



SHAWNEE  
K A N S A S

# Neighborhood Watershed

## Responsible Leaf and Yard Waste Disposal

Ah, the oranges, the yellows, the reds...Fall is such a wonderful time to see the beauty around us as the leaves turn! However, when it's time to remove your leaves, remember to be kind to your storm sewer system and keep your water quality in top notch health.

1. Composting leaves is a great way to create fertilizer for the spring growing season. Keep your leaves in a compost bin and add grass clippings and table scraps as you would to a normal compost. Turn your bin once a week to ensure an even breakdown of the components and be sure to keep it covered in the winter to keep moisture out. When it turns brown and has an earthy smell, it is ready for use!
2. Mulching the leaves in your yard provides protection for your lawn in the winter months. Simply shred them with a mower and leave them on your lawn. Not only does it provide much needed nutrients back to your lawn, it also provides a decrease in the amount of crabgrass and dandelions you will see in the spring!
3. Mulching leaves for your garden is also a great way to provide nutrients and weed protection to your growing season. It can also be used to extend the growing season of beets, carrots, kale and other vegetables.

Please remember to **NEVER** put any leaves or yard waste down any sewer drain or body of water. Doing this increases nutrients in the water supply and can lead to algae blooms and flooding. To report leaves or other pollutants in the storm drain, please contact our office at (913) 742-6008, or on SeeClickFix.com.



## Pick Up After Your Pet

Every time it rains, thousands of pounds of pet waste wash down storm drains and into streams, rivers and lakes. If not disposed of properly, pet waste flows directly into nearby streams and creeks without being treated at wastewater treatment facilities.

### What you can do:

- Pick up pet waste from your yard. It is not a fertilizer.
- Do not place pet waste in the storm drains.
- Carry disposable bags while walking your dog to pick up and dispose of waste properly.
- Bury pet waste in your yard, at least 12 inches deep and cover with at least eight inches of soil.
- Bury the waste in several different locations and keep it away from vegetable gardens.
- Use pet waste stations in area parks, along trails and in public places where people frequently walk their dogs.





Stormwater Management  
11110 Johnson Drive  
Shawnee, KS 66203

## Johnson County's Healthy Yards Expo

The City of Shawnee is proud to be hosting the **FREE** "Healthy Yards Expo" on **Saturday, April 1** at the Shawnee Civic Centre, 13817 Johnson Drive, Shawnee KS, 66216, from 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.! Come learn about good maintenance practices for your lawn and **FREE** soil testing ([www.johnson.ksu.edu/soiltest](http://www.johnson.ksu.edu/soiltest)). For more information on the Johnson County's Healthy Yards Expo lawn and garden event, visit [www.johnson.ksu.edu](http://www.johnson.ksu.edu) or call (913) 715-7000.



Contact the Stormwater Division to report an illicit discharge or stormwater related issue at 742-6230 or [stormwater@cityofshawnee.org](mailto:stormwater@cityofshawnee.org)