

Managing Leaf Litter

Leaf debris gets swept into the storm drain

Why is it a problem?

- ▶ When the leaves decompose, they contribute to high levels of bacteria and excess nutrients. These conditions can deplete oxygen levels, kill fish, cause algae blooms, and otherwise lead to decreased aquatic conditions
- ▶ Debris impacts aquatic environment
- ▶ Transports fertilizers and pesticides
- ▶ Creates blockages in catch basin and storm drains, which can cause street flooding



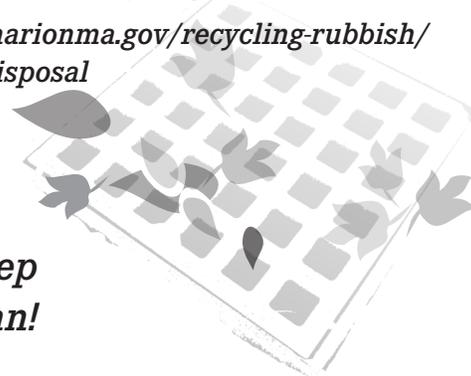
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Town of Marion

What can you do?

- ▶ Compost your leaves
- ▶ Mulch your leaves
- ▶ Run the lawn mower over fallen leaves to chop them up into tiny pieces
- ▶ Use as a natural fertilizer, which can be left on the lawn or used to control weeds around trees, shrubs, flower bushes, and vegetable gardens
- ▶ DO NOT dispose of leaves into or adjacent to waterbodies

- ▶ DO NOT sweep leaves onto hard surfaces or the roadway - it is more likely they will be swept into the storm drain
- ▶ If composting or mulching is not an option, properly bag your leaves for recycling

<https://www.marionma.gov/recycling-rubbish/pages/brush-disposal>



Please clean up leaves and yard debris to keep the Town of Marion clean!

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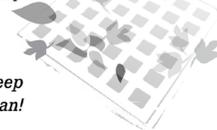


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Front side

Back side