

Sample Leaf-free Streets post for Nextdoor.com

Meant to be used by residents in urban, densely populated neighborhoods with large terrace trees.

Removing One Wheelbarrow Full of Leaves from the Street Can Keep Two Pounds of Algae Out of Our Waters

Don't underestimate the impact your individual actions can have. 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? When it rains, stormwater flows through street leaves creating a "leaf tea" that travels through storm sewers to our lakes (OR RIVERS, STREAMS). This "leaf tea" is one of the primary sources of phosphorus to our lakes (OR RIVERS, STREAMS) from neighborhoods like ours that drop leaves into the street from large terrace trees. Too much phosphorus fuels harmful algae blooms, but keeping streets leaf-free before the rain can help protect our waters. It's easy! -Safely remove leaves from street gutter and storm drains before the rain. -Keep leaf piles on grass terrace (OR ADD LEAF MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES DETERMINED BY YOUR MUNICIPALITY IF OUTSIDES OF MADISON-BAGGING, ETC) and out of the street. -Sign up for Leaf-free Street Rain Alerts (text or email) reminding you when rain is on the way and it's time to remove street leaves this fall. For more information or to sign up visit www.ripple-effects.com/leaf-free-streets.