

# Streets & Recycling



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## Leaf Collection Underway

The Streets Division has begun the annual fall leaf collection. Leaf collection will continue as long as weather permits, generally into the first week of December.

In addition to collecting leaves, we will also be collecting yard waste, grass, and pumpkins during the fall collection. We will not be collecting brush as part of the leaf collection program. Brush is considered woody material 18" in length or longer. **Do not put brush in or on your leaf pile.**

Again this year, there will be no leaf collection schedule. Streets Division crews will begin collecting leaves in Monday's refuse collection districts. After completing collection in Monday's area, crews will move into the Tuesday districts, then Wednesday's districts, followed by the Thursday and then Friday refuse districts. Upon completion of Friday's refuse district, crews will begin the cycle again in Monday's district.

It is difficult to predict when leaf collection crews will be in a given area due to the uncertainty of workloads. The Streets Division has several options you can use to get the latest information on where our crews are working and when we hope to get to a given area.

You can get our best information from [www.cityofmadison.com/streets](http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets). You can also call our 24-hour information line at (608) 267-2088. This number will provide you with a recorded announcement 24 hours a day. You can get the latest leaf collection update, as well as information on brush collection and the yard waste drop-off sites.

In addition to using our collection service, Madison residents can bring their leaves to any of the three yard waste drop-off sites. The sites are open Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. On Tuesday and Thursday the sites are open from 8:30 a.m. until 8:00 p.m. The yard waste sites are located at:

- 1501 W. Badger Rd on the south side,
- 4602 Sycamore Ave. on the east side, and
- 402 South Point Rd. on the west side.

Please do not bring brush to the South Point Road site.



## Events

Brush Collection.....	Oct
Leaf Collection.....	Oct-Dec
Recycling Changes .....	Jan, 2012
Organics Pilot Program.....	Ongoing

## What's Up With Brush?

Our regular brush collection has ended. We end brush collection in mid-October when we have to shift crews over to leaf collection duty. We do have brush crews out when we can, but we cannot guarantee that your material will be collected if you put it at the curb.

Your best bet is to bring your brush to our drop-off sites at 1501 W. Badger Rd. or 4602 Sycamore Ave. For more details and site hours visit [www.cityofmadison.com/streets](http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets).

## Madison Stuff Exchange is the Perfect Place for Bargains

With the economy in a recession, many people are looking for ways to get some extra cash. Other folks are looking for bargains or an inexpensive way to replace a much needed item for their home. Why don't you post it on the Madison Stuff Exchange?

"The Madison Stuff Exchange is the perfect place to find someone who can use your unwanted items," Madison Recycling Coordinator George Dreckmann said. "You can sell, trade, or give away on the Internet by using the Stuff Exchange. It's quick, easy, and it's free."

The Madison Stuff Exchange is also a great site to post a listing for your own garage sale. Garage sale listings are also free. "Your garage sale listing will be seen by over 10,600 members of the Stuff Exchange community," Dreckmann said. "You can also list charity and church sales as well."

Anyone who lives and works in Dane County can use the Madison Stuff Exchange. You can access the site at [www.madisonstuffexchange.com](http://www.madisonstuffexchange.com). It is free to register and use the Exchange. If you are going to sell an item, you cannot charge more than \$99 for it.

The Madison Stuff Exchange is a partnership between the



City of Madison Streets Division  
and  
Dane County Public Works



## Big Change For Recycling in 2012

On January 1, 2012, the Streets Division will be contracting with Pellitteri Waste Systems of Madison for the processing and marketing of the material we collect in our curbside recycling program. The new contract will mean that all of our material will be processed here in Madison creating an additional 15 jobs.

The switch in processors will also mean that Madison residents will be able to recycle more material at the curb. Among the items that you will be able to recycle starting in January are:

- **Plastic tubs and lids.** This includes cottage cheese, sour cream, butter and margarine, yogurt and ice cream containers.
- **Plastic Bags.** All the plastic bags you currently take to the drop-off site can now be recycled in your green recycling cart including retail bags, produce bags, newspaper bags and softener salt bags. You will have to place your bag inside a plastic bag and tie that bag shut before putting it in your cart.
- **Empty Steel Paint Cans and Lids**
- **Metal Pots and Pans**

We expect to have some other material to include. Stay tuned to our website [www.cityofmadison.com/streets](http://www.cityofmadison.com/streets) for updates.

## Organics Pilot Program Going Strong

In June, the Streets Division began a pilot program collecting food waste and other organic material from 450 households. The program has proven to be popular with the volunteers. So far we have collected 50 tons of organics. The material that we collect is being taken to the Columbia County Solid Waste Composter near Portage.

Our long-term goal is to build an anaerobic digester that will turn the organic material into compost at the same time it produces methane gas that we will use to produce electricity and possible power our trash and recycling trucks. In addition to residential waste, the digester will take material from grocery stores, restaurants, schools, hospitals, and the University.

The program has taken on a sense of urgency as we just learned that the Dane County landfill has less than three years of life remaining. While the County is taking some steps to buy some more time at the current location, Madison must find more affordable alternatives to the longer hauls and higher fees that any new landfill is required.