

As the trees shed their leaves this season, many people bag them up and send them to the landfill. But did you know those leaves are actually a valuable natural resource? Instead of treating them as trash, here are a few sustainable ways to recycle fallen leaves:

Compost Them: Leaves are rich in carbon, making them a perfect “brown” ingredient for your compost pile. Shred them up and mix with food scraps and grass clippings for healthy, nutrient-rich compost.

Use as Mulch: Spread shredded leaves around garden beds, trees, and shrubs. They act as natural mulch, locking in soil moisture, protecting roots, and preventing weeds—no chemicals needed!

Create Leaf Mold: Pile up leaves in a corner of your yard, keep them damp, and let nature do the work. Over time, they’ll break down into a dark, crumbly soil conditioner called leaf mold, excellent for enriching your garden.

Make a Wildlife Habitat: Instead of raking everything away, leave some piles under trees or in garden corners. Many pollinators, butterflies, and small animals use fallen leaves for shelter during the colder months.

By reusing leaves instead of sending them to the trash, you help reduce landfill waste, return nutrients to the soil, and create a healthier ecosystem for both plants and wildlife! Happy reusing, reducing, and recycling :)

