

NEWS RELEASE

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Leaf Season Starts November 1 for Residential Yard Waste Collection

First Day Out – November 1, 2014, Last Day Out – January 31, 2015

City of Sacramento residential customers can legally place yard waste piles in the street for collection during the City's designated leaf season of November, December and January. The first day yard waste piles can be placed on the street for collection is Saturday, November 1, 2014. The last day piles can be placed on the street will be Saturday, January 31, 2015. Leaf crews will begin collection on Monday November 3, 2015.

Weekly yard waste container collection will continue year-round on the regular collection day. Leaf season service is for residential customers only. Commercial properties may not place yard waste in the street.

The City encourages residents to use the container first, and then create a pile. "We collect 75,000 tons of yard waste a year," states Steve Harriman, the Integrated Waste General Manager for the City of Sacramento. "More than one third, about 27,000 tons, is picked up November thru January. By using the container first, along with a street pile for excess yard waste, City crews can clear streets faster."

Claw Schedule

Container collection is predictable, with weekly collection occurring on a customer's normal garbage collection day. Pile collection by the Claw is less predictable and varies due to weather conditions and the quantity of yard waste on City streets. City crews work rain or shine six-days-a-week, including holidays. Stormy weather or days with high volume piles in one neighborhood may impact the speed of clearing the area and moving to the next neighborhood.

From November 3, 2014 through January 31, 2015, customers may get an estimate of when pile collection will occur in their neighborhood by visiting www.sacrecycle.org or calling 311. Using the Service Day Finder at sacrecycle.org, customers will see the last day that piles were collected on their street, and an estimate of when the Claw will return for the next pile pickup. Leaf pile pickup typically occurs every two weeks.

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Leaf Pile Guidelines

- Place the pile six feet from any obstruction (cars, boats, basketball hoops, etc.)
- Make sure there is space between the curb and a yard waste pile to allow water to flow to storm drains. If possible, do not place yard waste piles in bike lanes.
- Do not put pet waste in any yard waste pile or can. Pet waste goes into the garbage can only.
- Do not be in plastic bags for yard waste placed in cans or in the street for collection.
- Christmas trees and tree prunings will be accepted in street piles.
- Yard waste piles on the street before November 1 or after January 31 may be tagged by code enforcement as illegal dumping, and property owners may be subject to fines.

Appointment Based Household Junk Pickup Returns February 2015

The Appointment Based Household Junk Pickup Program will return on February 2, 2015 and run through October 30, 2015. Customers can schedule up to two appointments by calling 311 starting in January 2015

More information on yard waste collection services and the Household Junk Pickup Program are available at www.sacreecycle.org

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