

Sonja Birr

From: Dan Koski
Sent: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 8:33 AM
To: 'Mary Madison'; James Brey - D4; John Brunner; Billy Hutterer
Cc: Sonja Birr
Subject: RE: External: leaf smear

Good morning,

A few points to consider on this topic:

First of all, I did verify that the pictures submitted last week were before the sweeper went through. It often has a lag between when the loader and trucks go through and the sweeper simply because the sweeper operates at a slower speed.

Regarding leaf vacs, there was actually a city employee from the valley area who was killed a few years ago operating one of them and they were prohibited by most insurance carriers as a result. Currently they can be used, but only newer ones that require multiple people to operate them. This produces issues of its own.

Finally regarding the phosphorus discharge, this is a topic I have followed with much interest and was a reason I was also a bit skeptical when it was proposed to put our leaves in the street. Believe it or not this has been a hot topic at the state level for the past several years. After many conversations with the DNR and other municipalities, the way we do it is completely fine. In other municipalities, the leaves are not picked up weekly as they are here. They are only collected once or twice. In these instances, the leaves begin to rot and as they mix with rainwater it produces the discharge that is of concern. Since ours are picked up before they have a chance to rot, there is no concern with that here.

Please feel free to reach out if you have further questions about why we have gone to this method for picking leaves up. Since we have moved to this current method, the overwhelming consensus has been very positive. We can get through districts much faster, we don't tear up the terrace, and once the sweeper has gone through, it looks much cleaner, and there are less solids reaching the storm sewers and ultimately our waterways.

Thanks
Dan

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From: Mary Madison <mn3bears@sbcglobal.net>
Sent: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 8:07 AM
To: James Brey - D4 <jbrey@manitowoc.org>; John Brunner <jbrunner@manitowoc.org>
Cc: Dan Koski <dkoski@manitowoc.org>; Sonja Birr <sbirr@manitowoc.org>
Subject: Re: External: leaf smear

Good Morning

I think the discussion needs to continue.

Yesterday I arrived in my neighborhood around noon to find a large pile in the middle of 21st and Richmond intersection and another at Richmond and east Atlanta circle with no trucks around. Considering how fast people drive on Richmond, this practice seems dangerous.

Also, I found the following article:

"Collect leaves in the fall from terraces by using vacuum trucks. Currently, residents rake leaves into the street for pickup by front-end loaders. That creates a situation where phosphorus-rich leachate drains into storm sewers and eventually into waterways, which can lead to increased algae growth that's harmful to people and animals."

<https://www.postcrescent.com/story/news/local/2021/07/21/appleton-makes-changes-leaf-collection-bulky-item-pickup-2022/8031143002/>

Manitowoc used to use a vacuum truck and seemed to leave much less mess!

Have a good day
Mary

On Thursday, October 21, 2021, 12:23:54 PM CDT, John Brunner <jbrunner@manitowoc.org> wrote:

Good Afternoon All,

Mary, did Alderman Brey's explanation shed some light onto the subject or would you like us to bring it up at the Nov 3rd Public Infrastructure meeting?

Thank you for your comments and sharing your concerns.

John

John L Brunner

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Phone (920) 901-3662

From: James Brey - D4
Sent: Wednesday, October 20, 2021 7:46:22 PM
To: Mary Madison
Cc: Dan Koski; John Brunner
Subject: Re: External: leaf smear

Hello Mary,

Thank you for your comments. I did talk with Dan Koski, our Director of Public Infrastructure about the pictures you sent. Generally what happens that after the leaves are picked up, the street sweeper comes through and picks up the remnants. He wasn't sure in your case that the pictures were taken before the sweeper came? Also, one of the sweepers has had mechanical problems (we are budgeting for a new one for 2022) so they might not have come.

I can assure you Mary that over the years, there have been different forms of picking up leaves. Although no one form is perfect, I have been impressed with the way we do it now as it does get the leaves picked up by using fewer employees thus freeing them up to do other fall maintenance and even picking up more leaves in a day. Also, while you know there not your leaves by the driveway, whoever put them there did not have them put out into the street away from the curb so they can be scooped up. That is in our policy.

If you want to discuss this further, I am sure Alderman Brunner would be happy to do this at a future Public Infrastructure meeting.

Take care!

Jim Brey
Alderman-Fourth District
City of Manitowoc, WI Common Council

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On Oct 20, 2021, at 8:13 AM, Mary Madison <mn3bears@sbcglobal.net> wrote:

Good Morning

Yesterday was my neighborhoods day for the street department to smear leaf piles throughout and leave almost as much behind as was picked up.

In one picture you see a pile at the end of my driveway. These were not even put out by me but by my neighbor at the other side of their driveway. Another picture shows the pile remaining at the corner.

I cannot believe this is "the best" that can be done. Year after year tax payers pay for this job to be 1/2 done. Isn't it time to explore other options for leaf pick up?

Thank you
Mary Madison
1634 Atlanta Circle

Be Alert !

