



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 14, 2014

**CONTACT:**

Molly Poppe

312.744.2878; molly.poppe@cityofchicago.org

**FALL CLEAN AND GREEN NEIGHBORHOOD BEAUTIFICATION DAY**

*Department of Streets and Sanitation to Coordinate Bagged Leaf Collection in November*

Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Department of Streets and Sanitation (DSS) Commissioner Charles Williams today announced the citywide fall Clean and Green day of service on Saturday, November 8. Residents are encouraged to clear curb lanes and areas around storm drains as well as clean vacant lots, parkways and any other community areas that need a good clean. DSS will continue street sweeping throughout the fall to capture leaf debris in city streets, but uncollected leaves and other debris can cause draining issues during the winter.

“Chicagoans have a long history of service in their community through revitalization and beautification efforts,” said Mayor Emanuel. “I look forward to community groups, block clubs and residents citywide teaming up to clean their neighborhoods of leaves, yard waste and other debris before winter.”

This fall, residents are invited to participate in Clean and Green as part of the One Good Deed Chicago program where the culture of service and philanthropy are promoted to help support at-risk youth, enhance economic recovery and provide safe and clean neighborhoods for all Chicagoans. Through the One Good Deed Chicago initiative, Mayor Emanuel and DSS are calling on neighbors and community groups to help clean their neighborhoods this fall.

To participate in the citywide Clean and Green, call 3-1-1 to register your community group or find a community group to team up with. The City will provide your community organization with brooms, rakes, shovels and bags to get the job done. The community cleaning supplies can be picked up at your local Streets and Sanitation Refuse Division Office. All community groups must register their Clean and Green with 3-1-1 by Friday, October 31, 2014.

Additionally, as part of the citywide effort to clean up leaves before winter, DSS is coordinating dedicated bagged leaf and other yard waste collection trucks for the first three weeks of November. Residents can call 3-1-1 to request separate bagged leaf collection from November 3 through November 21. Residents should bag leaves and other yard waste separately from garbage in the black carts and recycling in the blue carts and leave the bags in the alley or at the curb for collection. A DSS truck will collect the bags based on 311 requests and take it to be composted.

“Clean and Green is a tremendous opportunity for residents to come together for just a few hours to clean their communities and clear curb lanes and storm drains before winter,” said Commissioner Williams. “Through this effort, the Department is expanding dedicated bagged leaf collection for the fall to assist residents clearing their yards, parkways and storm drains of leaf debris.”

To learn more about Clean and Green and bagged leaf collection, visit [www.cityofchicago.org/dss](http://www.cityofchicago.org/dss).

###