

Currents

Henry F. Vitale, Executive Director

September | October 2016

Removing Leaves and Debris From Catch Basins Helps Keep Water Flowing

As summer ends and leaves start to fall, remember this: Leaves that collect on top of catch basins in the streets block rainwater from entering the storm drain system, creating flooding in streets in your neighborhood.

Boston Water and Sewer Commission (BWSC) performs a variety of maintenance activities throughout the year to keep the inside of catch basins free of debris. *You* can also help. All you need is a rake, shovel, or broom—and a receptacle.

What You Can Do

- Clear leaves from catch basins near your (or an elderly neighbor's) house or business. Dispose of the leaves with yard waste.
- Clear other debris from on top of catch basins. Place this debris in a trash can.
- Sweep debris from your sidewalk and driveway. Put debris in a trash can. Don't sweep it into a gutter or catch basin!
- Keep catch basins flowing during the winter by removing snow and ice from the grate.

How Your Efforts Help

Performing these simple tasks will:

- Reduce the street flooding that causes problems for motorists and pedestrians.
- Decrease the amount of debris entering the storm drain system through catch basins.
- Minimize pollution of local waterways, like Boston Harbor and the Charles, Neponset, and Mystic Rivers.



Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Days

Proper disposal of household chemicals is important to safeguard our environment. Don't miss the next City of Boston Household Hazardous Waste Drop-Off Day:

Saturday, November 19, 2016 • 9 AM to 2 PM

**West Roxbury Public Works Yard,
315 Gardner Street, near Millennium Park**

For more info or a complete list of acceptable products, visit www.cityofboston.gov/publicworks/lookup/ or call 617-635-4500.



WE ARE ALL CONNECTED

Let's protect Boston's waterways



What You Need to Know: Leaf and Yard Waste Collection



Leaf and yard waste collection continues through the first week in December. If you have two trash collection days in the week, leaf and yard waste will **only** be collected on your recycling day. Here's what you need to know.

What to Do

- Put leaf and yard debris in large, paper bags or open barrels labeled "yard waste."
- Tie branches with string. Maximum branch size is 3' long, 1" in diameter.
- Put barrels, bags, and branches curbside by 7 AM on your recycling day.

What Not to Do

- Don't use plastic bags.
- Don't put branches in barrels.

For more information, call the Mayor's 24-Hour Hotline at **617-635-4500**.

SEPTEMBER						
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DECEMBER						
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Green indicates Leaf and Yard Waste Collection

Neighborhood Site Locations

Boston Water and Sewer Commission (BWSC) will have a representative from the Community Services Department at neighborhood locations (see the schedule below) to offer assistance.



Meet with BWSC staff to:

- Pay your water bill with a check or money order—no cash.
- Talk about any problems you may have with your bill or service.
- Find out how much water is being used on your property.
- Plan to make payments on bills that are past due.
- Receive help applying for a senior or disabled person's discount.
- Learn more about BWSC customer programs.

Brighton

Allston/Brighton APAC
143 Harvard Avenue
Thursdays, 10 AM–12 PM
9/22 and 10/20

Chinatown

CCBA
90 Tyler Street
Thursdays, 11 AM–1 PM
9/8 and 10/13

East Boston

East Boston APAC
21 Meridian Street
Wednesdays, 10 AM–1 PM
9/7, 9/14 and 10/5, 10/12

Mattapan

Mattapan Public Library
1350 Blue Hill Avenue
Fridays, 10 AM–12 PM
9/2 and 10/7

South Boston

South Boston APAC
424 West Broadway
Wednesdays, 10 AM–12 PM
9/28 and 10/19

Charlestown

Golden Age Center
382 Main Street
Tuesdays, 11 AM–1 PM
9/27 and 10/25

Dorchester

Uphams Corner Municipal Building
500 Columbia Road
Fridays, 10 AM–12 PM
9/16 and 10/14

Fields Corner

Kit Clark Senior Center
1500 Dorchester Avenue
Mondays, 10 AM–12 PM
9/19 and 10/24

North End

North End Public Library
25 Parmenter Street
Thursdays, 10 AM–12 PM
9/1 and 10/6

West Roxbury

Roche Community Center
1716 Centre Street
Fridays, 10 AM–1 PM
9/30 and 10/28

Hyde Park

Hyde Park Municipal Building
1179 River Street
Tuesdays, 10 AM–1 PM
9/6, 9/20 and 10/4, 10/18

Roslindale

Greater Roslindale Medical & Dental Center
4199 Washington Street
Tuesdays, 10 AM–1 PM
9/13 and 10/11

South End & Roxbury

Residents of the South End and Roxbury are invited to use the BWSC Headquarters as their neighborhood site location.



BOSTON WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION

980 Harrison Avenue • Boston, MA 02119

Headquarters are open:
Monday–Friday, 8 AM–5 PM
Wednesdays, 8 AM–7 PM

617-989-7000 www.bwsc.org

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