

**AN ORDINANCE BY PRINCETON CONCERNING THE LEAF, BRANCH AND LOG COLLECTION PROGRAM AND AMENDING THE "CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY, 1974" AND THE "CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY, 1968".**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Princeton and Township of Princeton pursuant to the provisions of the New Jersey Municipal Consolidation Act, *N.J.S.A. 40:43-66.35* consolidated as Princeton on January 1, 2013; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 40:43-66.64*, the Princeton Council on January 1, 2013 adopted a Resolution continuing in effect Ordinances of the former Borough of Princeton and the former Township of Princeton as a new Code for Princeton is prepared; and

WHEREAS, the Princeton Council's Code Subcommittee has reviewed and consolidated Article III of Chapter 15 of the "Code of the Borough of Princeton, 1974" and Article IA of Chapter 19 of the "Code of the Township of Princeton, New Jersey, 1968," pertaining to the Leaf, Branch and Log Collection Program; and

WHEREAS, the Princeton Council wishes to adopt said Code revisions which will become a part of the new Princeton Code at a future date.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Princeton Council as follows:

Section 1. Article III of Chapter 15 of the "Code of the Borough of Princeton, New Jersey, 1974," entitled "Yard Waste Collection Program," is repealed in its entirety.

Section 2. Article IA of Chapter 19 of the "Code of the Township of Princeton, New Jersey, 1968," entitled "Leaf, Branch and Log Collection Program," is repealed in its entirety, except that the substance of Schedules B and C to Article IA shall not be repealed. Because

Schedule A has been repealed, the title of Schedule "B" shall be changed to Schedule "A" and the title of Schedule "C" shall be changed to Schedule "B."

Section 3. Subject only to the exceptions set forth in Section 2 above, a NEW Article IA to Chapter 19 of the "Code of the Township of Princeton, New Jersey, 1968," as set forth on Exhibit A attached hereto and made a part hereof, is hereby adopted to set forth the provisions governing the Leaf, Branch and Log Collection Program, and to replace the aforementioned provisions of the "Code of the Borough of Princeton, New Jersey, 1974" and the "Code of the Township of Princeton, New Jersey, 1968."

Section 4. All ordinances and resolutions or parts thereof inconsistent with this Ordinance are repealed.

Section 5. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion thereof.

Section 6. This Ordinance shall take effect upon its final adoption and publication as provided for by law. The attached Article IA to Chapter 19 shall be applicable within Princeton upon taking effect and shall become a part of the new Princeton Code once completed and adopted.

The foregoing ordinance was introduced at a meeting of the Mayor and Council of Princeton held on June 23, 2014 and will be further considered for final passage after a public hearing thereon at a meeting of said Mayor and Council to be held at the Princeton Municipal Complex, 400 Witherspoon Street on July 28, 2014 which begins at 7:00 p.m.



Kathleen K. Brzezynski  
Deputy Clerk

This ordinance is part of the ongoing process of merging and harmonizing the code provisions of former Princeton Borough and former Princeton Township into a new code for the consolidated municipality of Princeton. It sets forth the requirements of Princeton's Leaf, Branch and Log Collection Program and applies same uniformly throughout the municipality.

**EXHIBIT A**

**CHAPTER 19. STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND BICYCLE PATHS.**

**Article IA. Leaf, Branch and Log Collection Program.**

**Sec. 19-1.3. Introduction; intent.**

- (a) Princeton residents shall be permitted to dispose of leaves, branches and logs in accordance with the requirements set forth in this article.
- (b) It shall be the municipality's policy to encourage residents to:
  - (1) Participate in the program described in this article;
  - (2) Compost, chip and/or mulch leaves, branches and logs on their own property; or
  - (3) Take leaves, branches and logs to the Lawrence Township Ecological Facility, or such other ecological facility that may be designated by the municipality, for disposal.
- (c) The intent of this article is to:
  - (1) Keep Princeton's streets, roads, sidewalks, bike paths and public right-of-ways free from debris for the safe passage of vehicles, including emergency vehicles, pedestrians and bicycles.
  - (2) Preserve and protect public property;
  - (3) Assist residents in the disposal and removal of leaves, branches and logs in an orderly and organized fashion; and
  - (4) Satisfy Princeton's stormwater management planning requirements.

**Sec. 19-1.4. Division of municipality into sections for collection; notification of sections and collection schedules; report to mayor and council.**

For purposes of collection under this article, the municipality shall be divided into several sections. The director of infrastructure and operations shall determine the identity, quantity and location of these sections. The director shall designate the sections annually and may also amend the identity, quantity or location of sections as may be necessary. The director's exercise of authority under this section shall be subject to the administrator's approval. The director shall also report the designated collection sections and corresponding schedule to the mayor and council annually.

