

FALL WEATHER TIPS

With the Fall and Winter weather, tree leaves will be falling all over town. Not only does this create more work for property owners and tenants, but can cause problems with drainage in the City's storm water drainage system. If you live near a storm water drain, you are encouraged to keep the gutter and drain clear of debris. This can be done by simply raking or sweeping the area during your weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly yard care schedule. Keeping the gutters and storm water drains free of debris will help to protect your property against flooding should a rain storm occur. If you're unable to clean the gutters and storm water drains near your property, please call the Public Works Department @ 992-2151 ext. 264 and request a clean out.

Also, check any rain gutters attached to your house or apartment. Make sure they're clear of any debris and flowing smoothly.

DO NOT PUT LEAVES IN A PLASTIC BAG!! (before placing them in green-waste toter)

Residents should place their leaves and other green-waste debris **directly** in the green-waste toter. Just load your green-waste toter with leaves you've raked (NO plastic bags!). Depending on the size of your yard, how many trees on your property, and the rate at which leaves are falling, it may take a month or two to dispose of all your leaves and other green waste.

STREET SWEEPER – NO LEAF PICK UP

With limited resources in the City, we are unable to offer leaf pick up. Raking, sweeping or blowing leaves into the gutter and/or street will only result in clogged gutters and storm water drains.

The City owns and operates one (1) street sweeper which is responsible for sweeping all streets and parking lots within the City of Corcoran. The sweeper is equipped with a broom and vacuum system, but is not designed to pick up large piles of debris, such as leaf piles. If you place your leaf debris in the gutter or street, the sweeper will go around it, leaving it in place.

Many of you ask: **WHY?** The answer is simple! The street sweeper is like a large vacuum cleaner, but the vacuum head sets approximately 1 inch off the ground. When the sweeper approaches a "pile" of debris (such as a leaf pile), it must raise the vacuum head and move forward slowly. In most cases, this has to be repeated 2 or 3 times for each debris pile; but if the vacuum head is raised more than 2-3 inches, the debris is blown around instead of being pulled up into the hopper. Also, the weight and volume of the debris requires the sweeper to dump the debris and clean out the hopper more frequently. So, a 1-2 foot high pile of leaves could take a considerable amount of time to pick up.

As an alternative, you may request an additional green waste toter just for the falling-leaves season, for a cost of less than \$9 per month. Contact City Hall @ 992-2151 ext. 221 or ext. 229 for more information.