

Monthly Stormwater Tip - October 2015

We are now officially in autumn and leaves have started to fall. It is very important that leaves are kept from entering the Borough's stormsewer system as they clog the surface of the inlets which causes localized flooding. The inlets are the curb openings with or without grate tops that collect stormwater from the roadways. These inlets are connected with piping beneath the ground and then ultimately discharge into a body of water. Decaying leaves use up the water's oxygen, harming aquatic inhabitants.

What to do with leaves?

Rake It! Follow Borough guidelines for curb-side pick-up. If you are supposed to put leaves in the street, wait until just before the collection day to move them from the lawn to the street.

Leave It! Mulch leaves by running over them with your lawn mower when you cut your lawn. Leaves and grass clippings are good fertilizers for your lawn.

Or... rake it and leave it! Rake leaves into a compost pile for a nutrient-rich fertilizer to use on your garden next spring.

And, if you live near an inlet, consider removing debris from an inlet grate. Dispose of the debris in your regular trash. Your neighbors thank you, and the creatures of the sea thank you!