

Written testimony against Expedited Bill 19-25  
Noise Control - Leaf Removal Equipment - Seasonal Exemption  
Submitted to Montgomery County Council, June 19, 2025

Dear Councilmembers,

As a concerned resident, I urge you to vote against Expedited Bill 19-25, and instead support the original full version of Montgomery County's important legislation banning gas leaf blowers.

Alternate legislation 19-25, introduced by Councilmember Albornoz and cosponsored by Councilmembers Luedtke, Balcombe, and Katz, would severely weaken the conversion to electric leaf blowers, by creating a carve-out for landscapers to continuing using loud, polluting gas leaf blowers during October, November, and December, the high autumn season when the majority of leaves fall.

Allowing gasoline leaf blowers in autumn would defeat the purpose of the current law. Pollution, greenhouse gas emissions, worker health issues, and loud noise would continue.

As you know, Montgomery County already disbursed over \$300,000 to subsidize landscaping companies and gardeners as they convert to new electric equipment. Another \$300,000 remains available. DC, and other areas in Vermont, Illinois, Oregon, and California, have successfully made the switch to electric leaf blowers. With your support, we will too.

Please ensure full implementation of all original provisions in the final version which goes into effect on July 1st. Relevant issues have already been fully debated. We count on you to prevent any weakening of this essential legislation to abolish gas leaf blowers in our county.

With gratitude,

Jacqueline Crawley  
Homeowner, 20815