

Grass/leaf Recycling

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To: washgrove@comcast.net <washgrove@comcast.net>

Hi Kathy:

Would you please pass this on to the mayor and council members for consideration at the upcoming Council meeting (I don't have zoom capabilities).

Thanks much.

Don

Mayor and Town Council Members:

The Sustainability Group has provided many enlightened posts lately, including those regarding the benefits of mulching leaves (or simply leaving them in place) and encouraging grass recycling.

Currently, the Town treats a fallen leaf as an alien form that must be attacked and removed within minutes after landing and then dumped in the woods. As many have noted, this not only deprives the collected areas of nutrients, but also stresses flora and fauna at the dump site.

The Town has many opportunities to support the various goals of sustainability, the most immediate and obvious would be to retire the anachronistic leaf collector and, instead, mulch-mow leaves where they fall (as many of us do in our own yards) and only mulch-mow late in the season rather than multiple times. A

step beyond that would be to reduce the frequency of mowing grassy areas during the summer, and reducing the areas where leaf mulching is done in the fall.

Besides the direct on-site benefits to the natural environment, limiting such machine-based activities would reduce the air and noise pollution in Town, and free up maintenance for more productive activities.

Thank you for donating your time and talents to the Town.

Don Henninger