

---

## Trail Creek Street Department Policy: SLBs & Yard Debris Removal

The Trail Creek Street Department is committed to maintaining clean and safe neighborhoods. To help us serve you better, please follow the guidelines below for the proper placement and removal of sticks, limbs, branches (SLBs), and yard debris.

---

### Pickup Guidelines

- **Requesting Service:**

To schedule a pickup, contact **Town Hall at 219-872-2422**.

- A **\$50.00 service fee** must be paid in advance at Town Hall before the pickup can occur.
- If the debris is determined to be excessive (filling an entire truck or dump trailer), an increased fee of **\$150.00** will apply. Totaling **\$200.00** paid in advance at the Town Hall before pickup can occur.
  - The Street Commissioner or a representative from the Street Department will make the determination and notify the resident and the Town Hall prior to pickup.

- **Placement Instructions:**

- Place all SLBs and yard debris in the easement area directly in front of your residence—just off the edge of the road.
- Keep debris **free from obstructions** such as vehicles, mailboxes, utility poles, or signs.
- Ensure branches are no longer than **8 feet** to fit safely into our equipment.

- **What Will Be Picked Up:**

- Only debris from trimming done by the **resident/homeowner**.
  - The Street Department **will not collect** debris from contracted/paid services. Contractors and residents must handle removal independently.
  - **We do not remove whole trees.** This is the homeowner's responsibility.
- 

### Storm Debris Pickup

- After a **severe storm**, SLBs may be placed out for **no-cost pickup** for up to **two weeks** following the event.
- **No call is necessary**—the Street Department will assess and collect storm-related debris during this time.

---

## Unacceptable Items

Do **not** include the following in your SLB or yard debris piles:

- Grass clippings
- Vines, root balls, stumps
- Rocks, bricks, or concrete
- Construction debris (e.g., lumber, shingles)
- Metal, tires, or household waste

---

## Leaf & Debris Collection (Seasonal and Ongoing)

- **Leaf Pick-Up** occurs during designated **Spring and Fall Cleanups** using the leaf machine.
- At other times:
  - Use **paper bags** for leaves and yard waste, or
  - Place debris directly in your **Yard or Garbage Toter** (no bag needed).
  - For bagged pickup by the Street Department, a request and fee (similar to SLB pickup) must be arranged through Town Hall.

---

## Using Your Toters

- Yard and garbage Toters may be used year-round for SLBs, yard debris, and leaves.
- Break down debris to fit inside the Toter.
- Pickup occurs every **Friday** alongside regular garbage collection.
- Toter use is included in your annual refuse fee.

To request a **Yard Toter**, call **Borden Refuse at 574-293-5001**.

---

By following these guidelines, you will help us keep Trail Creek clean and ensure safe, efficient service. Thank you for your cooperation!

---

**ORDINANCE NO. 5-2025**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 38, ARTICLE II, DIVISION 2  
RATES AND CHARGES, SECTION 38-58(a) - CHARGE FOR GARBAGE, REFUSE,  
AND LEAF REMOVAL – SPECIAL SERVICE FEES**

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Trail Creek, Indiana (“Town”) previously adopted Ordinances setting forth, among other matters, the properties to be charged for garbage and refuse removal, leaf pickup, and associated street services as well as establishing fees for those services; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council has deemed it necessary to update Chapter 38, Article II, Division 2 – Rates and Charges, Section 38-58(a) of the Town Code to include the establishment of fees for special services to pickup of sticks, leaves, branches, and yard debris,

NOW, THEREFORE, be it ordained by the Town Council of Trai Creek, Indiana, that Chapter 38, Article II, Division 2 – Rates and Charges, Section 38-58(a) shall be amended as follows:

**CHAPTER 38  
ARTICLE II  
DIVISION 2. RATES AND CHARGES**

Sec. 38-58. Establishment of Unit Charge(s) for garbage, refuse and leaf removal – Special Service Fees.

(a) As established on January 1, 1990, an equitable charge will be made to each taxpayer of improved real property within the Town limits for the expense of garbage, refuse, and leaf removal. In addition to this charge, the Town will provide additional, special pickup services for sticks, limbs, branches, and yard debris removal upon request and subject to payment in advance of the following fees:

- (1) Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for a standard load pickup, per request.
- (2) Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00) for an excessive load pickup, per request and based on the Town’s determination of weight and volume.

The Town, by and through the Town Council or its Street Department, may establish written policies for the provision of these services, which may be amended from time to time. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions, the following items shall be specifically excluded from any special pickup services and shall be removed or disposed of by the property owner or tenant: grass clippings, vines, root balls, stumps, rocks, bricks, or concrete, construction debris (e.g., lumber, shingles), metal, tires, household waste, and related materials.

---

This Ordinance shall take effect and be in full force as of the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2025, and publication, if any, all in conformance with applicable law.

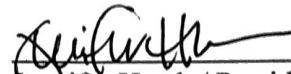
The Section of this Ordinance shall be codified and made part of the Town Code of Ordinances and all sections and subsections may be renumbered or re-lettered as necessary to achieve such purpose.


It is the intent of the Town Council that if any section, subsection, sentence, clause or phrase or provision of this Ordinance is held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity or unconstitutionality shall not be construed to render invalid or unconstitutional the remaining provisions of this Ordinance.


**ALL OF WHICH IS PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Trail Creek Town Council this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.

Town of Trail Creek, Indiana

By:

  
Jennifer Heath / President

  
Pete Pizarek / Vice-President

  
Warren Schacht

  
Laura Saenz

  
Brian Vedo

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Crystal Frever, Clerk-Treasurer



**RESOLUTION NO. 3-2025**

**A RESOLUTION ADOPTING TRAIL CREEK STREET DEPARTMENT  
STICKS, LIMBS, BRANCHES, AND YARD DEBRIS POLICY**

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council recognizes the need to balance its obligation to provide services with efficiently and effectively managing Town resources;

**WHEREAS**, the Town currently provides and/or contracts for garbage/refuse and leaf removal services;

**WHEREAS**, the Town by and through its Street Department also provides additional, special services for the removal of sticks, leaves, branches, and yard debris;

**WHEREAS**, these additional, special services have reached a level that results in a significant use of the Street Department's time and resources;

**WHEREAS**, the Town Council finds it necessary to regulate the use of such additional, special removal services;

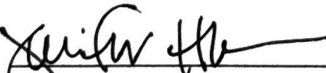
**WHEREAS**, the Town Council has or will establish fees for these additional services and now desires to formally adopt a policy regarding the provisions of these services, which may be amended from time to time by the Town Council and/or its Street Department,


**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Town Council of Trail Creek, Indiana as follows:

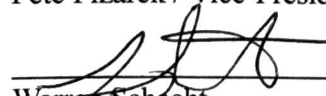
1. The Trail Creek Street Department Policy for Stick, Leaves, Branches, and Yard Debris attached as Exhibit "A" is now established and shall become effective as of the 1<sup>st</sup> day of July, 2025.
2. The Town's Street Department Superintendent is directed to and shall cause this Policy to be immediately incorporated and implemented into the policies, procedures, rules, and/or general order of the Street Department.


**ALL OF WHICH IS PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Town Council of the Town of Trail Creek, LaPorte County, Indiana, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2025.**

Town of Trail Creek, Indiana  
By:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Heath / President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Pete Pizarek / Vice-President

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Warren Schacht

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura Saenz

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian Vedo

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Crystal Frever, Clerk-Treasurer