

Proper Disposal of Yard Waste

Yard waste and other debris have been dumped on Breakwater HOA managed common areas, including in the pond buffers, open common spaces, and the forested buffer tree line along the bike trail. Yard waste includes compostable organic materials such as grass clippings, leaves, brush, tree trimmings, pruned vegetation, weeds, shrubs, garden waste, discarded live holiday decorations (Christmas trees, wreaths, seasonal flowers, etc.), as well as soil, sod, mulch, logs, stumps, and rocks. Dumping of such things in the common area is a violation of our community covenants, is unattractive, kills plants and trees, results in debris run off into our ponds, and creates a habitat for rodents and other disease vectors.

Removing the improperly dumped refuse is an unnecessary expense for the Breakwater Association. As members of the Association, we all share the responsibility for seeing that current violations are corrected and for reporting new abuses to the Breakwater HOA Board or Signature Property Management as they occur. Violators will be fined by the Breakwater HOA Board.

The common areas are here for all residents to enjoy and it is in the best interest of the community to keep them free of refuse. Please help to keep our common areas attractive and well maintained by not dumping any sort of yard waste, refuse or rubbish and by disposing of all litter in the appropriate manner.

Yard waste CANNOT be co-mingled with regular trash per a statewide ban of yard waste in landfills. There are three options to dispose of yard waste properly and legally:

1. **Waste Industries:** Although yard waste collection is not included in the current curb side services provided by our trash vendor, Waste Industries will schedule pickups on an as needed basis for individual homeowners. Call **302.934.1364** to request a pickup, which are generally on Tuesdays. The pickup cost is \$20 for 1-10 bags, \$2 for each additional bag over 10. Once pickup has been scheduled, place yard waste curbside in a paper yard waste bag. These 30-gallon, heavy duty bags can be purchased at Lowes, Home Depot and other such retailers.
2. **Approved DNREC Disposal Sites:** DNREC has compiled a list of approved yard waste drop-off sites by county. There are a number of sites in Lewes, Milford, Millsboro, Georgetown and other surrounding areas, each charging a fee. Visit the following link for a detailed list with addresses and accepted types of yard waste for each location. As of October 1, 2017, there are no free yard waste drop-off sites available in Delaware. http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/dwhs/Recycling/Documents/Yard_Waste_Drop-off_Sites091417.pdf
3. **Private Contractor:** For work being performed on your property by a private contractor, arrange for them to haul away any resulting yard waste or debris for proper disposal.

Preventing illegal dumping promotes and preserves the aesthetic value of the community and the health and safety of all homeowners, while responsibly maintaining the environment. Only with the cooperation of each homeowner can the common areas be preserved for the enjoyment of all. Please do your part to prevent illegal dumping and litter in our community and keep Breakwater beautiful.

Breakwater Board of Directors
10/20/17

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