

# Managing Yard Waste

in  
Hennepin  
County

## Options for managing yard waste

In Minnesota it is illegal to put yard or tree waste in your household garbage. Yard and tree waste includes brush, garden debris, grass clippings, leaves, sod, logs, trees and stumps, plants (indoor and outdoor), compost, mulch and wood chips.

### Four ways to manage yard waste

- U Leave grass clippings on your lawn** – This practice will reduce the need for fertilizers.
- U Compost in your backyard** – Use a compost bin for your garden, yard and food waste.
- U Curbside pick-up** – Contact your waste hauler or county for information on options and material preparations.
- U Compost sites** – Drop your yard waste off at the site nearest you.

### Compostable bag law

If you bag yard and garden waste for curbside collection, you are now required to put yard waste in either paper or compostable plastic bags (check with your local retailer). This change went into effect on Jan. 1, 2010, for all Hennepin County residents (excluding the City of Minneapolis). Contact your hauler for specific information about your service.

### Ash tree waste disposal

The emerald ash borer is a destructive tree pest that attacks and kills ash trees. To prevent the spread of the emerald ash borer, a quarantine is in place for Hennepin County. Waste from ash trees cannot be hauled out of the county, and some waste haulers and sites cannot accept ash tree waste.

Ash tree waste should be taken to the closest disposal site to minimize the spread of the emerald ash borer.

More information on identifying ash trees, the Emerald Ash Borer, and a list of ash tree waste disposal sites is available at [www.hennepin.us](http://www.hennepin.us), search: emerald ash borer.



Examples of paper and compostable plastic bags accepted for curbside pickup.

# Yard waste drop-off sites

Call first for hours, special conditions and fees.

Location / phone	Grass	Leaves	Sod	Brush	Logs	Stumps	Soil	Wood chips	Diseased trees	Christmas trees	Special requirements
Elk River Landfill, Elk River / 763-441-2464 22460 Hwy 169 <a href="http://www.wmtwincities.com">www.wmtwincities.com</a>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Call first	✓	Call first	✓	All items must be debagged. Also takes untreated scrap wood. Open year-round.
Maple Grove Yard Waste, Maple Grove / 763-420-4886 14796 101st Ave. N. <a href="http://www.mgyardwaste.com">www.mgyardwaste.com</a>	✓	✓	Small amounts	✓	✓		Small amounts	✓	Call first*		Logs and tree waste up to 10" in diameter. Also takes straw and garden waste. Must be debagged on-site. Open April to Nov.
Randy's Sanitation, Burnsville / 763-972-3335 12620 Vincent Ave. S. <a href="http://www.randyssanitation.com">www.randyssanitation.com</a>	✓	✓	Bundled								Small quantities only. Open April to Nov. Please call first.
Randy's Sanitation, Delano / 763-972-3335 4351 US Hwy 12 S.E. <a href="http://www.randyssanitation.com">www.randyssanitation.com</a>	✓	✓	Bundled								Small quantities only. Open April to Nov. Please call first.
Randy's Sanitation, St. Michael / 763-972-3335 5625 Quam Ave. N.E. <a href="http://www.randyssanitation.com">www.randyssanitation.com</a>	✓	✓	Bundled								Small quantities only. Open April to Nov. Please call first.
SKB Environmental, Minneapolis / 612-331-4610 630 Malcolm Ave. S.E. <a href="http://www.skbinco.com/malcolm.htm">www.skbinco.com/malcolm.htm</a>	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	Call first*	✓	Takes untreated scrap wood and nonhazardous construction materials. Items must be debagged. Open year round.
The Mulch Store, SET, Shakopee / 952-445-2139 14800 Johnson Memorial Drive <a href="http://www.mulchstoremn.com">www.mulchstoremn.com</a>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Call first	✓	All items must be in paper or compostable plastic bags or debagged. Open April 1 to Nov. 30.
The Mulch Store, SET, Minnetrista / 952-446-1056 4275 Creekview Circle <a href="http://www.mulchstoremn.com">www.mulchstoremn.com</a>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Call first*	✓	All items must be in paper or compostable plastic bags or debagged. Open April 1 to Nov. 30.
The Mulch Store, SET, Burnsville / 952-736-1915 1030 W. Cliff Road <a href="http://www.mulchstoremn.com">www.mulchstoremn.com</a>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Call first	✓	All items must be in paper or compostable plastic bags or debagged. Open April 1 to Nov. 30.
Twin Cities Refuse Transfer, St. Paul / 651-227-1549 318 W. Water St. <a href="http://www.twincityrefuserecyclingtransfer.com">www.twincityrefuserecyclingtransfer.com</a>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	Also takes untreated scrap wood. Open year-round. Please call first.
Walter's Recycling & Refuse, Blaine / 763-780-8464 2830 101st Ave. N.E. <a href="http://www.waltersrecycling.com">www.waltersrecycling.com</a>	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	Call first Brush only No large stumps	Bundled and tied	Brush 5" or less in diameter. Open April to Nov.

