



For Immediate Release: 10.03.08

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Annual fall leaf collection begins October 20

Oak Parkers who choose to rake their leaves rather than compost them can take advantage of the Village's annual fall leaf collection program scheduled for Oct. 20 – Dec. 4. Residents will have seven opportunities to have their leaves picked up this season.

Leaves should be raked into the street at least 18 inches from the curb the day before the scheduled pickup dates, which are determined by location as indicated on a map included in the most recent issue of the *OP/FYI* community newsletter and posted at www.oak-park.us.

Public Works crews push the leaves into piles during the night to reduce impact on traffic and parked cars. Leaves then are collected the following day. Residents who miss a scheduled pickup date are urged to keep leaves on the parkway until the night before the next scheduled pickup, a step that will help reduce traffic disruptions and clogged sewer intakes.

Cooperation is essential to the success of the program, so residents are asked to follow the following simple rules:

- Consider alternatives to raking such as composting or using leaves as garden mulch.
- Leaves only – do not add brush, grass clippings or yard waste.
- Rake leaves onto side streets whenever possible, avoiding major thoroughfares where piles of leaves might create traffic hazards.
- Do not rake leaves into or close to cul de sacs or traffic diverters. The equipment needs room to operate.
- Keep catch basins clear of raked leaves to avoid localized flooding.
- Dampen piles after raking to avoid wind-blown leaves.
- Inform landscape services of the leaf collection schedule.
- Do not park on or near a pile of leaves, which can hinder leaf removal. Heat from a car exhaust also could ignite the leaves.
- Obey all parking restrictions – or risk a citation.
- Drive carefully – leaves are slippery when wet and large piles may hinder visibility.

For more information on the leaf collection program, call 708.358.5700, visit www.oak-park.us or e-mail publicworks@oak-park.us.

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2008 Fall Leaf Collection Schedule

NORTH AVE	
WEDNESDAY Oct. 22 Oct. 29 Nov. 5 Nov. 12 Nov. 19 Nov. 26 Dec. 3	THURSDAY Oct. 23 Oct. 30 Nov. 6 Nov. 13 Nov. 20 Nov. 27 Dec. 4
SOUTH BLVD	
TUESDAY Oct. 21 Oct. 28 Nov. 4 Nov. 11 Nov. 18 Nov. 25 Dec. 2	MONDAY Oct. 20 Oct. 27 Nov. 3 Nov. 10 Nov. 17 Nov. 24 Dec. 1
ROOSEVELT RD	

HARLEM AVE (left side)
EAST AVE (middle)
AUSTIN BLVD (right side)