WHAT YOU CAN DO:

- Remove the bag from your lawnmower or use a mulching lawnmower, to add nutrients to your lawn and to avoid having to dispose of the grass clippings.
- Barrels and Biodegradable Leaf Bags Only. No container over 75 pounds in weight. Brush should be bundled with twine and no larger than 2 feet in diameter and 3 feet long.
- Drop off your yard waste at the Hudson Landfill for composting. Landfill passes are not required for yard waste. Call (603) 886-6018 for more information.
- Start backyard composting (away from surface waters). See: <u>https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisi</u> <u>ons/waste/swrtas/documents/compost_flie</u> <u>r.pdf</u> for a free "how-to" brochure.
- NEVER dispose of leaves or clippings in or near storm drains, drainage channels (where water drains rain or melting snow), wetlands or waterbodies!

MORE INFORMATION

Hudson Department of Public Works (603) 886-6018

NH Department of Environmental Services, (603) 271-7889 or Barbara.mcmillan@des.nh.gov

COMMUNITY MESSAGE

Our community cares about clean water and is doing its part to help prevent water pollution in local waterways. This outreach message helps our community meet US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirements to share pollution prevention information with its residents.



Produced by the NH Department of Environmental Services 603-271-7889 <u>https://www.des.nh.gov/organization/divisions/water/</u> <u>wmb/was/index.htm</u>



Distributed by the Hudson Public Works Department



RAKE IT OR LEAVE IT

What to do with your leaves and grass clippings

Yard Waste Disposal Location Information

Hudson Landfill

Location: Old Landfill Road, off West Road

Hours: April - November, Saturdays 8 AM-12 PM

https://www.hudsonnh.gov/publicworks/page/l andfill-hours-rules

2019 Yard & Leaf Waste Curb Side Pickup

November 30, 2019 - beginning at 7 am

Waste Must be in Barrels or Biodegradable Bags and less than 75 lbs. per container

Additional Information:

https://www.hudsonnh.gov/publicworks/page /yard-waste-collection



WHY DOES IT MATTER?

You Choose - your leaves and grass clippings can be a valuable resource OR a source of water pollution.

As a resource . . .

Mulched leaves or grass clippings on your lawn add valuable nutrients and organic matter.

Grass clippings provide a source of slowrelease nutrients reducing the amount of fertilizer needed to none or at least half. A thin layer of mulched leaves will break down and add much needed organic matter.

Composted leaves and grass clippings saves money.

Compost is natural recycling. Compost can be used as a top dressing on your lawn or garden beds reducing or eliminating the need for fertilizer and mulch.



Drawing Courtesy of David M. Carroll

As a source of water pollution . . .

Decaying leaves and grass kill critters in streams, rivers, lakes, ponds, and wetlands. Leaf piles and grass clippings decompose in the streambeds by using the oxygen that other organisms such as dragonfly larvae, crabs, and fish need to live.

Yard waste on stream banks smothers natural vegetation.

Leaves or grass dumped on the shoreline block sunlight and smother the natural plant life that provide food and cover to animals such as turtles, ducks, chipmunks, and deer.

Yard waste dumped near waterbodies contributes to stream algae and odors.

Nutrients contained in yard waste placed near wetlands or streams will slowly make its way into the water causing algae and other noxious weeds to grow that can lead to foul-smelling, green mats on the water surface.

Yard waste dumped in or near streams is against the law!

In an effort to protect wetlands and surface waters, the NH legislature passed a law that prohibits filling streams and wetlands with waste materials, including yard waste. RSA 482-A:3