##### Leaf-free Streets for Clean Waters

Keeping streets leaf-free before a storm is a simple and effective action residents can take to prevent clogged storm drains and protect Dane county waters this fall. When it rains, stormwater flows through leaves that collect in the street creating a “leaf tea” that is rich in dissolved phosphorus. This "leaf tea" travels through storm sewers making its way to our lakes, rivers and streams. Too much phosphorus can cause toxic algae blooms, low oxygen levels and green murky waters. In the fall, timely removal of street leaves can reduce the amount of phosphorus in urban stormwater by 80% compared to no leaf removal! Sign up for Leaf-free Streets Rain Alerts and receive friendly reminders (via text or email) before the rain letting you when it's time to remove leaves in front of your home and nearby storm drains. Make sure to follow your community’s leaf collection guidelines or recycle leaves on site. For more information or to sign up visit <http://www.ripple-effects.com/Leaf-free-Streets>.