

2022 Leaf Campaign Article Template

POSSIBLE TITLES

1. Small Actions Make A Big Difference-Removing A Few Wheelbarrows Full of Leaves from the Street this Fall Can Help!
2. Can Removing A Few Wheelbarrows Full of Leaves from the Street Before the Rain Help Protect Our Waters? Yes!
3. FALL LEAF CHALLENGE! Remove Just One Wheelbarrow Full of Leaves from the Street this to Help Protect Our Waters

Have you ever heard someone say, “We all have waterfront property?” Well, when it comes to the impact our actions have on our lakes, rivers and streams, they are absolutely right. All the stormwater that runs off our roofs, driveways, and roads washes down the storm drain through underground pipes to our waters and in many areas it’s a non-stop route. So, whether you live five feet or five miles from the water, the actions you take on land can have a huge impact on [ADD LIST OF RECEIVING WATERBODIES IN YOUR COMMUNITY or use “our lakes, rivers and streams”.]

If you live in an area with large trees along the street, fall is key time of year to take action! Leaves often end up in the street and when it rains, water flows through street leaves creating a “leaf tea” rich in phosphorus. That “leaf tea” ends up in our waterways and fuels algal growth. Removing street leaves before the rain can prevent all that phosphorus from washing to our waters. Did you know that removing just one wheelbarrow full or the equivalent of 30 pounds of leaves from the street before it rains has the potential to keep two pounds of algae out of our local waters [OR LIST LOCAL WATERBODIES]? Now imagine the impact our collective efforts could have if all of us that live in tree dense neighborhoods removed just one wheelbarrow full of leaves from the street this fall! [OPTIONAL- ADD INFO ON WHAT YOUR COMMUNITY IS DOING TO KEEP STREETS LEAF-FREE OR SERVICES IT PROVIDES TO RESIDENTS TO HELP MANAGE LEAVES]

Join us in keeping streets leaf-free this fall! It’s easy! Before the rain...

1. **Safely remove leaves** from the street in front of your home and nearby storm drains.
2. **INSERT YOUR COMMUNITY’S LEAF COLLECTION GUIDELINES** or mulch/compost leaves on your property.
3. **Sign up to receive Leaf-free Streets Rain Alerts** this fall (Oct. 1- Nov. 30). Alerts will be issued (via text or email) 1-2 days before a significant rain event reminding you that it's time to remove street leaves.
4. **Request a Leaf-free Streets yard sign** and help spread the word in your neighborhood.

To learn more or to sign up for Leaf-free Streets Rain Alerts visit: www.ripple-effects.com/Leaf-free-Streets.