

Effective October 3, 2011 a new Brush and Yard Waste Ordinance went into effect. The reasons for the changes are to improve cost effectiveness, improve safety of employees and to allow for penalties to be enforced for habitual violators of the ordinance. The new regulations are listed below. Penalty for non-compliance with the ordinance range from a first offense fine of \$50.00 to a fourth offense fine of \$500.00.

The City of Parchment will provide monthly brush pick up for residential properties from April through November on the first Monday of each month. Christmas trees will be picked up by the end of January. The City does not pick up tree removal wastes or yard waste. Yard waste may be disposed of by purchasing a yard waste tag and bag at City Hall or you may rent a yard waste container. Yard waste is collected weekly from April through November.

DEFINITIONS:

Brush: Includes limbs, branches and trimmings from trees that are no longer than eight (8) feet with a maximum diameter of 6 inches removed from trees on the property in the course of normal yard maintenance.

Yard Waste: Includes grass clippings, trimmings from bushes, ornamental grass, shrubs and hedges, leaves, weeds from the garden, flowers, vines, leafy plants and other vegetation, dead, alive or dormant.

Unacceptable Yard Waste Materials: Plastic bags, flats and pots, dirt, rocks, stones, bricks, concrete, asphalt and any other material that cannot be composted.

Tree Removal Wastes: Includes all body wood larger than six (6) inches, stumps, chips and other debris generated from the removal of a tree.

BRUSH PICK UP REGULATIONS:

1. All brush to be picked up must be no longer than eight (8) feet in length. The maximum diameter is six (6) inches. The branch must be able to be handled by one person.
2. All brush must be neatly stacked (not intertwined) in curb lawn with the cut ends pointing in the same direction.
3. Brush must be stacked in such a way that it is not blocking the sidewalk or protruding into the street.
4. The City will not pick up yard waste.
5. Limbs with vines attached will not be taken. All vines should be removed prior to placing on the curb.
6. **Brush may not be placed in the curb lawn more than seven days before the scheduled pick up date. Brush not placed on the curb lawn by 7 AM on the pickup date will not be picked up. Brush may NOT be comingled with leaves, but placed in separate piles.**

The City's annual leaf pickup program will tentatively kickoff in October and will follow a schedule of specific pickup days (see sign at City Hall or City Calendar at www.parchment.org). Property owners should not place leaves at the curb more than three days prior to these pickup dates. Leaves must be out by 7:00 AM on pick up day. The schedule is weather dependent as snow or heavy rains may delay pickups. One-time spring leaf pickup will occur in April. The annual City-wide trash pickup is usually the last Wednesday-Thursday of April.

NON-COMPLIANCE: Items placed for pick up that do not comply with the above regulations will not be removed. The property owner will be responsible for disposing of that material in a lawful manner. **Brush and leaves may NOT be comingled, but placed in separate piles.**