

Somerville Borough Department of Public Works will begin its leaf collection program this fall to assist residents with the removal of fallen leaves. The program continues through mid-December. To participate in the leaf collection program, residents have two options:

- 1) Leaves may be placed in leaf bags and placed at the curb and DPW will pick-up the bags between October 1 through mid-December. Do not place in plastic bags.
- 2) Leaf bags may be brought to DPW at 34 5<sup>th</sup> Street and dropped off during normal business hours, after October 1 through mid-December. Plastic bags will not be accepted.
- 3) Residents may rake leaves to the curb and between November 1 through mid-December. Vacuum Trucks will be used for this service. Please read this

Rocks, sticks, brush and other objects must be kept out of leaf piles it will damage the leaf vacuum. Therefore, the Borough will be unable to collect leaf piles containing damaging items. Leaf operations typically has two crews that begin on the opposite areas of the Borough on the edges of town and moving toward the center. It typically takes 3 weeks weather permitting to make one pass.

### **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR RESIDENTS THAT FORM LEAF PILES**

- Residents must keep leaves away from gutters, drainpipes and drop inlets so as not to block the free flow of water. Do not to block storm drainage structures/ catch basins.
- Do Not place branches or any other debris, such as grass clippings, in the leaves. Sticks and debris clog and damage the equipment
- Grass clippings, Ornamental grasses, flower potting material, branches, pumpkins & gourds cannot be picked up.
- Leaves should not be piled near intersection corners; this causes sight issues for motorists/ bicyclists/ pedestrians;
- Keep leaf piles clear of drainage ways & catch basins; blocked drainage leads to localized flooding;
- Leaves should not be piled around mailboxes, power poles, fences, fire hydrants, basketball hoops or other obstacles;
- Do not park on leaf piles; the heat from a vehicle exhaust system could start a fire.
- Rake leaves to the edge curb line, not into street
- You may place leaves in a homemade bin with stakes and wire fence to contain in one area (no higher than 36 inches at the curb).
- Do Not park vehicles in front of leaves or near leaves.
- Do Not place leaves in the roadway or ditches.