


## How to Safely Dispose of Your Yard Waste



During the fall months, landscaping needs such as trimming hedges, harvesting gardens, raking leaves, and mowing the lawn often lead to a large quantity of yard waste. Proper disposal of yard waste helps protect the health and safety of our natural resources.

### Stormwater Protection

Avoid raking leaves or blowing grass clippings onto the curb or the street. Yard waste that is left in streets can clog storm drains during rainstorms, causing flooding and soil erosion.

Rainstorms can also wash yard waste into our storm sewers. Anything that gets washed down storm sewers ends up in our lakes and streams.

Yard waste that gets washed down the storm drain can lead to excess nutrient buildup in our streams, lakes, and other waterways. Excess nutrients can encourage algae growth and deplete the oxygen in water, which may kill fish, create strong odors and toxins, and destroy recreational areas. These problems degrade the water quality of our lakes, streams, and other waterways, and harm our local outdoor recreational areas.

### Proper Yard Waste Disposal

We don't always think about where waste goes when we are done with it, but yard waste must be disposed of properly to protect our community and our environment. Please take

the time to dispose of yard waste in a responsible manner.

If your neighborhood provides yard waste collection, you can leave yard waste on the curbside.

Montgomery County residents may dispose of yard waste for free at the Montgomery County Solid Waste District Transfer and Recycling Facility, located at 1001 Encrete Lane in Moraine, Ohio. Drop-off hours are 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday-Friday, or 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday.

The Wagner Ford Landfill, located at 2670 Wagner Ford Road, Dayton, Ohio, also accepts yard waste at no charge, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday, and 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays.

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### Compost to Reduce Waste

Composting is a great alternative to disposing of yard waste, and provides an inexpensive mulch for flower beds and gardens. You can mix leaves with grass clippings, and allow the mixture to decompose into a rich, natural fertilizer for your landscaping needs. Compost bins are inexpensive, and they can be purchased at most gardening or hardware stores.

For more information about yard waste disposal and composting, call (937) 225-4999.