

Brighton-Pittsford Post – “From the Supervisor” column – November 13, 2014 issue
Submitted by Pittsford Town Supervisor Bill Smith

A Seasonal Note

Unto everything there is a season. Pittsford’s Highway Department knows this well. When paving season wound down in October, leaf collection began immediately. It will be followed by, or overlap, snow plowing season for the more than 150 miles of roads for which the Town is responsible.

No doubt you’ve seen our leaf crews at it. When their work concludes, they’ll have collected more than 28,000 cubic yards of leaves. To put it in perspective, that comprises about 5,400 tons. I’m told that’s enough to fill a football stadium to a depth of 14 feet.

We recycle the leaves we collect, grinding them into mulch that we’ll offer to residents in the spring, free of charge.

You know what it’s like when you rake leaves. Once you’re finished, you want those leaves out of there as soon as possible. Please help us to make that happen by paying attention to these points:

- Place piles of leaves by the edge of the road, but not in it. Leaves in the road can pose a hazard to traffic, especially with wind or rain. They can clog storm water drains and drainage channels, causing flooding.
- Separate all sticks, brush, yard clippings and other debris into reusable containers or paper bags. This lets us recycle them. It helps avoid damage to our leaf vacuum. Leaf vacuums are expensive to replace, and every day of downtime represents another day the leaf pile sits in front of your house. Most importantly, separating out from the leaves all sticks, brush and other debris spares our crews from risk of injury.
- Sticks, brush and other debris must be placed in bags or containers in order for Town crews to collect it. This is because in the fall we devote to leaf collection the trucks used in spring and summer for collecting loose brush. We’ll be picking up sticks and brush through December 1, but please remember it must be in bags or containers.
- Please don’t pile leaves around fire hydrants. Doing so impedes firefighting, for which every second counts. Hydrants hidden by leaves pose a potential hazard to equipment and people and are themselves susceptible to damage.

Pittsford Town crews will collect leaves through December. To see when leaf crews will be in your neighborhood, use our online Leaf Collection App. You’ll find it on our website’s Fall Leaf and Yard Debris Collection page. There you’ll find links to our Yard Debris pick up maps.

Our work crews and I thank you for your cooperation as leaf and debris pickup proceeds.

Contact Supervisor Smith at bsmith@townofpittsford.org or 248-6220.