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CITY OF KEARNEY **PRESS RELEASE** ***For Immediate Release***

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Keep Leaves Off the Street- Rake Them Up and Recycle

City streets are not the dumping grounds for leaves.

Why should you be concerned? Excessive organic matter such as grass and leaves can cause odors in neighborhood creeks and create drainage problems that could lead to localized flooding.

City Ord. No. 7352 states: "The owner of the property abutting the sidewalk space shall be responsible for the routine care of such landscape plantings within the sidewalk space, including...raking and disposing of leaves...in accordance with Section 7-502 of this Article..." To learn more, call 308-233-3273.

Anyone using leaf blowers on yards are asked to blow leaves and clippings back on to yards. The stormwater system is designed to drain only rain. The large amount of leaves prohibits the stormwater system from meeting peak efficiency. Also, City street sweeping machines are not designed for picking up excessive amounts of leaves. Here are the best options for keeping leaves out of the street:

- Keep mulched leaves in your yard to benefit from their nutrients.
- Rake or blow leaves into a compost pile, where they can decompose without odor.
- Collect leaves and take to the Landfill Yard Waste/Tree Site (Mon-Sat: 8am to 5 pm)
- Collect leaves in the brown yard waste container the City picks up weekly, this year ending the **week of December 1-4**. There will be no Thanksgiving week container pick-up. (Leaves only- no sticks, trash or other wastes).

Check out our web site at www.cityofkearney.org.

We are sending this News Release as a service to the news media and citizens of Kearney.