

Dear Montgomery County Council Members,

I urge you to support the proposed legislation sponsored by Council Member Gabe Albornoz and co-sponsored by Council Members Marilyn Balcombe and Dawn Luedtke to grant a limited exemption for professional landscapers to use gas-powered leaf blowers between October 1 and December 31, through 2028. Usage would be restricted to weekdays between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m.

This exemption is critical for small, often family-run landscaping businesses—many employing immigrants working long hours—to survive during their busiest season. The current rebate program offers minimal financial support for transitioning to costly battery-powered equipment, which remains inefficient and difficult to manage. In fact, the original law may unintentionally increase noise and emissions by requiring gas-powered generators to recharge batteries on-site.

This common-sense measure gives hard-working local businesses more time to comply without jeopardizing jobs or livelihoods. Please support this important adjustment.

Respectfully,

Joy Zucker-Tiemann

----- Spates Hill Rd.

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