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

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Storm drains are not for grass clippings.

They may be small, but they add up. Grass clippings and leaves blown into the street during yard maintenance don't just disappear; they end up in the nearest river or plugging 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.

So what's the best place for yard trimmings?

- Rake or blow leaves into a compost pile, where they can decompose without odor.
- Blow grass clippings back onto the lawn, where they become a natural fertilizer.
- Use a brown City refuse container to have grass clippings picked-up.

If lawn maintenance workers use leaf blowers on your yard, ask them **NOT** to blow grass clippings and 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.

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

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