

# Streets & Recycling



VOLUME 6

ISSUE 1

FALL, 2015

## Making Sense of Our Online Maps

This time of year we are often asked about how to use the leaf collection maps on the Streets Division website. They are wonderful tools that are updated daily and designed to help people gauge when to set out their leaves to help minimize the length of time the leaf piles are curbside. But they can be confusing without a little guidance.

To use them effectively, you should look at the map for the district ahead of your refuse collection day. For example, if your refuse collection day is Tuesday, you should watch the Monday map.

When the map of the day ahead of your refuse day is colored blue that means we are currently picking up the leaves from that area. Therefore, you should get your leaves to the curb as soon as you can.

This is the best way because it gets your leaves down the curb in plenty of time for our crews, and you don't have to worry about being missed, or having a messy leaf pile on your terrace for weeks and weeks. Following this method will get your pile collected in about 1 week on average—and oftentimes even faster!

So, you can ignore the numbers on the maps (those are for internal use). You don't need to know precisely where your house is on these maps, either. All you need to do is watch the map for the day before your refuse collection day, and when it's blue, get your leaves to the curb.

*Happy Raking!*



## Calendar of Events

Fall Leaf Collection  
Begins..... Oct. 5

Winter Parking  
Restrictions Begin.....Nov. 15



## FALL LEAF COLLECTION STARTS MONDAY OCTOBER 5TH

The Streets Division will begin fall leaf and garden waste collection on Monday October 5th. There is no set schedule for leaf collection. Our crews work through the city systematically starting in the Monday refuse collection district and finishing a round in the Friday district. There are no set number of rounds for the fall collection.

## Electronics Recycling a Big Hit

The city of Madison was the first community in Wisconsin and among the first in North America to have a program for recycling electronics. Our efforts started with special collections in 1999 when we collected 13,700 pounds of old computers, televisions, and miscellaneous electronics.



Our most recent report to the Department of Natural Resources showed that Madison residents recycled 614,857 pounds of electronics between July 1, 2014 and June 30, 2015. Since 1999 we have recycled 2,691,491 pounds of electronics (1,346 tons). These numbers do not include the material recycled through Goodwill's computer recycling program nor the material that has been taken back to retailers for recovery.

Old TV's and computer monitors with cathode ray tubes (CRT's) represent the biggest portion of the totals. These units have always been a challenge to recycle because of the large amounts of lead in the glass screens. They have become even more difficult to recycle because these types of units are no longer being manufactured in North America.

We know that there are still lots of these old units out there and we urge you to get them in for recycling as soon as possible.

For more information on our electronics recycling program visit:  
[www.cityofmadison.com/streets/recycling/computers/program.cfm](http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets/recycling/computers/program.cfm)

## The Low Down on Brush

The Streets Division conducts regular brush collection until sometime in early to mid-October. At that time we have to switch all of our brush collection staff over to leaf collection in order to handle the large volume of material.

To be sure we provide a final round of collection for every neighborhood, we start our final round of brush collection in late September. As you probably know, we start each round of brush collection in the Monday refuse collection district. Upon completion of the Monday area, we move to the Tuesday district, then the Wednesday, Thursday and Friday refuse collection districts. Once we complete the Friday area in October, we will conclude regular brush collection.

We do get a brush crew out from time-to-time after we conclude regular brush collection. However, once we complete that final round, we no longer promise material will be collected. We will send out brush crews when leaf collection winds down after Thanksgiving, weather permitting.

Once we conclude regular brush collection, your best bet is to bring your material to our drop off sites at 1501 W. Badger Rd. and 4602 Sycamore Ave.

To find out when we will begin our final round of brush collection, visit [www.cityofmadison.com/streets](http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets) or call (608) 267-2088.

## Leaf Fall Leads to Snow Fall

The crisp fall weather is a reminder that the arctic blasts of winter are on the way. Winter parking restrictions go into effect on November 15th. You can avoid parking tickets during snow emergencies by registering for emails and/or text alerts at [Winter Parking](#).

Receive updates on the Streets Division's snow and ice operations by registering for emails at [Snow Plow Updates](#).



## My Waste App

The City of Madison's My Waste App features a collection calendar that is tailored to each household.

Residents can create custom reminders for their regular collection days and for holidays and special collections.

The app also provides detailed information on recycling, Clean Sweep, brush collection and the Streets Division's drop off sites.

Visit [My Waste App](#) for all the details.