Leaf Fall Season is here!

Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

Information leaflet for groups & residents associations who want to volunteer in partnership with Dublin City Council

Did you know….

Trees….trees absorb carbon dioxide & potentially harmful gasses, such as sulphur dioxide from the air & release vital oxygen back into the atmosphere? One large tree can yield a day's supply of oxygen for four people! Beautiful to look at, they are essential for our health & well-being & that's why they play such a vital part in the public areas of our city.

Tree leaves also play an important role in Dublin's ecosystem. Not all leaves need to be removed, a light covering of leaves naturally enriches soil as it slowly returns carbon back into the earth. Fallen leaves also create a home for many beneficial organisms.

Did you also know that leaves make the most wonderful compost & mulch for common areas for FREE? More on this later!

However, if composting isn't your thing (though we seriously encourage you to give it a go!), we will provide you with compostable leaf sacks so that they can escape landfill & fulfil their potential as beautiful compost!

Thank you!

We acknowledge that public trees yield a lot of leaves, which may cause difficulties for some of our citizens….so many in fact, that we need to enlist the help of your volunteers.

We fully appreciate that one person's treasure, is another person's dross! So, whilst some citizens see autumn as a wonderful opportunity to make free compost, others see leaves as a nuisance & a potential slip hazard when wet.

So where we most need your help, is on communal areas of hardscaping (e.g. paths) during leaf fall, which can become slippery when wet, impacting on road drainage & potentially impeding people walking/cycling. It's not about tidy appearances, but rather how leaves in certain situations can impact negatively on lives.

We are most grateful for any help in the huge task of gathering of PUBLIC leaves that you can render, so a BIG THANK YOU to you all – you're making a real difference in your community!

Let's get started!

Try to encourage your community to compost leaves if they can, but if this is not an option, then please ensure that your volunteer groups use official Dublin City Council compostable leaf bag for public leaves.

Place only public leaves in the bag & just fill half way & tie a knot.

Place bags in a safe, prominent, residentially agreed location in your area. Do not block pathways, roadways, laneways or driveways or cause an issue for your neighbours.

Bags for collection must be logged via Citizen Hub https://citizenhub.dublincity.ie/ Please register for an account first and then click on "Other Service" and "Community Clean Up" specifying the exact address where the filled bags are located, quantity of bags, your name, address, contact phone number & the name of your group.

Leaf mould

Autumn is the perfect time to collect leaves for composting which can then be used in the following four ways:

1. As a mulch in your community flower beds/garden or around bushes in perennial planting areas to keep weeds down & to retain moisture in the soil during drier summer months.

2. To balance composting ingredients in the spring & summer when there are so many green materials such as grass cuttings.

3. In a wormery as critical bedding material.

4. Composted on their own, leaves can be placed in bins or cages to produce lovely weed-free leaf mould compost in 1-2 years' time.

Setting up a leaf mould system

Pick a shady location near trees that drop autumn leaves.

If the cage is placed under a tree, place several layers of cardboard or a woven weed barrier underneath to prevent tree roots from growing up into the leaf mould pile.

Build a large enough cage so it can retain moisture needed to sustain the leaf mould process. Cover with black plastic to retain moisture in drier summer months. Pallet bins are large enough to make good leaf mould. Cages should be a minimum diameter of 1.5m & can be as large as 3m in size.

What a leaf mould cage should look like

Keep cages away from ivy, bind weed or brambles/briars so that these weeds do not contaminate the leaf mould.

No—Cage too small with weeds & brambles

Yes—Proper sized cages in a shady location

Managing your leaf mould system

Fill cage with raked up wet leaves from the ground so you don’t have to water them first.

Leaves will settle in within a few weeks. Top up the cage at the end of autumn. Do not overfill the cage as the top layer can dry out & dry leaves can then blow away during windy weather.

Keep the cage open to the environment so that rainfall can keep materials moist.

In drier months, check cage for moisture. Mix & water the top layer as necessary.

Do not be tempted to add leaves from the following season to your older leaf mould. Start new cages for next season's leaves.
This makes harvesting leaf mould easier the following year.

Some leaf mould may be ready to use as a mulch after a year. After two years, your leaf mould compost should be ready & will resemble a dark, crumbly compost.
You'll find finished leaf mould in the middle of the pile often under another dry layer of leaves on top.

Screen leaf mould & return under composted leaves to a new or existing leaf mould bin or cage.

