



## Street Sweeping and Fall Leaves



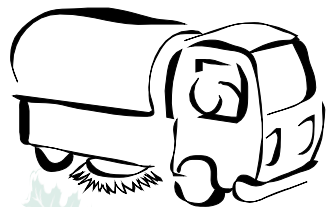
This brochure is being sent to neighborhoods that historically have a high concentration of leaves. Though residents may have up to two 96-gallon green yard waste carts collected each week, some residents still sweep leaves into the gutter, probably thinking that City crews can pick them up.

Each fall, collecting leaves is a big cost for the City and you. Current regulations do not allow leaves picked up on streets to be used for compost because they can be contaminated with petrochemicals and street debris. Instead, leaves picked up on streets must be transported to the landfill and buried at a current cost of approximately \$58 per ton.

A better alternative is to put leaves in green waste containers and set them out for collection, like other yard trimmings. Then, they can be made into compost at a lower cost.

As new State and Federal mandates are implemented to protect the quality of water in streams and channels, it is important for the street sweeper to concentrate on street sweeping rather than spend much of the fall picking up leaves. The street sweeper will pick up leaves that fall on the street naturally but

we need your help to free up the time to sweep more areas than we are able to do when leaves are swept into gutters.



## Street Sweeping is Important Because it:

- Keeps storm drain catch basins from clogging
- Prevents street dirt and dust from entering the public's eyes, ears, noses, and throats.
- Promotes safety and compliance with National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) regulations.
- Enhances the appearance of the community

Street sweepers are designed to collect only small amounts of dirt, rock, dust, paper, and scattered leaves - not large piles of leaves swept into the gutter.

### This causes the following problems:

A street sweeper can often become full after sweeping only one block of a residential street with piles of leaves in the gutter. This means extra trips to and from the disposal site before resuming street sweeping duties. More time spent traveling means less time sweeping streets.

Landfilling leaves rather than composting reduces the City's waste diversion rate. This results in the City having to operate more recycling programs to meet the State diversion rate mandate of fifty percent.

Leaves left in the gutter can enter the storm drain system and clog catch basins, which can cause flooding during heavy rains



## So How Do I Get Rid of My Leaves?



The City of Redding offers residential customers weekly curbside green waste collection. If one green waste cart is not enough, simply call the Solid Waste Utility at 224-6201 to request a second green waste cart.

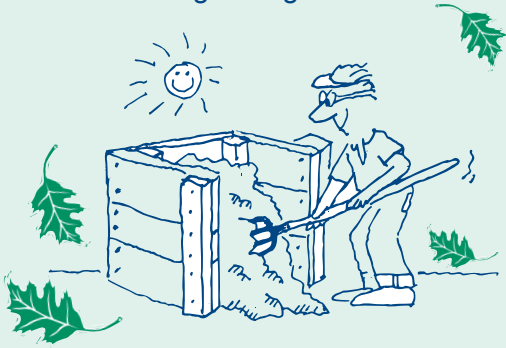
If two carts are not enough capacity for your leaves, you might consider storing them in bags or piles until there is space in the green waste carts. If you use bags, be sure to empty the bags into the green waste carts and dispose of the bag itself in your gray garbage cart. Over time, the two 96-gallon green waste carts should be sufficient for all of your leaves.

You can also bring leaves to the City of Redding's Solid Waste Transfer/Recycling Facility (see map on reverse). We will accept leaves from City residents at no cost from November 1 through January 31st each year. You must bring your most current City of Redding utility bill and a driver's license to show you are a City resident. The facility is open Monday through Saturday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, excluding holidays.

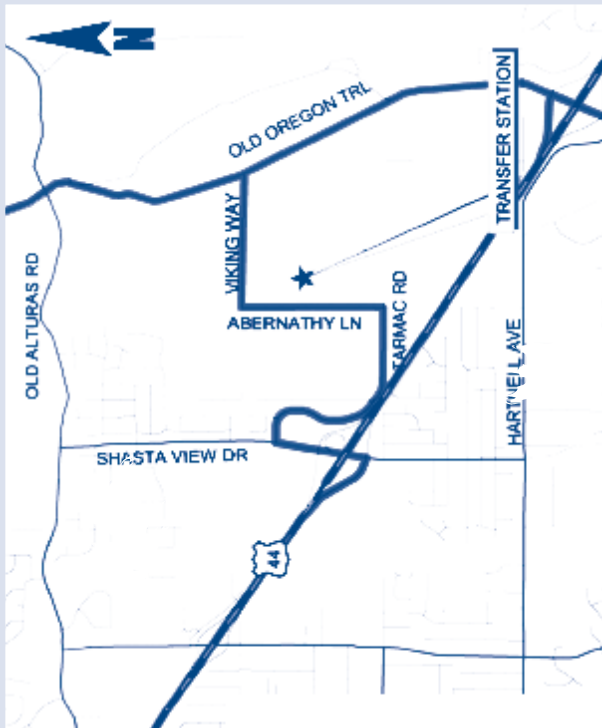
### Compost Leaves at Home

Another option is to start a backyard compost bin. You can buy a compost bin kit or you can make your own. Homemade bins can be constructed out of scrap wood, chicken wire, pallets, snow fencing or even old plastic garbage cans that have holes punched in the sides and bottom for aeration.

For more information about building your own home compost bin, contact the City of Redding Solid Waste Utility and request a copy of the brochure, "Building A Backyard Compost Bin" or visit the California Integrated Waste Management Board's website at [www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Organics](http://www.ciwmb.ca.gov/Organics).



Map  
City of Redding Solid Waste  
Transfer & Recycling Facility  
2255 Abernathy Lane, Redding



Printed on 30% post-consumer  
recycled content paper, of course!

City of Redding Solid Waste Utility  
P.O. Box 496071  
Redding CA 96049-6071

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City of Redding Solid Waste  
Transfer & Recycling Facility  
2255 Abernathy Lane  
Redding CA 96003

Office Hours:  
Monday - Friday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

Transfer Station:  
Monday - Saturday 8:00 am to 4:30 pm

