



## City of Independence, Ohio

"THE HEART OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY"

6800 BRECKSVILLE ROAD

INDEPENDENCE, OHIO 44131

(216) 524-4131

### Yard Waste Guidelines City of Independence

**Yard Waste includes** grass clippings, trimmings, leaves, plants, bushes, branches, garden debris, and other yard debris

**Yard Waste does NOT include** dirt, dog or animal waste, litter, rocks or sod.

**Set out time:** All rubbish, recycling, and yard waste should be curbside by 7:30 a.m. the day of pickup, but not sooner than 6:00 p.m. the evening before pickup. Early and late set outs may result in a notice of violation or your rubbish and yard waste not being collected. Ord. 660.28

**Yard Waste Guidelines** are established by the Service Department in the interest of collection efficiency and employee safety. Contain and bundle yard waste according to these guidelines to assure collection. **Yard waste contained in plastic bags, or refuse carts, overweight bags or bundles, and uncut, untied branches or shrubs may result in your yard waste not being collected.**

#### **Grass clippings, leaves, garden debris**

- Contain grass clippings, leaves, and loose yard waste in paper yard waste bags, 35 gallon garbage can or uncoated cardboard boxes (maximum size 2'x2'x2').
- Maximum 50-pound weight limit.
- No dirt, dog waste, litter, or rocks.
- **No plastic bags.**
- Rake leaves to the tree lawn (not into the street) during the Fall Leaf Collection from mid-October to mid-December.
- Do not mix any other rubbish with the yard waste.

#### **Tree branches, bushes, shrubs:**

- Cut branches no larger than 1 inch in diameter, bushes, and shrubs into 4-foot lengths.
- Tie securely into manageable bundles.
- Use strong twine or rope; no wire.
- Maximum bundle size 4-foot x 18-inches.
- Maximum 50-pound weight limit.

(over)

## Chipper Service

- Branches between 1 and 8 inches in diameter should be called in and scheduled for chipper service at 216-524-9191.
- Branches should be piled neatly with cut ends toward street.
- Large piles of branches, logs, shrubs, etc. requires a dumpster rental.

## Logs and root systems

- Cut logs into 6-inch x 18-inch pieces and stack neatly.
- Remove root systems from trunk, cut into pieces weighing less than 50-pounds each.
- Knock dirt off root systems and contain separately.

## Binding Materials

- Bundles must be tied securely with a non-metallic binder such as rope, twine or nylon.  
**BRUSH BUNDLED WITH WIRE, CORDS OR CABLE ETC WILL NOT BE COLLECTED.**

Residents may also contact the Service Department to make arrangements to drop off their yard waste at the City off Independence compost facility or the City service yard, where any type of container can be used and emptied into a yard waste truck.

**Contact the Service Department at (216) 524-9191 for additional information about:**

- Weekly curbside yard waste collection and drop-off facility operation.
- Fall Leaf Collection - The Service Department will collect leaves raked to the curb and not into the street from mid-October to mid-December).
- Christmas Tree Pickup through the last Friday in January.
- Branches Downed by High Winds - Move branches to curb and call the Service Department for chipper service.

**Back Yard Composting and Grass Mulching or Cycling** are great ways to keep organic material out of landfills. They combine good environmental practice with inexpensive ways to add nutrients back into the soil, and save residents time and disposal costs. Applying compost to soil improves its texture, structure, aeration ability and water holding capacity. It adds up to improved soil fertility and root development. Trees, flowers and vegetables will grow healthier with less chemicals or fertilizers.

**Remember...**when contracting for landscape services or tree services, the contractor is responsible for the removal of all materials. If you are doing a large project, you can call the Service Department to schedule a container to be dropped off at your home.