Spring is here – Yard Waste Program is in full effect!
Ice Storm Cleanup Update

Spring is upon us, and the Region of Durham’s Leaf and Yard Waste Program is now underway. Collection limitations have been lifted to help residents with cleanup efforts following last December’s ice storm.

As the melted snow exposes more trees and debris, residents are asked to bundle their yard waste and set it out for pick up by the Region of Durham, following the below requirements:

- securely tie brush in bundles up to one metre (three feet) in length and 76 centimetres (30 inches) in width
- individual brush and tree branches must be 10 centimetres (4 inches) or less in diameter
- maximum weight for loose branches/twigs etc. in a container is 20 kilograms (44 pounds)
- place yard waste in kraft paper yard waste bags or clearly labelled rigid open-top reusable containers
- yard waste set out in plastic bags will not be collected
- yard waste collection occurs every other week based on the area in which you live. Please visit Durham.ca/waste to view the 2014 Waste Collection Calendar.

With the launch of the Region’s Leaf and Yard Waste Program, the City encourages residents to use the Region of Durham’s bi-weekly services (weekly for the month of May) for ice storm cleanup, or dispose of any remaining trees and debris at a local waste management facility to ensure their lawn is clear and lush in time for spring.

Residents who have already requested a City pickup must have all trees and debris cut, stacked and placed on the City boulevard no later than May 19, 2014.

City crews will not enter private property for tree cleanup or assessment, and will not collect large limbs (more than 15 cm or six inches in diameter) that have fallen from trees on private property, as they cannot be accommodated by the wood chipper.

Trees on Public Property

Since the ice storm, crews have made multiple rounds of the City to inspect and clear trees and debris from parks, boulevards, and open spaces. Cleanup efforts continue, and are being dealt with over the coming months by our staff.

Ash Trees

Ash trees on City property that have not been treated for Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) and were damaged from the ice storm will be assessed and removed as part of the ice storm cleanup, if deemed unsafe or structurally unsound. If the ash tree has been treated it will be inspected to determine if preservation is possible.
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Any ash trees on private property that haven’t been treated should be inspected by a Certified Arborist to determine if treatment is still a possibility in 2014 or removal is necessary. This is the responsibility of the homeowner.

Waste Disposal

Residents can dispose of leaf and yard waste at Miller Waste Durham. The facility is located at 1220 Squires Beach Rd., Pickering, and is open on Monday to Friday from 7 am to 6 pm, Saturday from 7 am to 4 pm and closed on Sunday.

Waste delivered to this site is subject to the rates and hours posted by the private operator. Call 905.426.4222 for more information.

We thank all residents for their patience, understanding and cooperation as we continue to work on the cleanup of our community.

For more information on the Leaf and Yard Waste Collection Program, please visit Durham.ca/waste or contact the Region of Durham at 905.579.5264 or Toll Free: 1.800.667.5671.