

# Clean water is everyone's business!



## WHAT IS YARD WASTE?

Yard waste includes grass clippings, leaves, tree and shrub trimmings, and plant materials from vegetable and flower gardens.

## YARD WASTE AND POLLUTION

The creeks and ditches within our city play an important role in safely draining water from our community. These waterways help the City provide flood control by carrying excess water away from our community into Lake Erie. Not only is it important that these waterways stay free of excess yard waste in order to **prevent water from backing up and causing flooding**, but did you know that organic yard waste can actually contaminate our surface water?

That's right! As vegetation decays in water, it can lower the amount of oxygen in the water leading to fish kills, strong odors, toxin production, and unsightly surface scums. It can even limit the safety of using the water for recreational activities like swimming and boating.

## HELPING IS SIMPLE

- **DO NOT** dump yard waste onto the banks of or into any creek, ditch, street, or storm drain.
- Sweep grass clippings off paved areas and back into the lawn.
- Leave grass clippings on your lawn with a mulching mower.
- Place fallen leaves on the tree-lawn and not within the street.

## FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ON YARD WASTE DUMPING

Contact the Engineering Department at (440) 204-2003.



## SEASONAL LEAF CLEANUP

Throughout the month of November (weather permitting), City staff will be collecting fallen leaves. Please collect leaves and place them on your tree-lawn near the curb. **Leaves are not to be placed within the street.** Placing leaves or yard waste within the street is not only a violation of City Ordinance Chapter 311.01, but it also leads to storm sewer clogging, drastically increasing the potential for localized flooding. **Please do your part and properly locate your leaves for pickup!**



Questions about when to expect leaf cleanup in your area? Check the City website at [www.cityoflorain.org](http://www.cityoflorain.org) for an area schedule.

## FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ON LEAF PICKUP

Contact the Street Department at (440) 244-4294.

# City of Lorain Storm Water Management Program

Engineering Department, 200 West Erie Avenue, Lorain, Ohio 44052, 440-204-2003