



# County of Ottawa

## Office of the Water Resources Commissioner

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## Yard Waste and Grass Clippings

During a recent drain inspection on the No. 31 drain. We identified multiple locations with yard waste and grass clippings in the drain. The photo below was taken during the inspection.

### The Issue:

Grass clippings and yard waste causes issues impeding proper drainage and increases the need for drain maintenance. It also has an adverse effect on water quality. Fertilizers used in grass clippings add phosphorus and nitrogen into our water systems causing the increase of plant growth and algae blooms.

### Illicit Discharge:

Grass clippings and yard waste are considered an illicit discharge because of the adverse effects it has on water quality. It is also considered a violation according to sec 412 of the Michigan Drain Code of 1956. Future violations after this drain cleaning will include fines for the costs of the cleanup, to the landowner responsible for the dumping.

### What you can do with yard waste:

There are several ways to avoid/ properly dispose of yard waste.

- Mow grass at a higher setting. At least 3 inches high. Allow grass clippings to stay in your yard.
- Add yard waste into your compost.
- Dispose of yard waste properly. Park Township's 2024 Waste Recycling is found on the other side of this letter.



We all play a part in keeping our waterways clean. Did you know that you live in Pine Creek Watershed? Currently impaired due to phosphorus and sedimentation inputs into the waterway. Keeping out lawn waste will prevent further impairments. Find out more about your watershed that you live in here: <https://mywaterway.epa.gov/>.

# Park Township

## 2024 Yard Waste Recycling

### Location:

Chip's Groundcover LLC, 13057 Quincy Street, Holland, MI 49424 (for Park Township's north side)  
Maatman Center, 669 Harrington Ave., Holland, MI 49423 (for Park Township's south side)

### Spring:

Friday, April 12	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, April 13	9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Friday, May 3	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 4	9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

### Fall:

Friday, October 25	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 26	9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Friday, November 1	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 2	9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Friday, November 8	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 9	9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Friday, November 15	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 16	9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
Friday, November 22	8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 23	9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

### Guidelines:

- We will accept brush, branches, grass clippings, limbs (up to 12 inches diameter) and leaves
- Brush must be separated from leaves
- No plastic, contaminants, treated lumber or stumps
- No commercial vehicles
- Customer responsible for unloading and separating
- Township personnel welcome, but not required
- Open to Park Township residents (proof may be requested)