



**NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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YARD WASTE AND STORM DRAINS REMINDER

PURCELLVILLE, Va. OCTOBER 5, 2020— The Town of Purcellville reminds residents and contractors to not place or blow grass clippings, leaves, sticks or any other debris into the Town’s storm drains. With wind and heavy rains, debris in the storm drains will cause the storm drains to back-up and overflow into the Town streets.

The Town does not provide leaf pick-up service other than the service provided by our contractor, American Disposal. American collects yard waste every Wednesday. Yard waste should be placed in brown paper yard waste bags or loose in trash containers clearly labeled “Yard Waste.” “Yard Waste” stickers are available at Town Hall. American will collect up to 10 bags per customer per pick up. If you prefer not to bag your yard waste, please blow or sweep the grass clippings back into your yard. The EPA recommends leaving the grass clippings on your lawn to promote a natural fertilizer. When short grass clippings filter to the ground, they naturally decompose and nutrients return to the soil to support further turn growth by supplying part of the lawns fertilizer needs.

As a reminder, tree limbs or brush should be bundled with rope or twine. Limbs can be no longer than 4 ft. in length and 3 in. thick in diameter.

Storm drains flow directly to our streams and bays, and yard waste contributes nutrients, such as nitrogen and phosphorous, which cause unwanted and uncontrolled growth of algae and aquatic weeds. Increased algae growth is observed as green algae blooms or “scums” on lakes and ponds. Too much algae is harmful to our natural water system as it blocks sunlight and prevents other plants from growing. When it dies and decays, it also takes much needed oxygen away from fish. With your help, we can reduce the amount of waste flowing into our storm drains.

The Town of Purcellville, Virginia

“Purcellville-your small Town, where history and progress intersect and people prosper,” is an award-winning town of over 10,000 residents located in Loudoun County, approximately 50 miles west of Washington, DC. Having received the prestigious Siemens Sustainability Award for Small Communities, Purcellville continues to be honored for its green initiatives with most recently being the Tree City USA recipient for the 12th year. The Town was reaffirmed as a AAA rated community by S&P Global Ratings, the highest credit rating possible, and is ranked “Safest City” in Virginia in 2020. Once a stop along the W&OD rail line, which has been converted to a multi-use trail from Alexandria, VA to Purcellville, the Town has maintained its historic old-town feel through the restoration and maintenance of its many downtown structures, reflecting the Victorian architecture popular during the early 1900s. Today, Purcellville is the economic hub of western Loudoun County and a popular weekend destination for antiquing, equestrian activities, farmer’s markets, wineries, breweries, distilleries and restaurants. More info at www.purcellvilleva.gov.

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