.

Learn more and sign up at  
[www.ripple-effects.com](http://www.ripple-effects.com)



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