

Business Fall Checklist

- Use environmentally-friendly professional landscapers, if you do not utilize in-house landscaping.
- Regularly rake and compost leaves.
- Always blow or rake leaves into piles on lawns or other grassy surfaces, never onto pavement. City of Fort Collins ordinance prohibits leaf blowing into streets.
- Bag leaves or cover them with a tarp before taking them to a drop-off site or place in a curbside container for recycling pickup by your trash service.
- Prune trees and compost or mulch trimmings.
- Mow the lawn one last time before winter. Keep grass to three inches or less.
- Aerate so plants will absorb water and nutrients over winter months.
- Fertilize your lawn in early fall - if you fertilize twice per year.
- Use organic or slow-release fertilizers.
- Store leftover fertilizer in containers with lids or in covered areas.
- Take unwanted fertilizer and other lawn chemicals to hazardous waste collection sites.
- Dry out sprinkler systems. Freezing underground sprinkler pipes can burst and cause leaking water to wash fertilizer, leaves and grass clippings into storm drains.
- Pressure wash patios and walkways. Contain wastewater and keep it out of streets and storm drains.