



# Leaves and Lakes

**Please do NOT blow or rake leaves INTO the lake!**

Leaves speed up the filling-in and aging process occurring in our lake. They sink to the bottom, decompose in the water and rob our lake of vital oxygen, while adding nutrients to our waters which can promote other problems such as increases in algae. Some leaves will naturally fall from trees into the lake, and that's unavoidable...but when we add to them through poor property maintenance practices, we are harming the lake.

**If you are clearing leaves on your property, please be sure to rake or blow them away from the water.**

**If you hire someone to clear your leaves for you, please make them and their employees aware of this as well.** Many workers take shortcuts by blowing the leaves into the water without the homeowner or boss knowing.

Even if you don't live on a lake, the leaves that are in your street gutter may wash into the storm drain. That storm drain doesn't lead to a water treatment plant, it likely leads to a local waterway such as a stream or it may empty directly into the lake. Please rake the leaves out of your street gutters to help protect our local freshwater systems.



The majority of our residents are already blowing their leaves away from the lake and taking shortcuts by blowing the leaves into the water without the homeowner or boss knowing. Please make them and their employees aware of this as well. Many workers take shortcuts by blowing the leaves into the water without the homeowner or boss knowing. Please rake the leaves out of your street gutters to help protect our local freshwater systems.



Thank you, "Ucxg"Vj g"Ncngu