



## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

### PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ON JANUARY 13, 2023**

LEAF VACUUM SEASON SECOND AND FINAL ROUND

ATHENS, TENNESSEE – January 13, 2023 – The City of Athens Public Works Department announces the second and final round of Leaf Vacuum Season:

The second and final round of Leaf Vacuum Season will begin on Tuesday, January 17, 2023. Leaf crews will vacuum leaves placed curbside for pick up until Friday, February 10, 2023. **After Friday, February 10, 2023 leaves must be bagged for pick up. Bagged** leaves are picked up throughout the year during junk routes.

If you would like your leaves collected during this final round, please rake them three to five feet from the edge of the road. **DO NOT PLACE LEAVES IN THE ROAD, IN DRAINAGE DITCHES, OR ON SIDEWALK.** Doing so creates hazards for motorists and pedestrians, and risks clogging up storm drains that could result in flooding. In areas where there are sidewalks, leaves should be placed behind the sidewalk and leaf crews will pick them up. Also, **DO NOT PLACE LEAVES ON OR AROUND OBSTACLES** such as mailboxes, trees, fences, poles, yard decorations, water meter lids, and vehicles. Leaf piles around or behind obstacles will not be picked up by the leaf crews, as the leaf vacuum may potentially damage the obstruction or the equipment.

For information on which zone the leaf crews are currently working, or to find out your zone, please call 423-744-2745 or visit [www.cityofathenstn.com/publicworks](http://www.cityofathenstn.com/publicworks) for more information. To view the leaf season map visit [Leaf Collection, Athens, TN \(cityofathenstn.com\)](http://www.cityofathenstn.com/leaf-collection) .

For faster service, you are encouraged to bag your leaves and the Public Works Department will collect them on the regular junk route. You can also mulch your leaves by running your lawn mower over them. This will improve your lawn by adding organic material. Another option is composting your leaves for use in flowerbeds and gardens. If you have any further questions about leaf season, please call the Athens Public Works Department at 423-744-2745.

The City of Athens is nestled in the foothills of the Great Smoky Mountains and has garnered a reputation as the “Friendly City.”

For more information, please contact the Office of the Public Works Department at 423-744-2745.