

## MEMO FROM THE CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

Now that summer is fading to an end, we can turn our attention to the season that has that fun stuff falling from the skies above, no not snow yet! LEAVES. Leaves will soon be raining down from the trees above, falling onto the yards below and with that now would be a good time to plan on the method and frequency for getting all that colorful, albeit burdensome, foliage picked up and recycled.

Not only are the fallen leaves considered an accumulation of rubbish if left to pile up, but they also pose a fire hazard and can potentially harbor rodents and insects. Fortunately, the Borough has a recycling program established. That, in itself, gets you on track to seeing your lush lawns until the last drop of color falls from autumn into winter.

*From the Borough Code:*

- **Chapter 252 Solid Waste; Article III Collection and Disposal**
  - **§252-17 Collection Procedures for Leaves** – Collection of leaves may be made on such days of the week and at such times as shall be determined by the Borough Council or the Borough Manager. Leaves for collection shall be placed in paper biodegradable bags. Leaves shall not be placed in plastic bags. The collector shall employ suitable equipment that will properly confine the leaves so that they will be transported over streets of the Borough without spillage or littering of the streets.

*Additional information courtesy of the Borough's web page on recycling of leaves:*

- Fall leaves cannot be land filled (by law). Put them into biodegradable bags (available at the Borough Office or at hardware stores) and set them at the curb for scheduled collection days (listed in the borough newsletter each fall or call 412-241-7113). The borough composts these leaves at a joint composting site near Rodi Road. The resultant fibrous mulch or "black gold" is made available to residents on two weekends in early summer. The spring newsletter contains dates and details. Even better, if you have room, chip the leaves in a simple string chipper (inexpensive, barrel-shaped appliance available at garden/home centers) and use the resulting chips around your shrubs, trees, and perennials to protect against soil heaving and drying. They will compost in place.

Lastly, I would like to remind residents of the Code sections regulating collection procedures for garbage and rubbish.

- **§252-14** - A maximum of two standard residential garbage cans with lids may be, stored at any side or rear yard location properly screened or shielded from adjoining residential properties prior to collection. All garbage and trash containers shall be properly stored until the designated pickup days when the containers must be brought to the curb as described in §252-15.
- **§252-15** - All rubbish designated for collection must be ready by 7:00 a.m. on the day of collection. However, no containers shall be placed at curbside earlier than 6:00 p.m., prevailing time, on the day prior to collection. Exceptions may be granted on an individual basis by the Borough Manager for occasional, special circumstances (e.g., illness). The owner should remove containers placed at curbside on the same day after being emptied by the contractor.

If you have any questions regarding these or any other local ordinances please feel free to get in touch with the Borough staff at 412-241-7113 or my office directly at 412-372-3831.

Code Enforcement Officer