

Yard Waste: What It Is and What To Do with It



Regular yard waste collection is one of the great advantages of living in the City of Oak Hill. Disposing of yard waste may seem simple, but it's important to know the rules of how the City operates this service.

What is yard waste?

Yard waste to be collected by the City can include items like leaves, grass clippings, vegetable or other garden debris, shrubbery or brush, and tree trimmings in a pile less than 15 feet in length, 6 feet wide, and 5 feet high. No limbs over 4 inches in diameter will be picked up. If you have a yard contractor, they need to know the rules of yard waste in the City of Oak Hill.

Does the City of Oak Hill offer curbside yard waste collection?

We provide monthly service for chipper pickup. For your neighborhood collection schedule, visit: oakhilltn.us. The City contracts for complimentary monthly collection of typical yard wastes such as tree limbs, shrubbery pruning (no roots or dirt), and bagged leaves or trimmings done by Oak Hill residents.

NOTE: If you hire an individual to do your tree and shrubbery trimming, be sure to inform them that it is their responsibility to dispose of all waste. The City will not clean up after contractors.

Can I throw my yard waste in the trash?

The quick answer is No. It is against the law to put yard waste in a landfill in Tennessee.



Is yard waste collection seasonal?

Monthly yard waste collection is available all year round. No matter the time of year, collection does not stop.

Is there a cost for yard waste collection?

There is no fee for yard waste collection.

How do I prepare my yard waste for collection?

Limbs or twigs must be limited in size to no bigger than 4" in diameter. Put your limbs in a generally straight, stacked pile on the right-of-way (not the street), with the cut ends toward the street

for accessible pickup. Make sure there are no foreign objects (metal, plastic, glass, etc.) in the pile. Leaves must be placed in bags, not to exceed 50 pounds. Positively no dirt, rocks, or trash (including flowerpots, papers, or animal feces) should be placed with the leaves. Materials such as grass clippings, leaves and weeds should be packed into brown paper yard waste bags that are biodegradable. Yard waste bags are available from many local grocery and home improvement stores.

NOTE: It's important not to put out for collection other waste like plastics bags, plant trays, plastic plant pots, plant hangers, rubber work gloves. All these items must go in the trash bin. Yard waste does not go through the normal garbage cycle.



Can I put my yard waste in anything other than brown paper yard waste bags?

Paper bags are the preferred method for yard waste collection since they're the easiest for our collection folks and associates to handle. Brown paper yard waste bags must become not just the preferred way but the only way for this waste to be packaged to be safe for our drivers to collect and be properly disposed of. Unlike storing yard waste in plastic bags, paper bags also decompose at a similar rate to yard waste. Filled yard waste bags should weigh no more than 50 pounds. Yard waste will not be collected in personal containers. Only yard waste is permitted in brown waste bags -- not garbage, trash, plastic, etc.

If you can't find paper yard waste bags, please contact City Hall.

GUIDELINES FOR YARD WASTE

1. Place leaves, small clippings, and grass in paper bags.
2. Bags cannot exceed 50 pounds.
3. Do not place bagged leaves in roadways, ditches, or other drainage structures. Right-of-way typically extends 10 to 12 feet beyond the pavement and leaves will be collected anywhere within this area.
4. Do not put dirt, rocks, or garbage (including flowerpots, papers, or animal feces) in leaf bags.
5. Make sure there are no foreign objects or construction debris (metal, plastic, glass, etc.) in the material.
6. Stack limbs and twigs with cut ends toward the street.
7. Limbs should be stacked in a straight and orderly fashion.
8. Limbs larger than 4 inches in diameter will not be collected.
9. Do not leave materials with roots or dirtballs attached.
10. The City will not collect materials prepared by outside contractors.
11. Limbs larger than 4 inches in diameter will not be collected by the City and should be disposed of by **your contractor** in a timely manner.
12. Since this service is intended for routine yard maintenance, the maximum quantity that will be collected in one month is approximately 15 feet long, 6 feet wide, and 5 feet high.
13. Service is provided once per month with the date dependent upon the zone collection schedule.

Let's all help Keep Oak Hill Beautiful!!