

Regarding Bill 19-25:

Please do NOT provide seasonal or any exemptions to the bill banning the use of gas-powered leaf blowers.

The gas-powered leaf blowers are harmful to the health of the employees who use them, both because of toxic fumes and hearing damage from noise.

It is especially important to keep the ban in place during the fall when the most leaves are around, and the most harm is being done by them.

The ban was thoroughly debated and passed by the Council 10-1. The issues have not changed. The leaf-blowers have not changed.

People should be ashamed to use gas-powered leaf blowers. But when they are not, we need government to ban them completely, not with silly exceptions for day time in the autumn.

The noise from gas-powered leaf blowers goes a greater distance, and penetrates walls more than other forms of yard machinery, having to do with the pitch of their noise, more than their decibel level.

The current ban does not prevent property owners from removing leaves. Rakes and battery-powered equipment can do the work adequately. Anyone who can afford a lawn service can afford to pay landscapers to take the little more time for raking. Landscapers should charge more, rather than hurt their own employees and the communities where they work.

We have an ethical responsibility to each other to try to protect workers and residents from bodily harm.

Don't weaken the ban against gas-powered leaf blowers.

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