

§ 173-16. Leaf collection/removal of leaves. [Amended 4-9-2014;¹ 1-31-2018]

No owner, occupant and/or tenant of a residential property in the Township of Colts Neck shall rake, blow, push, and/or drag leaves from his or her property onto the public streets of the Township of Colts Neck, except in accordance with the following manner:

- A. Only leaves shall be placed along the side of the road for collection. Leaves shall be placed at the curblineline or edge of pavement in a neat, loose row and shall not extend onto the paved portion of the street further than three feet and shall not impede traffic or create a safety hazard. Notwithstanding the three-foot encroachment into the street above, no pile of leaves shall be placed to so occupy a street as to interfere with or interrupt the passage of cars or vehicles. Leaf vacuum machines only pick up loose leaves; therefore, leaves shall not be in bags or mixed with any other debris such as grass, limbs, brush, tree stumps, roots, lumber, branches or twigs. Any leaf pile mixed with debris shall not be collected by the Township. It is the property owner's responsibility to dispose of leaf piles mixed with debris.
- B. All leaves placed along the curblineline or edge of pavement for collection shall be no closer than 10 feet from any storm drain inlet or stream.
- C. All leaves placed along the curblineline or edge of pavement shall be no closer than 25 feet from a street intersection.
- D. Piles of leaves must be placed parallel to the curblineline or edge of pavement.
- E. Leaf collection will occur by area and in accordance with the annual schedule established and published by the Department of Public Works. No leaves shall be placed at the curblineline or edge of pavement more than two weeks (14 days) prior to the scheduled collection week. **[Amended 9-11-2019 by Ord. No. 2019-17]**
- F. Except leaves placed at the curblineline or edge of pavement for collection in accordance with Subsections A, B, C, D and E above, no leaves shall be placed, stored or staged in the right-of-way of a public street.
- G. Placement of leaves at the curblineline or edge of pavement during any other time than the scheduled collection period is a violation of this chapter and subject to a summons. In the event leaves are

1. Editor's Note: This ordinance provided that it shall take effect 7-1-2014.

found in front of any person's property within the Township, a rebuttable presumption shall arise that the owner and/or occupant of the property in front of which said leaves are located has improperly disposed of leaves contrary to the provisions of this chapter.

- H. No leaves shall be placed, stored or otherwise disposed of on any public property.
- I. No leaves shall be placed, stored or otherwise disposed of on common open space area without approval of the entity controlling said common open space.
- J. No leaves shall be placed, stored or otherwise disposed of within ponds, lakes, streams, swamps, marshes, wetland buffers, conservation easements, nontidal floodways or similar watercourses.
- K. If the owner, tenant, person in possession of the dwelling or lands, contractor or others employed by the owner fails to abate the improper placement of leaves, the Code Enforcement Officer shall cause the condition to be abated, either by action of the Department of Public Works or by engagement of an outside contractor, and shall certify the cost to the Township Committee, which shall examine the certificate and, if it is correct, cause the cost as shown thereon to be charged against the dwelling or lands. The amount so charged shall forthwith become a lien upon the dwelling or lands and shall be added to and become and form part of the taxes next to be assessed and levied upon such dwelling and lands, shall bear interest at the same rate as taxes, and shall be collected and enforced by the same officer and in the same manner as taxes. Costs shall be in addition to any penalties imposed for any violation of this chapter.
- L. The Township Committee reserves the right to relax or modify these requirements in response to states of emergency or at any time to promote the health, safety or general welfare of the public.