



IT'S SPRINGTIME.

 And things are picking up all over.

As you likely already know, the City of Toronto now collects yard waste in kraft paper bags. (Sorry, no plastic bags.) Kraft paper bags are biodegradable, so they break down along with yard waste, creating compost in the process. Better yet, put your leaves and twigs in rigid open-top containers, such as bushel baskets, or an extra garbage can. And bundle your brush.

You can buy kraft paper yard waste bags at hardware and grocery stores or garden centres.

For composting tips, to get a composter or to find out where to pick up free City produced compost from April - October, call the Composting Helpline at 416-392-4689. 



1. We no longer pick up grass clippings. So save yourself the raking and enjoy a naturally beautiful lawn. Clippings reduce the need for fertilizer - recycling nitrogen, potassium and phosphorus back to the soil to build a deep, healthy root system. Being 90 per cent water, clippings also help reduce the need to water.



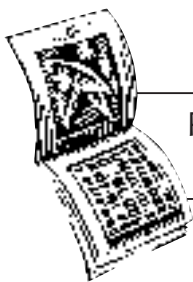
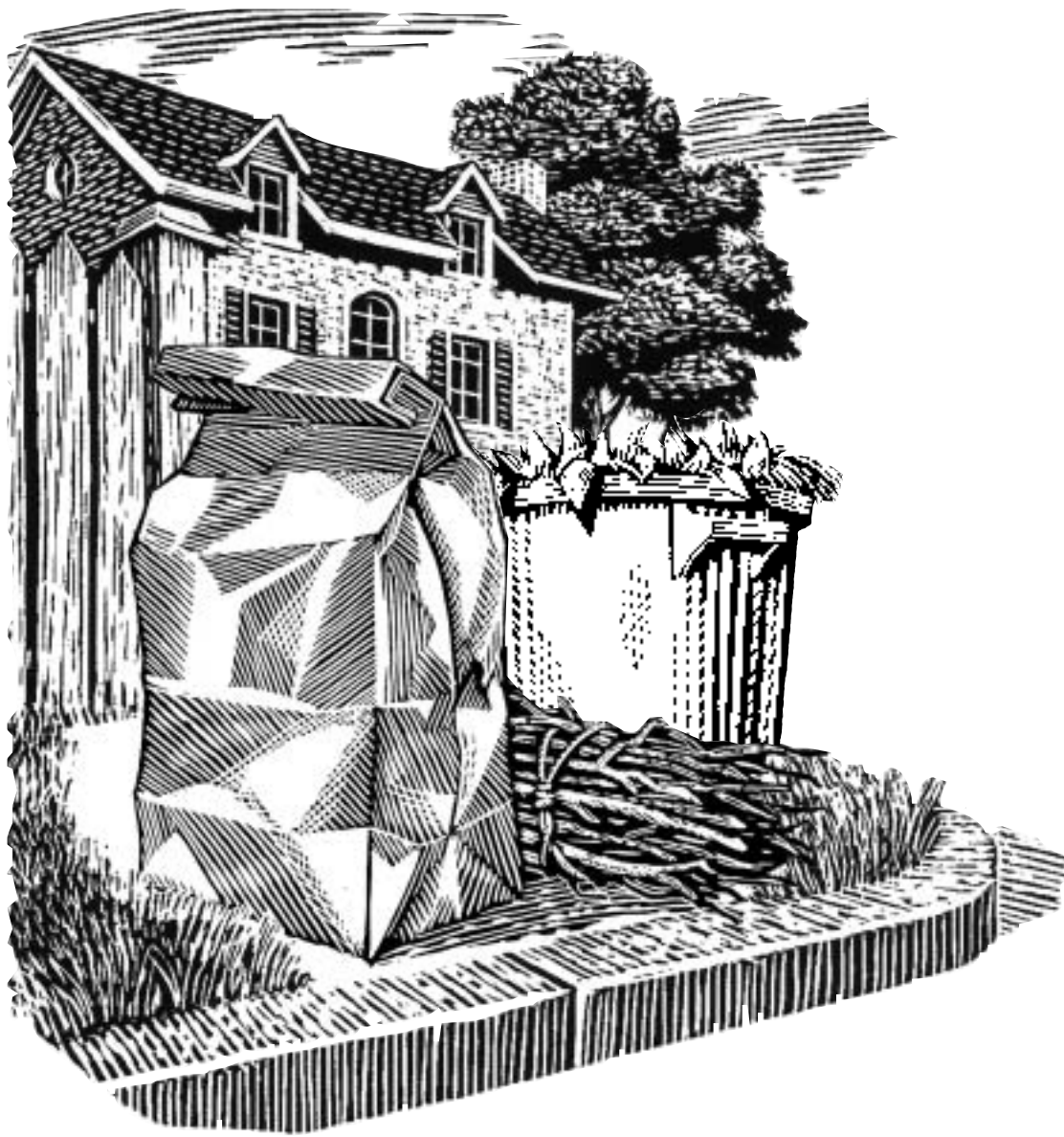
2. Of course, you can also spread grass clippings (plus any leftover leaves from last fall) around shrubs and trees and your garden, where they'll act as nutrient-rich mulch.



3. Or put grass clippings in your backyard composter along with your other yard waste. Composting is the natural process through which kitchen and yard waste decompose into a dark, nutrient-rich soil conditioner.



4. Compost, rich with plant nutrients, soil microbes and organic fibre helps build healthy soil - great for spreading on your lawn and garden.



Remember, yard waste collection is weekly during April and May. Check your local collection calendar.

 **TORONTO**

For more info. call 416-392-4546 or visit www.city.toronto.on.ca/compost

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