



GAS LEAF BLOWER PHASE-OUT

Leaf Blower Ordinance

In December 2023, the Ann Arbor City Council passed new restrictions on the use of gas-powered leaf blowers within Ann Arbor city limits.

What are the new restrictions?

- **Summer ban:** Beginning this year, the use of gas-powered leaf blowers is prohibited in the city from June 1st to September 30th.
- **Seasonal use and phase-out:** The use of gas-powered leaf blowers is permitted from October 1st to May 30th through 2027. Starting January 1st, 2028, the use of gas-powered leaf blowers will be prohibited at all times in the city.

Why transition away from gas-powered leaf blowers?

- **Health:** Gas-burning leaf blowers release harmful pollutants that increase the risk of cardiovascular disease, cognitive impairment, and respiratory disease.
- **Noise:** Gas-powered leaf blowers can operate as loud as 100 decibels, which is almost as loud as a jet flyover. This can cause hearing damage and stress from noise pollution.
- **Emissions:** Using a gas leaf blower for one hour can emit the same amount of greenhouse gases as driving a car over 1000 miles.

What are the alternatives?

- **Go electric:** Electric leaf blowers are healthier alternatives to their gas-burning counterparts and are widely available.
- **Skip the leaf blower:** Leaving whole or mulched leave on a lawn can help create a habitat for pollinators, and a broom or rake can be used to remove leaves from sidewalks or driveways.

How can violations be reported?

Violations of the ordinance can be reported to the Ann Arbor Police Department Community Standards at (734)-794-6942.

What is coming next?

- The City of Ann Arbor will launch resources to help lower the cost of transitioning to electric leaf blowers by the end of 2024.

Questions? | Email sustainability@a2gov.org | Visit osi.a2gov.org/leafblowers