



## **LEAVES: LOVE 'EM AND LEAVE 'EM**

Leaves are a valuable resource that many property owners let go to waste every fall. Leaves are blown into piles on the street, left for DPW pickup. Too often piles spread out creating a safety hazard for drivers and wash into the storm drains, clogging storm sewers. Leaves decaying on the street release nutrients such as phosphate and nitrogen (aka “fertilizer”) that eventually wash into our rivers.

As a homeowner, landscaper, or property manager, are there better options? Yes! Mulching (shredding) in-place is the best and simplest solution. It is easy to learn, easy to implement, gets great “green” points, and better yet: actually saves time & money!

**Saves money:** Helps keep your taxes down by reducing municipal leaf pickup and disposal costs.

**Saves effort:** Mulching leaves in place actually is easier and faster than bagging, raking or blowing them to the curb.

**Keeps your property healthy:** Recycles nutrients into your soil to feed your lawn & plants, improves soil health, and helps retain moisture.

**Helps the planet:** Transporting and disposing of leaves from your curb wastes energy and contributes to pollution.

By now you’re thinking, “OK, I’m sold! So how do I mulch-in-place? What’s the secret?” Check out the valuable information, “how to” videos and related resources on the **Love ‘Em and Leave ‘Em New York** pages: [www.leleny.org](http://www.leleny.org).