**Sec. 19-1.5. Leaf collection schedule and requirements.**

- (a) The municipality will collect leaves along residential roadways and streets between the months of March and December. The director of infrastructure and operations shall determine the leaf collection schedule annually, specifying type of pick up (loose vs. bagged) and frequency of collection, and may also amend said schedule as may be necessary, subject to the approval of the administrator.
- (b) Leaves shall be left for collection as follows:
  - (1) Leaves must be placed in piles (referred to as "loose leaves") or in biodegradable paper bags (referred to as "bagged leaves").
  - (2) Requirements for collection of loose leaves:

- a. Loose leaves shall be left out for the municipality's collection by placing the pile(s) on the paved roadway adjacent to the curb or the beginning of the paved roadway and extending no more than three feet from the curb or if there is no curb, no more than three feet from where the paved roadway begins.
  - b. Loose leaves shall not be left on any sidewalk, bike path or walkway, over utility boxes such as gas and water shutoffs or sewer clean-outs or within ten feet of any storm sewer inlet or fire hydrant.
  - c. Loose leaves shall be left out for collection prior to the start of the scheduled collection week, but not more than seven days prior to its start. For purposes of this section, "start of the scheduled collection week" shall mean 7:00 A.M. on Monday and "collection week" shall mean Monday through Friday.
- (3) Requirements for collection of bagged leaves:
- a. Bagged leaves shall be left out for the municipality's collection by placing the bag(s) on the edge of the roadway. For purposes of this paragraph, "on the edge of the roadway" shall refer to the grass (or dirt area if no grass) that is immediately adjacent to the paved roadway but shall not mean the paved roadway itself or on the curb.
  - b. Bagged leaves shall not be left on any sidewalk, bike path or walkway, over utility boxes such as gas and water shutoffs or sewer clean-outs or within ten feet of any storm sewer inlet or fire hydrant.
  - c. Bagged leaves shall be left out for collection prior to the start of the scheduled collection week, but not more than seven days prior to its start. For purposes of this section, "start of the scheduled collection week" shall mean 7:00 A.M. on Monday and "collection week" shall mean Monday through Friday.
- (c) Also refer to Schedules A and B attached hereto for a summary and illustration, respectively, of the requirements of this section.
- (d) Notwithstanding the above, leaves may be taken to the Lawrence Township Ecological Facility, or such other ecological facility that may be designated by the municipality, for disposal. Leaves may also be disposed of on an owner's property, such as in wooded areas if practicable.

**Sec. 19-1.6. Branch and log collection.**

- (a) The municipality will collect branches and logs along residential roadways and streets during the spring and fall each year and such other times that may be deemed necessary by director of infrastructure and operations, such as after major storm events. The director of infrastructure and operations shall determine the branch and log collection schedule annually and may also amend said schedule as may be necessary, subject to the approval of the administrator.
- (b) Branches shall be left out for collection as follows (per each scheduled collection day):
  - (1) Branches shall be placed in separate untied bundles or piles and left for collection by placing the bundle(s) or pile(s) on the paved roadway adjacent to the curb or the beginning of the paved roadway and extending no more than three feet from the curb or if there is no curb, no more than three feet from where the paved roadway begins.
  - (2) Branches must be cut no longer than three feet in length and no larger than four inches in diameter.

- (3) Bundles and piles of branches may be no greater in size than three feet in length, three feet in width and three feet in height.
  - (4) Branches may not be placed on any sidewalk, bike path or walkway, over utility boxes such as gas and water shutoffs or sewer clean-outs or within ten feet of any storm sewer inlet or fire hydrant.
  - (5) Branches shall be left out for collection prior to the start of the scheduled collection week, but not more than seven days prior to its start. For purposes of this section, "start of the scheduled collection week" shall mean 7:00 A.M. on Monday and "collection week" shall mean Monday through Friday.
- (c) Logs shall be left out for collection as follows (per each scheduled collection day):
- (1) Logs shall be placed in separate untied bundles or piles and left for collection by placing the bundle(s) or pile(s) on the paved roadway adjacent to the curb or the beginning of the paved roadway and extending no more than three feet from the curb or if there is no curb, no more than three feet from where the paved roadway begins.
  - (2) Logs must be cut no longer than three feet in length and no larger than six inches in diameter.
  - (3) Bundles and piles of logs shall be no greater in size than three feet in length, three feet in width and three feet in height.
  - (4) A maximum amount of three bundles or piles of logs per property may be left for collection.
  - (5) Logs may not be placed on any sidewalk, bike path or walkway, over utility boxes such as gas and water shutoffs or sewer clean-outs or within ten feet of any storm sewer inlet or fire hydrant.
  - (6) Logs shall be left out for collection prior to the start of the scheduled collection week, but not more than seven days prior to its start. For purposes of this section, "start of the scheduled collection week" shall mean 7:00 A.M. on Monday and "collection week" shall mean Monday through Friday.
- (d) Also refer to Schedules A and B attached hereto for a summary and illustration, respectively, of the requirements of this section.
- (e) Notwithstanding the above, branches and logs (not greater than six inches in diameter) may be taken to the Lawrence Township Ecological Facility, or such other ecological facility that may be designated by the municipality, for disposal.

**Sec. 19-1.7. Responsibility of municipality to pick up leaves, branches and logs not left in accordance with program requirements or left on private property.**

The municipality will not be responsible for:

- (a) Collecting leaves, branches or logs left within any public right-of-way if not done in accordance with the requirements of this article, except as provided in section 19-1.1 of this chapter; or
- (b) Collecting any leaves, branches or logs left on any private property, except as provided in section 17-6 of this Code.

**Sec. 19-1.8. Enforcement, violations and penalties.**

- (a) The provisions of this article shall be enforced by the department of infrastructure and operations and police department.
- (b) Any person violating the provisions of this article shall be subject to such fines and other penalties as set forth in section 1-6 of this Code.