



# CITY OF SALINAS

## Environmental & Maintenance Services Department



### FALL/WINTER GUIDELINES For City Residents

#### **An Annual Problem:**

Leaf season is upon us, and the City of Salinas Environmental and Maintenance Services Department needs your help. Each year the heavy leaf fall that occurs from October through February presents a number of problems for the Street Sweeping Program.

- The volume of leaves that fall from our trees each year requires a significant increase in time and effort for the street sweeper to pickup and remove them from the street.
- The additional effort sometimes doubles the number of trips to unload the full sweeper and makes it difficult to finish the daily sweeping routes
- Leaves in the street can clog storm drains during winter rains and cause local street flooding.

#### **Did You Know:**

Chapter 29, Sec. 29-12, of the City's Municipal Code prohibits the discharge or placing of yard waste, landscape debris, vegetation clippings, or other landscape or construction-related wastes into the street. This rule applies throughout the year.

#### **How You Can Help:**

Please use the following guidelines when managing your landscape.

- Please do not rake leaves or landscape debris into the street. When this occurs from multiple properties the street sweeper fills more quickly and must make additional trips to unload. The increased number of times needed to unload may affect our ability to finish the sweeping routes. The sweeper cannot pick up large piles of leaves left in the street.
- Please contain all the leaves, grass clippings and tree branches from your lawn and landscape and place all debris into the dedicated BFI/Republic Services of Salinas Yard-Waste Bin for proper disposal.

#### **Benefits to Your Community:**

- Your cooperation will enable the City's Street Sweeping operations to more effectively remove the leaves that fall onto the City streets.
- It will help minimize the possibility of street flooding during heavy rain events.
- Diverting yard waste will assist BFI/Republic Services of Salinas to achieve EPA Mandated Diversion Rates and help maintain or reduce long-term costs.

Your participation will not only assist the City's Street Sweeping Program but is important to the City's Clean Water Program as well. The Clean Water Program provides for cleaning of storm drains and water channels prior to the wet weather season and removes and reduces pollutants (leaves, trash, silt and debris) before they enter local waterways and eventually the Monterey Bay Marine Sanctuary. Your cooperation and participation in preventing yard waste, leaves and debris from entering the streets and storm drains is greatly appreciated.

**For more information please call (831) 758-7150**  
**[www.cleanwatersalinas.org](http://www.cleanwatersalinas.org)**