

# VACUUM LEAF COLLECTION 2019

*Environmental Quality & Public Works Committee*  
*September 17, 2019*



**LEXINGTON**



## 2019 Vacuum Leaf Collection Program

- Streets & Roads will perform leaf collection with assistance from a private contractor (Republic Services).
- The private contractor will be deployed in ~ 25% of the zones.
- Zone C is contractor area of operations.
- LFUCG inspectors from the Division of Water Quality accompany the contractor crews due to CDL driver shortage for collection crews.
- Added 5 CDL drivers from the Public Works Skills Academy.  
Partnered with **Community Action Council** to recruit and train drivers.
- This year the contractor has also adopted Sunday, Wednesday leaf set out schedule for improved timing.
- Contract allows for contractor assistance in LFUCG collection zones if needed by setting a unit price.

## Who Receives Leaf Collection?

- Citizens with city trash collection with roll-out carts.
- Approximately 90,000 residential addresses.



## Leaf Collection Guidelines

- Leaves should be raked into piles between the sidewalk and the curb, or close to the street if there is no sidewalk.
- Leaves should not be raked into the street.
  - Causes problems for workers, traffic, and clogs storm sewers and drainage ways.
- No limbs, rocks, dead animals, or trash should be in the leaf piles.



## Alternative Leaf Disposal Methods



- Gray yard waste container.
- Paper yard waste bags.
- Mulch leaves when mowing.
- Home compost operation.
- Residents can take leaves to Haley Pike Landfill. Free for non-commercial citizens.
  - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday
  - 8am-6pm.
  - Open first Saturday of each month, 9am to 3pm
- Private collection



## 2019 Collection Schedule

### **BEGIN → Monday, November 4th**

- Zones A1, A2, and contractor zone C1
- Added additional days to calendar for additional collection time in heavy leaf canopy neighborhoods.

### **Goal:**

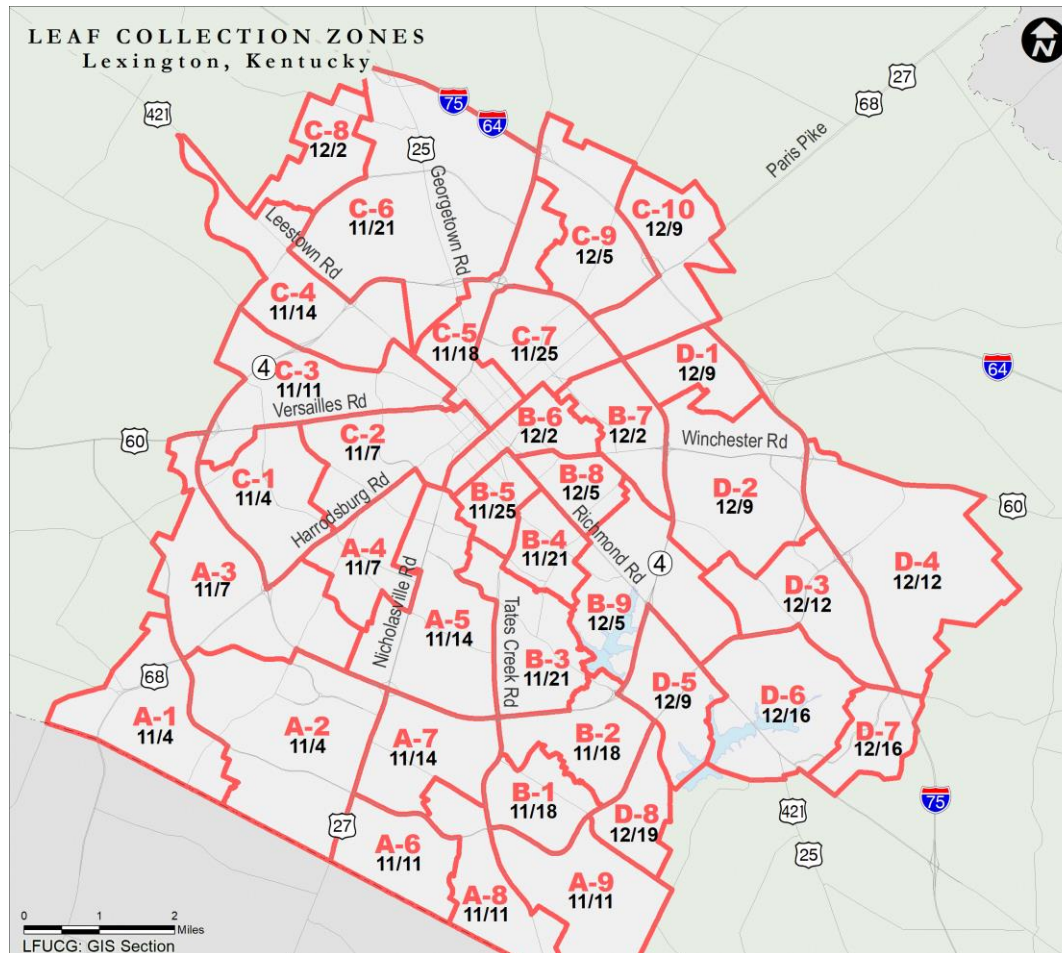
### **COMPLETE → Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup>**

