

BENEFITS

- Saves money for you AND your community.
- Keeps yard waste out of our waterways and landfills.
- Protect your landscape from the ravages of winter and look forward to spring.
- Satisfaction knowing you had a positive impact on the water quality of our streams.
- Save your back the ache and pain from raking your leaves.
- Keeps our storm drains clear of debris and prevents local flooding.
- Sit back, relax, and enjoy the fall weather!

TIRED OF RAKING
LEAVES? LEARN
HOW TO RECYCLE
YOUR LEAVES
THIS FALL
SEASON!



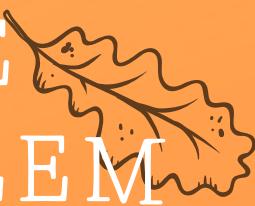
**SUMMIT
SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

1180 South Main Street, Suite 241
Akron, Ohio 44301
Tel.: (330) 926-2445
Email: staff@summitoh.net
Web: <https://sswcd.summitoh.net/>

**RAKE IT
OR
LEAF IT**



THE PROBLEM



When leaves clog our storm drains and enter our waterways, it adds excess nutrients to the water and can cause algal blooms.

→ Algal blooms cover the surface of the water and block sunlight.

→ The lack of light in the lower layers kills the plants.

→ It subsequently affects all the fish and other organisms.

→ When the algae eventually decays, the decomposers use up all the available oxygen.

→ Creates a "dead zone".



HOW TO RECYCLE



USE LEAVES FOR MULCH

Mow over combines leaves and grass clippings.



USE FOR COMPOST

Combine with nitrogen-rich and carbon-rich materials.



LEAVE FOR SHELTER

Leaf piles beneath shrubs provide winter protection for beneficial insects.



MAKE LEAF MOLD

Dampen your leaves and store in any container where air can flow. Allow decomposition.



FALL DECOR

Simply iron the leaves between wax paper to preserve them.



PROTECT PLANTS

Insulate delicate vegetation with a thick (six-inch) layer of shredded leaves.

PROPER DISPOSAL



If you have to get rid of your leaves, follow these rules to ensure proper disposal:

✗ DO NOT dump leaves in a ravine.

✗ DO NOT dump leaves in a riparian zone.

✗ DO NOT dump leaves in a conservation zone.

✗ DO NOT dump leaves in any body of water.

✗ DO NOT burn your leaves.

Check your local county or city for free curbside pickup of bagged or piled leaves.

