RESOLUTION RE: ON-SITE LEAF MULCHING AND COMPOSTING OF LEAVES IN THE VILLAGE OF SCARSDALE

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Village of Scarsdale's Annual Fall Leaf Collection

Program, leaves from residential properties are placed in piles at the curb line collected with leaf vacuum trucks by Village public works crews, said program

budgeted for Fiscal Year 2011/12 at \$742,125; and

WHEREAS, often due to wind, rain or improper placement these leaf piles end up in the street

narrowing vehicular travel lanes resulting in traffic safety concerns; and

WHEREAS, these leaves are also prone to blocking stormwater access to catch basins resulting

in localized street flooding; and

WHEREAS, a recent alternative development amongst Westchester municipalities is the

practice and encouragement of on-site leaf mulching which involves shredding leaves where they are and utilizing the shredded leaves as a winter mulch and/or

compost for the lawn; and

WHEREAS, the Sustainability Committee of the Village Board of Trustees met on December

5, 2011 to discuss whether leaf mulching is an alternative practice that the Village

Board of Trustee should support and encourage; and

WHEREAS, the Sustainability Committee concluded that on-site leaf mulching on public and

private properties throughout the Village will result in environmental and economic benefits including a reduction in Village leaf collection and disposal costs, enhanced safety and stormwater drainage and improved quality and health

of Village landscapes; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Village of Scarsdale endorses and encourages all Village property owners

and residents within the Village to help reduce the costs of leaf collection and disposal by the Village and make optimal use of this rich organic resource by

mulching and/or composting leaves on their own property; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Village encourages all local landscapers working within the Village to

implement leaf mulching techniques on their clients' properties; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Village shall promote on-site leaf mulching through a public education

campaign utilizing the Village website, newsletter, brochures, handouts and workshops and for the Fall 2012 leaf season shall implement leaf mulching

techniques at Chase and de Lima Parks.

Submitted by: Village Manager
Date: December 8, 2011
For: December 13, 2011