

# INSIGHT



## Box It, Bag It, Bundle It

Autumn will be here before you know it, bringing with it fallen leaves, withering vines and yards in need of a spruce up. This often results in piles of yard debris left curbside for collection. Yard debris refers to vegetative fragments like tree trimmings, grass clippings, pine straw and leaves. For City residential garbage customers, yard debris is collected in front of each home every other week, per the Red/Blue Week schedule.

After sprucing up your lawn, bag or box limbs, leaves and trimmings and place them behind the curb no earlier than the weekend before your designated Red or Blue Week for collection. Limbs must be smaller than 4 inches in diameter and less than 6 feet long. Each pile of limbs and shrubs must be smaller than 6 feet long, 4 feet wide and 4 feet high.

Yard debris must be separated from bulky items.

Place yard waste and bulky item piles at least 3 feet away from obstacles, like mailboxes, low-hanging wires, tree limbs and water meters, to avoid damage. Yard debris and bulky items cannot be collected if obstructed.

Please note that contractors who are performing tree cutting and landscaping services are required to dispose of all generated yard waste themselves.

When our crews pick up yard debris, it is then carried to the Leon County Solid Waste Management facility, located at 7550 Apalachee Parkway. There, yard debris is turned into mulch, which is available and free to citizens. This mulch can be used to beautify yards and gardens and reduce soil erosion.

Another way to properly dispose of your yard debris is through composting. Most items that are composted today include limbs, leaves and food scraps. Currently, 20-30 percent of what the average American household throws away in the garbage could be composted. Just think, if everyone composted, we could divert tons of waste from entering our landfills and give back to Mother Nature.

For more information on how to properly dispose of yard debris, visit Talgov.com/YOU.

### Stay Prepared for Disasters

September is National Preparedness Month. The 2022 theme is "A Lasting Legacy" because the life you've built is worth protecting. There are many ways to prepare for disaster, from learning lifesaving skills like CPR to verifying that your insurance covers any hazards you may face. This month take practical safety steps to better protect your family, like identifying family meeting points, learning how to shut off



your water service and updating important contact numbers. Learn more in our Step-by-Step Prep Guide at Talgov.com/PREP.

#### **UPSLIDE Receives National Award**

UPSLIDE, a program of the Tallahassee Senior Center, has been awarded the Innovation in Health Award by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). This award recognizes UPSLIDE's impact in fostering a culture of health in the community. Utilizing and Promoting Social Engagement for Loneliness, Isolation and Depression in the Elderly, or UPSLIDE, is a unique, comprehensive program that addresses loneliness and isolation by connecting people age 50 and older to each other for meaningful social interaction. Since 2018, UPSLIDE has helped nearly 500 participants. It provides individual counseling, Friends Connection groups and fun activities, at no cost to participants. For more information about this and other Tallahassee Senior Center programs, visit **Talgov.com/Seniors**.







Windows can be a significant source of energy waste. Window shades, shutters and awnings can provide an extra layer of insulation between your home and external temperatures year-round.



#### **Bicycle Safety**



While traveling around downtown Tallahassee, you may notice bright green squares near the crosswalk at some intersections. These are bike boxes. They are designed to create a safe location for cyclists and reduce

bike and vehicle collisions. A driver's job is simple - stop behind the white line. Cyclists stop in the bike box, and pedestrians use the crosswalk. To learn more about bike boxes, visit Talgov.com/Traffic.





#### Save the Date: Cash for Trash



The City's twice-yearly Cash for Trash event returns on Saturday, Oct. 15. It will be held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the City's Community **Beautification and Waste** Management facility, located at

2727 Municipal Way. Citizens can dispose of large bulky items, household hazardous waste, automobile tires (4 per customer) and electronic items. As a thank you, participating City residential utility customers with an active garbage service account will receive a \$5 credit toward their utility bill. To receive the credit, customers must present a City utility bill before unloading materials.

For more information, visit **Talgov.com/YOU**.

Reporting issues is simple. If you see a pothole, broken street light or graffiti, just snap a photo and hit send!









For all City of Tallahassee utility related inquires, please call 850-891-4968 or visit Talgov.com.

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Insight is published monthly to inform citizens about City services and related items of interest. If you require an accommodation because of a disability in order to participate in a program, service or activity, please contact the City's ADA/Title VI Coordinator at least two business days prior to the event at 850-661-3235 or Kathleen.Wright@Talgov.com. For persons using a TDD, please call 711. Sign language interpreters require 10 days advance notice.



# OCTOBER MEETINGS

Visit Talgov.com for the current list of Tallahassee City Commission, Community Redevelopment Agency, Capital Region Transportation Planning Agency and Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency meetings and workshops. Call the Department of Communications at 850-891-8533 for more information and view the current meeting agendas online at Talgov.com. Follow @CityofTLH on Twitter for City news.