



# CITY OF BETHLEHEM

10 East Church Street, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania 18018-6025

Department of Public Works

Phone: (610) 865-7050

Fax: (610) 865-7331

[www.bethlehem-pa.gov](http://www.bethlehem-pa.gov)

September, 2011

Dear Resident:

We are approaching another leaf collection season. As you probably know, each area typically gets at least one scheduled and one unscheduled pick-up between late October/early November through mid December. The scheduled times and dates are provided weekly to the local newspapers for advertisement and are on our website [http://www.bethlehem-pa.gov/dept/public\\_works/leafCollect/index.htm](http://www.bethlehem-pa.gov/dept/public_works/leafCollect/index.htm), which also has a PDF file of the Leaf Collection Map. In addition to placing your leaves in the street along the gutter line just prior to the scheduled pick-up, you can also bag them in the paper "earth bags" available at the Recycling Bureau (610-865-7082) and call (610) 865-7065 for pick-up. No plastic bags will be accepted.

City Ordinance prohibits placement of any debris including leaves in the street, but an exception is made for the leaf pick-up season. There should be no placement of leaves in the gutter after December 25<sup>th</sup>. Placement of leaves after the last scheduled pick-up date results in unsightly streetscapes, and with the on-set of winter and snowfall, create very difficult conditions. Pick-up of tree leaves becomes difficult and time consuming and if there are minimal breaks in the weather, we end up with leaves in gutters well into late winter/early spring. In addition, starting approximately in the middle of December our resources and focus, along with those of the Department of Parks and Public Property who also provide leaf pick-up services, must be shifted to snow and ice operations. You can of course continue to bag leaves and call the City for pick-up after this date. Placement of leaves in the street after December 25<sup>th</sup> is subject to fines and penalties in accordance with Article 721 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Bethlehem.

We sincerely appreciate your cooperation and look forward to providing you with the best service possible. If you have any questions, or would like to provide us with feedback, please call my office at 610-865-7050.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Michael Alkhal".

Michael Alkhal, P.E.  
Director of Public Works

MA/mob

bcc: Mayor Callahan  
Members of Council  
R. Carp  
R. Kitzhoffer  
File/xc