ATTENTION LANDOWNERS: DO NOT DUMP YARD WASTE INTO RAVINES!

The Challenge
Yard waste dumped in ravines prevents the growth of deep rooted plants that would otherwise anchor eroding soils.

It may appear that you are protecting slopes by adding clippings and leaves to the ravine, but in reality the slopes continue to erode under the yard waste out of sight.

Alternatives to Dumping

Fertilize Your Lawn
Grass clippings are a natural fertilizer. Consider letting the clippings lay as opposed to bagging.

Mulch leaves in the fall by mowing them in place. If you have several trees, this may require mowing more than once per week. You will be surprised how quickly these leaves disintegrate once broken up by the lawn mower.

Fertilize Your Trees
You can return nutrients to your trees by collecting leaves and placing them around the base of the tree. For large volumes of leaves, you can mulch to speed decomposition.

Compost
Composting is a process by which organic waste materials (i.e. grass clippings and leaves) are converted to soil. This simple practice uses air, moisture and a mix of “green” and “brown” organic material to create valuable compost that is universally recommended as a soil amenity for any garden.

Participate in a municipal yard waste program
The City of Peoria has weekly yard waste pickup from March through December. Medina Township vacuums leaves swept to the street during fall pick up.

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