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CITY OF KEARNEY **PRESS RELEASE** ***For Immediate Release***

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Leaves don't go in storm drain.

Storm Drains Are Not for Grass Clippings and Leaves

They may be small, but they add up. Leaves blown into the street during yard maintenance don't just disappear; they end up in the nearest river and/or plug local storm sewer systems. When it rains, anything in the street washes into storm drains that lead to area creeks and rivers.

Why should you be concerned? Organic matter such as grass and leaves can cause odors in neighborhood creeks and drainage problems that lead to flooding.

What should be done with the leaves?

- Keep leaves in your yard to benefit from their nutrients
- Rake or blow leaves into a compost pile, where they can decompose without odor.
- Collect leaves in the brown recycling bins the City picks up weekly.

If lawn maintenance workers use leaf blowers on your yard, ask them **NOT** to blow the leaves into the street or down storm drain inlets. The stormwater system is designed to drain rain and only rain. In order to function at maximum efficiency and assist in keeping the large amounts of water from flooding homes and property during storms the systems must remain free of foreign debris. To learn more, call 308-233-3273 or visit the City of Kearney website: www.cityofkearney.org

Check out our web site at www.cityofkearney.org.

We are sending this News Release as a service to the news media and citizens of Kearney.

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