Use the leaf mould in the same way you would use compost: as a mulch, a soil amendment, or as an ingredient in a potting mix.

For further great tips on composting go to our web page https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/environment/waste-and-recycling/composting-home

Tá na duilleoga ag titim anois!

Comhairle Cathrach
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Dublin City Council

Bileog eolais do ghrúpaí & do chumainn áitritheoirí ar mian leo obair dheonach a dhéanamh i gcomhar le Comhairle Cathrach Bhaile Átha Cliath

An raibh a fhios agat…

Crainn…An raibh a fhios agat go súnn crainn dé-ocsaíd charbóin isteach ón aer mar aon le gáis a d'fhéadfadh a bheith díobhálach, ar nós dé-ocsaíd sulfair, agus go scaoileann siad ocsaíd ar ais isteach san atmaisféar? D'fhéadfadh crann mór amháin ocsaíd do cheathrar a sholáthar ar feadh lae amháin! Is rudaí áille iad atá bunriachtanach dár sláinte agus dár bhfolláine agus sin é an fáth go bhfuil ról fíorthábhachtach acu inár gceantair phoiblí sa chathair.

Tá ról tábhachtach ag crainn freisin i éiceachóras Bhaile Átha Cliath. Ní gá gach duilleog a bhaint. Is leasú nádúrtha don ithir é clúdach éadrom duilleog mar cuireann sé carbón ar ais san ithir go mall. Is iomaí orgánach tairbheach atá le fáil sna duilleoga tite.

An raibh a fhios agat freisin gur féidir múirín & móta iontach a dhéanamh as na duilleoga SAOR IN AISCE? Tuilleadh mar gheall air seo níos déanaí!

Mura bhfuil suim agat múirín a dhéanamh (ach molaimid duit go láidir triail a bhaint as!), cuirfimid málaí duilleoige inmhúirínithe ar fáil duit ionas nach rachaidh siad go dtí láithreán talún agus go ndéanfar múirín álainn astu!

Go raibh maith agat

Ní féidir a shéanadh go dtugann crainn phoiblí an-chuid duilleog uathu, a d'fhéadfadh deacrachtaí a chruthú do roinnt dár saoránaigh…an oiread sin i ndáiríre go bhfuil cúnamh ag teastáil uainn ó oibrithe deonacha.

Aithnimid go hiomlán gur iomaí blas i mbéal duine! Tá roinnt saoránach den tuairim gut deis iontach é an fómhar múirín a dhéanamh saor in aisce, ach do dhaoine eile, is crá croí iad na duilleoga a chruthaíonn guais tuisle in aimsir fhliuch.

Mar sin, is iad na háiteanna ina bhfuil an cúnamh is mó ag teastáil uainn ná i gceantair chomhchoiteanna ina bhfuil dromchla crua i gceist (m.sh. cosáin) a d'fhéadfadh a bheith sleamhain in aimsir fhliuch agus a d'fhéadfadh cur isteach ar dhraenáil bhóithre & ar dhaoine atá ag siúl nó atá ar rothar. Ní cuma shlachtmhar atá á lorg againn ach go dtuigfidh daoine go mbíonn tionchar diúltach ag duilleoga ar shaol na ndaoine i gcúinsí áirithe.

Táimid fíorbhuíoch as aon chabhair ar féidir leat a thabhairt dúinn chun duilleoga POIBLÍ a bhailiú. MÍLE BUÍOCHAS libh go léir as bhur gcúnamh – déanann sé difear ollmhór don cheantar!

Ar aghaidh linn!

Déan iarracht daoine i do cheantar a spreagadh chun go ndéanfaidh siad múirín as duilleoga más féidir leo, ach mura féidir, déan cinnte de, le do thoil, go mbaineann na grúpaí deonacha úsáid as mála duilleoige inmhúirínithe do dhuilleoga poiblí de chuid Chomhairle Cathrach Bhaile Átha Cliath.

Ná cuir ach duilleoga poiblí sa mhála & cuir snaidhm ann nuair atá sé leathlán.

Cuir na málaí in áit shábháilte fheiceálach atá socraithe roimh ré. Ná fág sa bhealach iad ar chosáin, ar bhóithre, i lánaí ná i gcabhsáin, agus déan iarracht gan cur isteach ar do chomharsana.

