

October 9, 2013

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

With leaves beginning to fall, the Beloit Fire Department has issued a reminder that burning within the city limits is prohibited year-round.

In place of burning, the city will offer free curbside collection of yard waste on regular trash days Nov. 4-22. Free collection includes bagged leaves, grass clippings and garden debris in paper yard waste bags, Back To Nature Biodegradable bags or clean trash containers. No litter is allowed in the yard waste and the bags should be placed a few feet away from regular trash on trash day.

Brush and shrubbery can be bundled or tied for curbside pickup, should be no longer than 4 feet long or 4 inches in diameter, and must contain a \$1.50 tag. Tags for bundles are available for sale at the City Hall Treasurer's Department, Department of Public Works, Grinnell Hall and the Leisure Services Office.

Blowing or raking leaves into the curb and gutter is against city ordinance.

For more information on yard waste pickup call the Beloit Department of Public Works at 364-2929.

There are a few exceptions to Beloit's burning prohibition, including allowance for safe use of outdoor grills for preparation of food, and use of permanent or portable outdoor fireplaces with screens to prevent the escape of burning embers. Only dry wood logs must be used in the outdoor portable or permanent fireplaces, while only wood, charcoal, gas or electricity should be used for grilling food. Outdoor cooking is prohibited between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. in residential areas. Fires in outdoor grills should be limited to times when the wind is less than 15 mph.

Special burning permits may be requested of the fire chief. For more specific information on outdoor burning call the Beloit Fire Department at 364-2900.