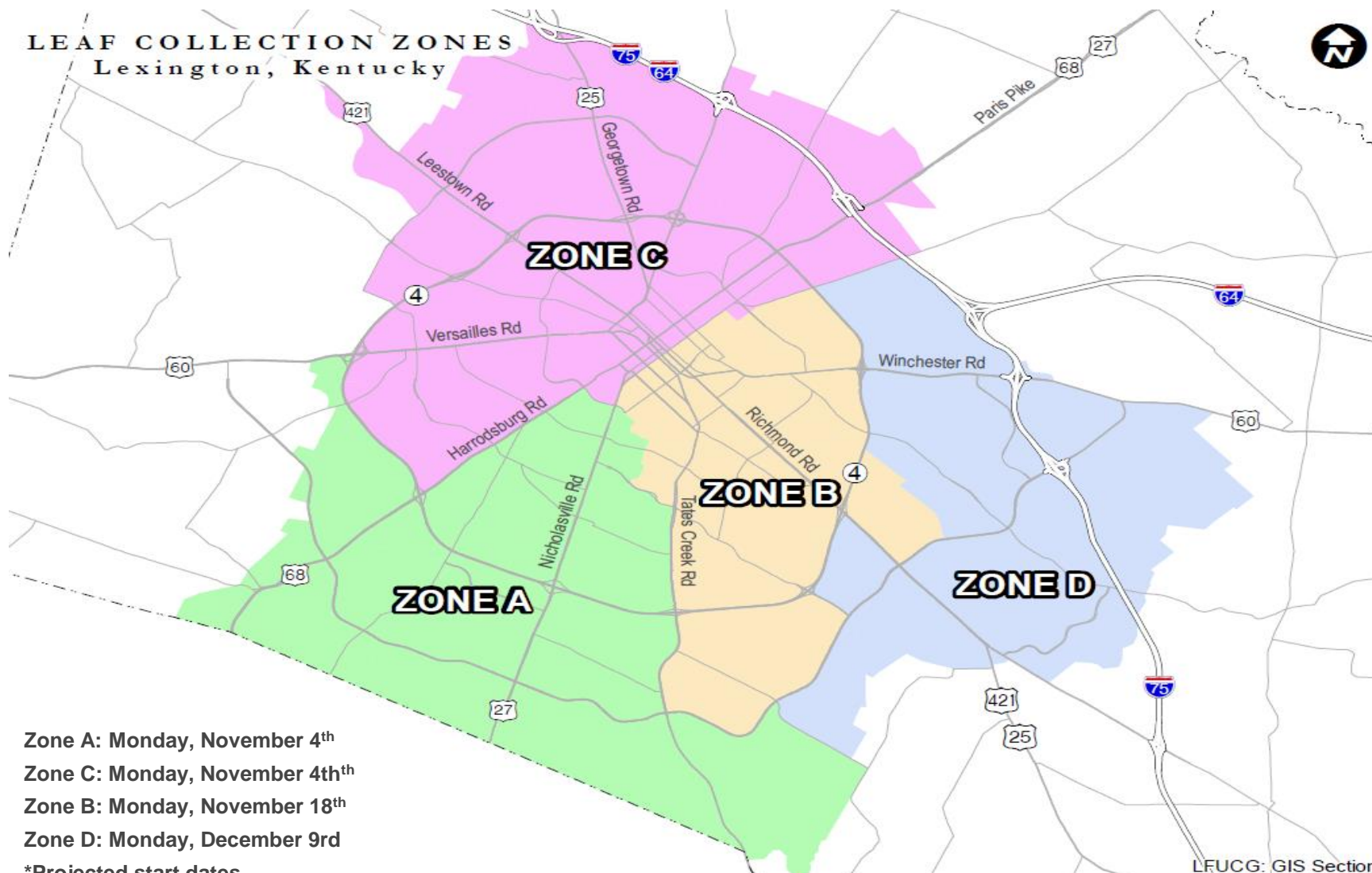
**May work until Friday, December 27<sup>th</sup> if needed.**

