



Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers Now Banned in the Village

The ban on the use of gas-powered leaf blowers went into effect January 1, 2022. The Village Board approved the ban (which also went into effect in the District of Columbia on January 1) in December 2019 citing the adverse environmental, human health (principally for the equipment operator) and quality of life impacts resulting from the use of gas-powered leaf blowers. These impacts were highlighted in a report from the Village Environment & Energy Committee, dated August 15, 2019, which can be viewed on the committee's page on the Village website.

Residents and landscapers are reminded that all blowers operated within the Village remain subject to Montgomery County's Noise Ordinance. The county's Noise Ordinance states that "a person must not...use a leaf blower at any time that has an average sound level exceeding 70 dBA at a distance of 50 feet." Additionally, the simultaneous use of multiple leaf blowers that are compliant with the 70 bDA limit can create noise of a sufficient level to qualify as a violation and/or noise disturbance.

If a blower seems loud, it may be in violation. Residents are encouraged to report blowers that are suspected to be in violation to the Village Communications Center. A Village officer will be dispatched to confirm whether the blower(s) are being operated in compliance with Village and county regulations. First time confirmed violators will receive a warning and guidance for operating legally.

Residents are responsible for discussing these restrictions with your yard maintenance crews.

To view the county's leaf blower notice, visit:

<https://www.chevy ChaseVillageMD.gov/Archive.aspx?ADID=912> . Click here to review the [Montgomery County Noise Ordinance](#) and the provisions pertaining to leaf blowers (Section 31B-9).