Ní foláir málaí atá le bailiú a logáil trí Mhol Saoránach https://citizenhub.dublincity.ie/ Cláraigh do chuntas ar dtús agus ansin cliceáil ar "Seirbhís Eile" agus "Glantachán Pobail" agus luaigh go sonrach an seoladh cruinn ag a bhfuil na málaí líonta, líon na málaí, d'ainm, seoladh, uimhir ghutháin & ainm do ghrúpa.

Múirín Duillí

An fómhar an t-am is fearr chun duilleoga a bhailliú agus múirín a dhéanamh. Ansin is féidir é a úsáid mar seo a leanas:

1. Mar mhóta i do ghairdín nó timpeall ar sceacha i gceantair phlandaithe ilbhliantúla chun fiailí a choimeád faoi smacht & chun taise a choimeád san ithir le linn míonna tirime an tsamhraidh.

2. Chun go mbeidh cothromaíocht ann idir comhábhair múirín san earrach & sa samhradh nuair atá an-chuid ábhár glas ann ar nós scotháin féir.

3. I bpiastlann mar ábhar easrach bunriachtanach.

4. Is féidir duilleoga a chur in araidí nó i gcásanna leo féin chun múirín álainn saor ó fhiailí a chruthú agus a bheidh réidh i gceann bliana nó dhó.

Céimeanna chun Córas Múirín Duillí a chur ar bun

Roghnaigh áit faoi scáth in aice le crainn as a dtiteann duilleoga fómhair.

Más faoi chrann atá an cás, cuir roinnt sraitheanna de chairtchlár nó bacainn fite faoin gcás ionas nach bhfásfaidh fréamhacha crainn suas isteach sa chairn múirín duillí.

Tóg cás ina bheidh spás ann don taise mar is cuid riachtanach den phróiseas múirínithe í an taise. Clúdaigh le plaisteach dubh é chun an taise a choimeád ann i rith míonna tirime an tsamhraidh. Tá araidí pailléid mór go leor chun múirín duillí maith a dhéanamh. Ba chóir go mbeidh na cásanna 1.5m ar trastomhas ar a laghad agus d'fhéadfadh siad bheith suas le 3m i méid.

Cásanna Múirín Duillí

Coimeád na cásanna saor ó eidhnán, ó ialus nó ó dhriseacha ionas nach ndéanfaidh na fiailí seo an múirín duillí a thruailliú.

Ní hea—Cás róbheag
Driseacha ag brú isteach

Sea—Araid & cás den mhéid cheart in áit faoi scáth

An Múiriniú a Bhainistiú

Líon an cás le duilleoga fliucha rácáilte ón talamh agus mar sin, ní bheidh ort uisce a chur orthu.

Socróidh na duilleoga laistigh de chúpla seachtain. Cuir tuilleadh duilleog sa chás ag deireadh an fhómhair. Ná cuir an iomarca sa chás mar d'fhéadfadh an tsraith is airde triomú amach & d'fhéadfadh duilleoga tirime séideadh chun siúil nuair a bhíonn an aimsir gaofar.

Bíodh an cás ar oscailt ionas go gcoimeádfaidh an bháisteach an t-ábhar tais.

Nuair a bhíonn an aimsir tirim, seiceáil go bhfuil an t-ábhar sa chás tais. Déan an tsraith is airde a mheascadh & cuir uisce uirthi mar is gá.

Ná bíodh cathú ort duilleoga breise ón séasúr dár gcionn a chur leis an múirín atá níos sine. Cuir tús le cásanna nua do dhuilleoga ón gcéad séasúr eile. Ar an gcaoi seo, beidh sé níos éasca múirín duillí a shábháil don chéad bhlain eile.

Beidh roinnt múirín duillí réidh chun é a úsáid tar éis bliana. Tar éis dhá bhliain, ba cheart go mbeidh do mhúirín duillí réidh & beidh cuma dhorcha, ghrabhógach air. Is i lár an chairn a bhfaighidh tú an múirín duillí atá réidh. Go minic, bíonn sé faoi sraith de na duilleoga tirime atá ar barr.

Déan an múirín duillí a scagadh & cuir ar ais é faoi dhuilleoga múirínithe in araid nó i gcás nua nó i gcás atá á úsáid agat cheana féin le haghaidh múirín duillí.

Bain úsáid as an múirín duillí mar a bhainfeá úsáid as gnáthmhúirín: mar mhóta, mar fheabhsú don ithir, nó mar chomhábhar i meascán potaithe.

https://www.dublincity.ie/residential/environment/waste-and-recycling/composting-home