



"DON'T BAG IT" LAWN CARE PLAN

Did you know fallen leaves can help you save water? Fallen leaves and other yard waste recycle organic matter into your soil, which helps retain soil moisture. This is perfect timing as you begin to reduce your sprinkler runtimes for the year. Try these easy ways to recycle yard waste:

- Add leaves to your compost pile. Learn more about composting on the back of this insert.
- Rake shredded leaves into your landscape and garden beds as mulch. This will help keep the soil damp and prevent weed growth.
- Consider using a mulching lawn mower so you can mulch leaves and grass clippings directly into your lawn.
- Remember, the City will not collect bagged leaves if set outside of your trash cart.

For more water-smart landscape tips, visit

[SqueezeEveryDrop.com](https://www.squeezeeverydrop.com)



SAVE WATER BY MAKING COMPOST!

Compost adds moisture and nutrients to soil and helps your landscape plants grow better - and it's easy to make at home! Check out the free Composting for Water Conservation guide on SqueezeEveryDrop.com for more information.

WHAT YOU NEED

- A compost bin or a container with plenty of airflow
- Shovel or pitchfork
- Nitrogen-rich **GREEN** materials: kitchen scraps like coffee grounds, peelings, fruit cores, leftovers, eggshells; yard waste like grass clippings and leaves
- Carbon-rich **BROWN** materials: paper, sawdust, twigs, straw, and small branches



HOW TO DO IT

- Add alternating layers of **GREEN** material and **BROWN** material.
- Keep moist by occasionally adding water (should be damp, but not dripping wet.)
- Turn your pile with the shovel or pitchfork every 2 - 4 weeks.
- Your pile is ready when it has a nice dark color, smells earthy and has a texture similar to topsoil.

**Different compost methods may require additional steps, visit SqueezeEveryDrop.com for more information.*