

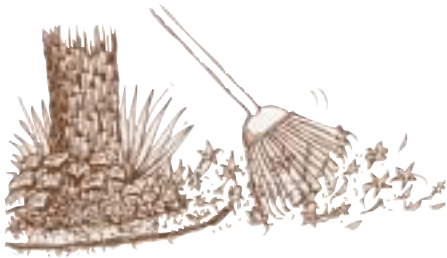
# Leaves: a natural resource... too valuable to throw away!

An undervalued commodity, leaves are an investment for the health of your landscape! Leaves bank 50-80% of a tree's nutrients, yielding a treasure trove for plants. Reap the benefits of leaves by recycling nutrients back into the soil in these easy ways.

## for light leaf drop...

### Mow and Leave!

- Mulching mower works best
- Remove bag, close discharge shoot and mow
- A light layer shreds easily and decomposes quickly
- Improves soil by adding organic matter
- Efficient and easy!



## for heavy leaf fall...

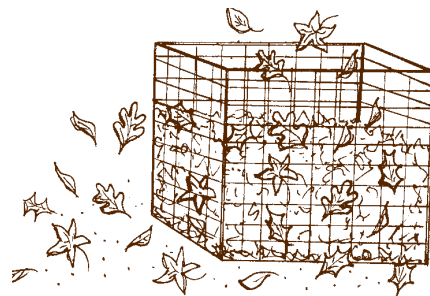
### Gather for Mulch!

- Rake or blow leaves and pine needles into beds
- Greatly reduces weeds
- Conserves soil moisture
- Protects plant roots from temperature extremes
- Adds nutrients to soil as leaves break down

## OR...

### Make Compost!

- Place leaves in compost bin
- Add grass clippings, produce scraps, air and water
- In time, becomes crumbly, rich humus
- Use to top dress lawn and garden beds or mix in soil
- Improves physical, chemical and microbial properties of soil



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