VACUUM LEAF COLLECTION 2021

Environmental Quality & Public Works Committee
October 19, 2021





2021 Vacuum Leaf Collection Program

- Streets & Roads will perform leaf collection with operational assistance from Parks and DWQ and a private contractor (Republic Services).
- The private contractor will be deployed in Zone C, which is ~ 25% of the collection area.
- LFUCG Inspectors from the Division of Water Quality accompany the contractor crews. This frees up CDL drivers in S&R to assist with collection.
- Leaf set out is the night before collection starts for each zone.
 This is either Sunday or Wednesday for all zones.
- Contract allows for contractor assistance in LFUCG collection zones if needed by setting a unit price but must be notified well in advance due to equipment and labor logistics.



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



2021 Collection Schedule

BEGIN → Monday, November 8th

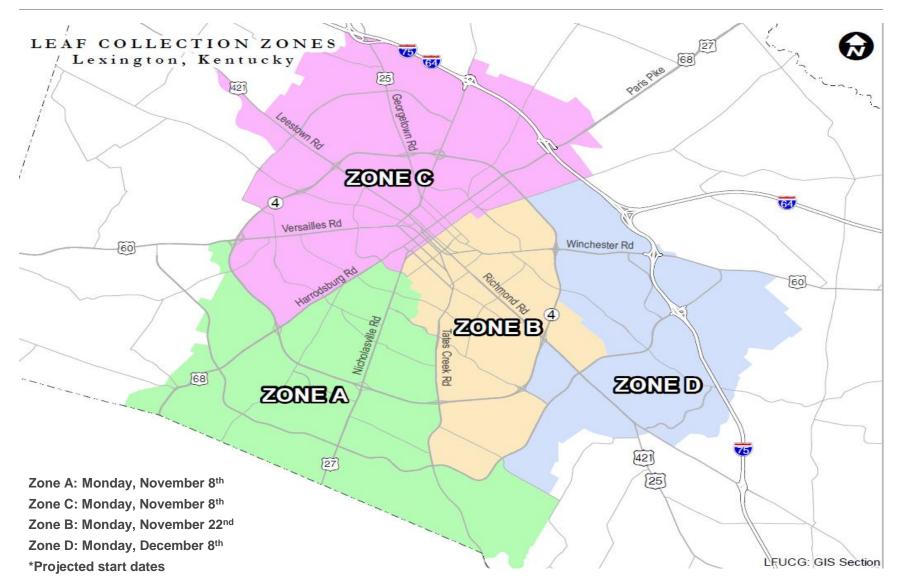
- Zones A1, A2, and contractor zone C1
- Added additional days to calendar for additional collection time in heavy leaf canopy neighborhoods.

Goal:

COMPLETE → Tuesday, December 22^{nd.}
May work until Friday, December 31st if needed.

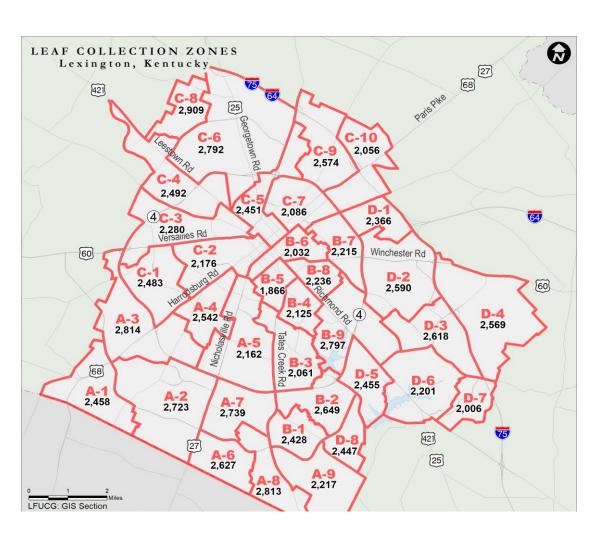
Completion date is subject to change based on weather and collection totals.







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 approximate number of carts in the zone.



Start Time

- Weather always unpredictable. Possible snow in November and December.
- 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.
- Division will not be collecting Thursday, Friday, and Saturday of Thanksgiving week but traditionally collection occurs in zone C on Friday and Saturday.
- All division activity except emergency pot hole repair suspended.
- Not able to hire and retain more than 50% of authorized seasonals workers (40 positions). Labor shortages expected to continue this season.
- Covid protocols and sanitation.
- 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.



2021 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, including an interactive map www.LexingtonKY.gov/Leaves
- Social Media (Facebook, Instagram & Twitter) ads and posts
- 311 Alerts
- Posts on Next Door
- At Your Service newsletter
- Paid mass marketing ads (streaming video services, radio)
- Print ads in local publications
- News release
- LexTV
 - Lexington Now & bulletin board

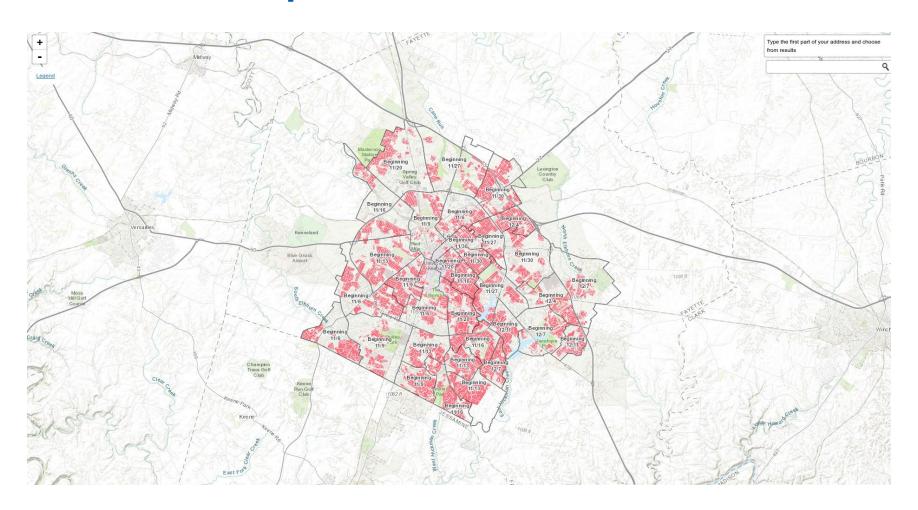


Interactive Map

- 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 interactive map.



Interactive Map



Questions?





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.