*Completion date is subject to change based on weather and collection totals.*



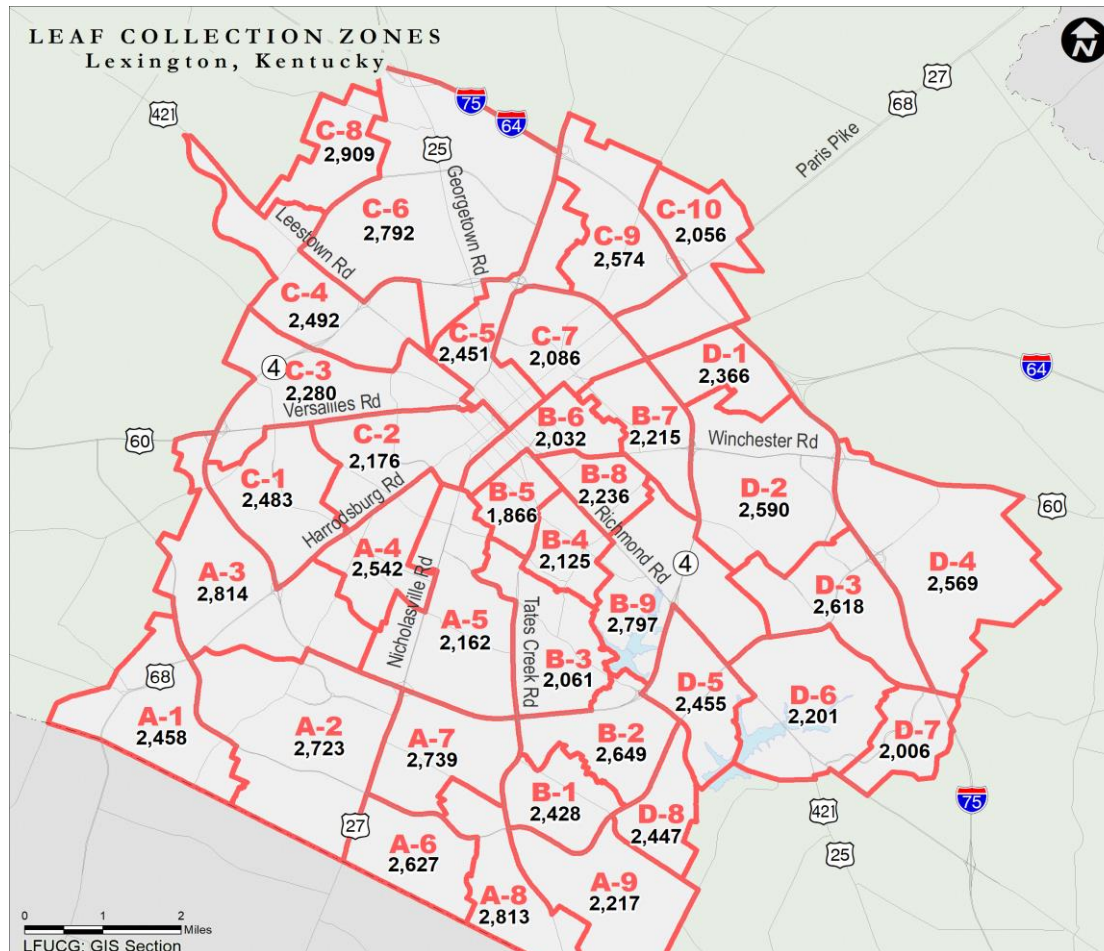
## Subzone Start Dates







## Leaf Collection Sub-zones & Cart Count



Service area is divided into zones A – D, each with 8 to 9 subzones.

Each quadrant is assigned one to two weeks of leaf collection. Sub-Zones have been configured based upon trash cart count of around 2,500.

\* Number below zone ID is the number of carts in the zone.



## Start Time

- Weather always unpredictable. Possible snow in November.
- Trees need cooler temperatures, shorter days, and water to drop leaves.
- Starting date picked to collect the maximum number of leaves in one pass and to minimize conflicts with weather response.
- *Complements* gray yard waste container, yard waste bags, and manual collection. No longer the primary means of disposal.



## Leaf Collection Logistics

- One round of collection for each zone.
- Street sweeping will be suspended.
  - Except in the **Downtown** and **University of Kentucky** areas.  
The first Wednesday and Thursday of the Month.
  - 4 Sweepers follow leaf crews when possible for a cleaner more thorough finish.

## 2019 Extended Hours of Collection

- Monday through Friday - 8:00AM to 6:00PM.
- Saturday - 8:00AM to 4:00PM.
- Shift length extended to make up for lost time during deployment, dependent on weather and daylight.
- Collection will be suspended for snow removal and emergencies requiring a response from Streets and Roads.



## Communication Plan

- LFUCG website enhancements, including an interactive map.  
[www.lexingtonky.gov/leaves](http://www.lexingtonky.gov/leaves)
- Social Media (**Twitter** and **Facebook**) and **311 Alerts** updates.
- Posts on **Next Door** App.
- Postcard sent to each household prior to collection.
- News release.
- LexTV
  - Lexington Now & bulletin board

## Interactive Map

- An interactive web map will be used to provide citizens with access to timely information regarding leaf collection.
- Citizens will be able to:
  - Locate their address within leaf collection zones.
  - View up-to-date schedules of when leaves will be collected in their zone.
  - Citizens will set leaves out the Sunday **or** Wednesday prior to their zone collection start date. They will get this information from the map.



# Questions?



**LEXINGTON**



# Thank You!

To our partner Divisions for a successful team effort!

Environmental Services, EQPW Commissioner's Office,  
Fleet Services, Geographic Information Services, LexCall,  
Parks, Public Information Office, Waste Management,  
& Water Quality.