

Autumn is the season for football, falling leaves...and the flu. Learn how to prevent H1N1 and seasonal flu and how to stay healthy. For more information, visit [alexandriava.gov/flu](http://alexandriava.gov/flu).

**MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE!  
ONE PLASTIC BAG AT A TIME!**



The City of Alexandria is encouraging residents to "Make the Right Choice! One Plastic Bag at a Time!" by reducing, reusing and recycling their plastic bags.

**Reduce:**

- Decline a bag at checkout, is a bag really necessary for a pack of gum?
- Avoid double bagging
- Use a reusable bag, check out local retailers who provide discounts for reusing bags!

**Reuse:** Reuse plastic bags as

- Waste basket liners
- Lunch bags
- Pet clean up

**Recycle:** Next time you head to your local grocer or retailer, remember to return:

- Grocery/shopping bags (no dark colored or black bags)
- Dry-cleaning bags
- Clean/empty produce and bread bags
- Wraps from paper towels, bathroom tissue, napkins, diapers, bottled water cartons
- Plastic bags that delivered the newspaper.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Bring plastic bags to recycle and receive a free reusable bag at the following events:

- City of Alexandria Family Fall Festival  
Armistead Boothe Park, October 17  
from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- West End Farmers' Market  
Ben Brenman Park, October 24  
from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Visit the City of Alexandria Plastic Bag Initiative web site [www.alexandriava.gov/PlasticBags](http://www.alexandriava.gov/PlasticBags) and enter to win during October!

- Submit your ideas or stories about how you reduce, reuse, or recycle (or remember to) your plastic bags. Three winners will be chosen from each category (Residential, Student and Employee).

Submit online:

[www.alexandriava.gov/PlasticBags](http://www.alexandriava.gov/PlasticBags)

Mail to:

Solid Waste Division  
Plastic Bag Initiative Contest  
2900 B Business Center Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Remember to include your name, mailing address, phone number and entry category!

- As part of America Recycles Day, pledge to reduce, reuse and recycle your plastic bags. Residents can pledge online. Ten pledges will be picked and receive a reusable bag full of prizes.

Deadline for both contests is October 31. Winners will be notified by November 10.

**Get Involved!**

Holmes Run Park Stream Clean Up!  
Date: November 14  
Time: 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.  
Location: Holmes Run Park, Beatley Bridge

In conjunction with America Recycles Day, Alexandria Plastic Bag Initiative and Eco-City Alexandria, residents can help combat the negative impact of plastic bags and other litter on our environment.



City of Alexandria  
Transportation and Environmental Services  
Solid Waste Division  
2900 Business Center Drive  
Alexandria, VA 22314

703.519.3486

# READY. RAKE. RECYCLE!

City of Alexandria  
Leaf Collection  
Begins October 27, 2009



[www.alexandriava.gov/leafcollection](http://www.alexandriava.gov/leafcollection)

**LEAF COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS:**

**3 Ways to Recycle Your Leaves!**

**#1 Rake your leaves to the curbside for vacuum truck collection**

**Proper Preparation**

Remove stones, litter, branches or other debris. These items can damage our equipment and hurt workers!

Avoid placing leaves in front of storm drains or water meter covers. Move parked cars off of leaf piles.

Avoid using plastic bags because they will not be recycled through our leaf collection program.

Please rake leaves into piles at the curb, it enables crews to move more quickly and collect leaves more efficiently.

Leaves must be visible at the curb of the street, not in alleys or service roads.

During peak leaf season, crews will focus on removing large leaf piles. Please be patient as loose leaves may be left until the next pass through your neighborhood.

Whenever possible, please try to rake leaves into piles at the curb, rather than spreading them loosely along the curblines. When leaves are in large piles, City crews can move quickly through neighborhoods and collect leaves more efficiently.

**Please Note:**

Leaves must be raked out the day BEFORE the earliest collection day scheduled for your area. Each scheduled pickup is greatly affected by the weather and rate of leaf dispersion.

**2009 Leaf Collection Schedule & Service Areas**

- Refer to map to identify collection area
- Remember crews may take two or more days to finish a collection area, but they will only pass your address once during an assigned collection period.

<b>Area I</b>		<b>Area II</b>	
Rake Out	Start	Rake Out	Start
Oct. 31.....	Nov. 2	Oct. 26.....	Oct. 28
Nov. 17.....	Nov. 19	Nov. 14.....	Nov. 16
Dec. 8.....	Dec. 10	Dec. 5.....	Dec. 7

<b>Area III</b>		<b>Area IV</b>	
Rake Out	Start	Rake Out	Start
Nov. 8.....	Nov. 10	Nov. 3.....	Nov. 5
Nov. 29.....	Dec. 1	Nov. 22.....	Nov. 24
Dec. 16.....	Dec. 18	Dec. 13.....	Dec. 15

**Area V**  
Downtown crews start on October 28 on the north side of Old Town and move toward the south side, pickup for this area is to be repeated each week throughout the collection period.



**#2 Place leaves in biodegradable bags for collection**

Bags will be collected one business day after your regular refuse collection day. Collection will begin October 27 and will finish January 4.

**Proper Preparation**

Use only biodegradable bags for leaves because they may be shredded and processed with leaves into mulch. Make sure to remove dirt, stones, litter and other debris from leaves before placing in bags.

**Remember!**

Leaves that are placed in plastic bags or non biodegradable bags will not be recycled through our leaf collection program. Yard waste and leaves in plastic bags will be disposed at the Covanta Energy-to-Waste Plant.

Pick up your free biodegradable bags at the following locations starting October 9. Limit of 15 bags per visit.

**City Hall**  
301 King Street  
Monday - Friday, 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

**Solid Waste Division**  
2900 A Business Center Drive  
Monday - Saturday, 8 a.m.- 5 p.m.

**Charles Barrett Recreation Center**  
1115 Martha Custis Drive  
Monday - Friday, 2 p.m. – 9 p.m.  
Saturday, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

**Chinquapin Park Recreation Center**  
3210 King Street  
Monday - Thursday, 6 a.m. – 8 p.m.  
Friday, 6 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Saturday & Sunday, 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

**William Ramsey Recreation Center**  
5650 Sanger Avenue  
Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. – 9 p.m.  
Friday & Saturday, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Sunday, 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

**Mount Vernon Recreation Center**  
2701 Commonwealth Avenue  
Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. – 9 p.m.  
Saturday, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
Sunday, 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

**#3 Compost leaves and yard waste**

Composting takes advantage of nature's recycling to make a valuable organic supplement.

Want to learn more about composting?  
For more information, please call the Virginia Extension Service Office at 703.228.6400

**For More Information:**  
Solid Waste Division: 703.519.3486  
Sign-up today for Recycling & Solid Waste  
E-news at [enews.alexandriava.gov](http://enews.alexandriava.gov)

Due to budget constraints there will be no weekend, holiday, or special pick-up services for leaf collection 2009. Future print mailings will be limited. For more information residents should visit [www.alexandriava.gov/leafcollection](http://www.alexandriava.gov/leafcollection)