You can also use curbside collection or municipal drop-off facilities.  
Contact your waste hauler or city recycling coordinator for options in your community.

\*Approved Ash Tree Waste Disposal Site for Hennepin County.  
Additional sites available at [www.SaveOurAsh.net](http://www.SaveOurAsh.net).

## More information



Houseplants and cut flower waste is also accepted for composting.



Be sure to call before you load up and drive to a yard waste site for material requirements and days/hours open.



Don't blow or rake grass clippings and leaves into the street. Leave them on your lawn, use them for compost, or bag them up.

### **Hennepin County Environmental Services**

[www.hennepin.us/sustainablelandscaping](http://www.hennepin.us/sustainablelandscaping)

Provides information on sustainable landscaping, including rain gardens, backyard composting and more.

### **Rethink Recycling**

[www.rethinkrecycling.com](http://www.rethinkrecycling.com)

Composting and waste management information for residents and businesses in the six-county Twin Cities metro area.

### **Minnesota Pollution Control Agency**

[www.reduce.org](http://www.reduce.org)

Information about composting and no-waste lawn and garden practices.

### **University of Minnesota Extension Service**

[www.extension.umn.edu/garden](http://www.extension.umn.edu/garden)

Yard & Garden Help Line: 952-443-1426

Research-based yard and garden information on a wide variety of topics, for everyone from the home gardener to the professional landscaper.

### **Hennepin County Master Gardeners**

[www.hcmg.umn.edu](http://www.hcmg.umn.edu)

Hennepin County Master Gardener Hotline: 612-596-2118

Research-based information on the best practices in consumer horticulture and environmental stewardship.

### **Sustainable Urban Landscape Information Services (SULIS)**

[www.sustland.umn.edu](http://www.sustland.umn.edu)

Sustainable landscape information from planning to maintenance.

### **Minnesota State Horticultural Society (MSHS)**

[www.northerngardener.org](http://www.northerngardener.org)

MSHS helps its members and the general public to be better gardeners through education.

### **Minnesota Department of Agriculture**

#### **Emerald Ash Borer Program**

[www.mda.state.mn.us/eab](http://www.mda.state.mn.us/eab)

"Arrest the Pest" hotline: 651-201-6684

Information and updates about the Emerald Ash Borer in Minnesota.

## Lawn care practices that protect Minnesota's lakes, rivers and streams

Stormwater that runs off driveways, lawns and houses can carry pollutants into storm sewers and nearby lakes, streams and rivers.

By taking the following easy, no-cost or low-cost steps, you can help protect our water resources and wildlife habitat.

- Don't blow or rake grass clippings and leaves into the street. Leave them on your lawn, use them for compost, or bag them up.
- Pick up pet waste.
- Use phosphorus free fertilizer to help keep our rivers and lakes free of algae. Sweep up fertilizer spills from hard surfaces.
- Direct gutter downspouts onto your lawn or garden, or into a rain barrel.
- Use herbicides and pesticides wisely. Read the label before using, apply according to directions, and use the minimum amount needed.
- Keep your lawn healthy. Mow at a higher setting, aerate periodically, and seed bare patches. Healthy lawns need less watering, fewer chemicals and less maintenance.
- Plant a rain garden.
- Visit [www.hennepin.us/water](http://www.hennepin.us/water) for more information.

### **Leftover pesticides do not belong in the garbage**

See Hennepin County Environmental Services, [www.hennepin.us/dropoffs](http://www.hennepin.us/dropoffs) or 612-348-3777 for more information.



**Hennepin County**  
Environmental Services  
612-348-3777

[www.hennepin.us](http://www.hennepin.us) search: A to Z

Attention.....If you want help translating this information, call 612-348-3777.

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