



Lewisboro Leaf Blower Survey

17 towns in Westchester have already banned leaf blowers for public health reasons. Here are the concerns the Lewisboro Sustainability Advisory Committee have brought to the Town's attention:

The American Lung Association's State of the Air Report has consistently cited Westchester County for its poor air quality during the summer. The amount of carbon monoxide emitted from gas leaf blowers for one hour is equal to emissions coming from the tailpipe of an automobile operating for eight hours. They also emit hydrocarbons which combine with sunlight to form smog and greenhouse gases. The high velocity of exhaust from leaf blowers project particulate matter including pollen and mold, animal feces, and chemicals from pesticides that can be inhaled. Children are at particular risk from air pollution because they breath in many more gallons of air relative to their body size.

The Town of Lewisboro is considering legislation to ban gas or internal combustion engine powered leaf blowers. Exemptions would be given for storm clean-up.

We respect your need and right to maintain the appearance of your property. Let's work together to establish reasonable restrictions to protect the public health. While we are working to gather information on the residents' opinions, we ask that you voluntarily reduce your use of gas leaf blowers until September 30th in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.

For me information about the health and environmental impacts of leaf blowers, please visit <https://www.lewisborogov.com/sc/page/sustainable-landscaping>

* Required

532 responses



Accepting responses



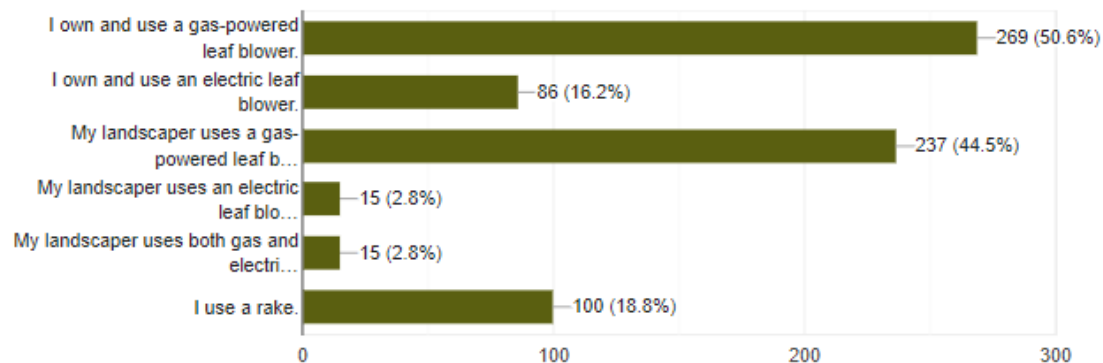
Summary

Question

Individual

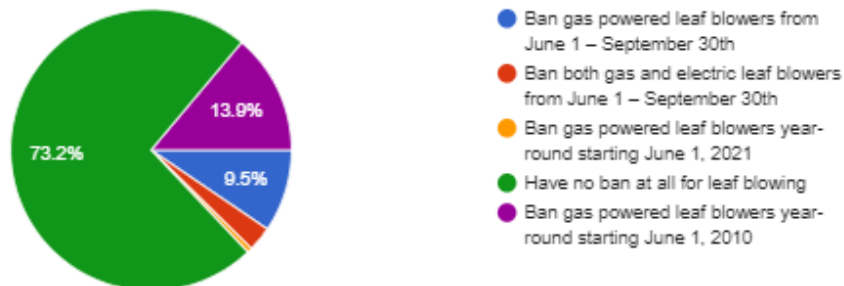
Which best describes your personal experience of leaf blowers (check all that apply)?

532 responses



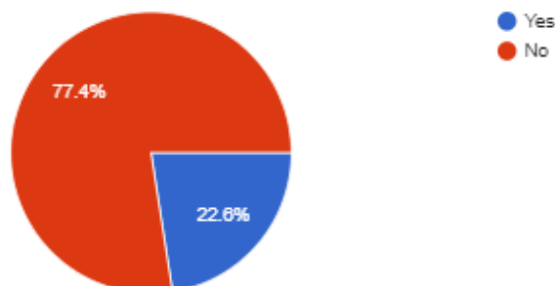
I would like the Town of Lewisboro to (check one):

527 responses



I would be supportive of a ban if the Town provided grant funding towards the purchase of electric leaf blowers for residents:

532 responses



Where are the batteries sourced from for the electric blowers? How does one dispose of such a battery?
Absurd.
Are you people totally losing your minds .. Again bowing to a handful of simple minded people ..Not on my watch !
Are you serious.. Give me a break! Stop with all the BS handed down to you by the liberal left !!
Let's stop with the insane madness of a "FEW" who have nothing better to do with their time.. #lovemycombustion engine !
To ban gas leaf blowers would cause undue hardships on homeowners as we maintain our properties. In the case of lawn maintenance services, it would be unreasonable to expect those business owners to purchase electric blowers or revert to raking or moving material by hand, thereby increasing the need to hire more workers. And it would end up costing time and money for the homeowner in the end. We are strongly opposed to this being legislated in Lewisboro. Our air quality in Lewisboro is excellent. The parts of Westchester county cited for poor air quality are far from our town. If neighbors need to have agreements with each other in tight communities then that should be handled within friendly neighborhood associations. We simply do not need any more blanket legislation in our lives. Just as gas powered cars are here, so are leaf blowers. Maybe someday that won't be the case, but let's not infringe on us taxpayers any more than necessary. Thank you.
As quoted :“we ask that you voluntarily reduce your use of gas leaf blowers until September 30th in light of the COVID-19 pandemic.” WHAT IN GODS NAME DOES THIS PHONY POLITICAL PANDEMIC have to do with me using my God Dam Leaf Blower - Get a life people....!!!!
I am willing to provide any assistance possible to help support the ban.
I am for banning gas leaf blowers, but I don't think we need to provide anyone funding to purchase an electric leaf blower. They are not particularly expensive. Especially banning gas leaf blowers for landscapers.
For people with larger property's or without adequate extension electric is impractical
Rakes are just as efficient.
1. I don't use a leafblower and I don't hire a landscaper, so I can't answer the first question as proposed. I checked something so I could continue. 2. I don't buy that leaf blowers present a threat of spreading Covid to the public, even though I hate leaf blowers. The noise from landscaping activity in general is outrageous in my densely populated neighborhood. It affects our ability to work from home.
Blowing leaves destroys insect communities. Cutting the lawn with a mulching lawnmower replenishes the soil and leaves the soil more intact. The answers to question 1 are all selected because I do not blow my lawn, but was required to check some box there.
I think it would be fair for the town to create a trade-in system for owners of gas powered leaf blowers. We would bring our blower to the town and trade it for a town purchased electric blower. Then, the town could resell the traded in gas blowers or dispose of them properly.
It's government overstep
I would favor a ban on use of gasoline powered leaf blowers by contractors within the town. I would also favor a ban on use of gasoline powered leaf blowers by residents if purchased after Sept 1 2020.
I believe we have bigger fish to fry, and that efforts like these distract from more important issues.
This is a waste of time
There is no need for a ban on leaf blowing especially for large parcels - 1 plus acre.
Gas powered weed wackers should also be banned. I live on the Pound Ridge border so unless Pound Ridge adopts a similar initiative, this doesn't make sense for my location. Thank you for taking this survey.
limit hours of blower use from 9am - 5 pm and ENFORCE it

I think this would be an extra burden on homeowners and landscapers as regards cost. Many of us have 2+ acre yards. Perhaps ban in evening hours and on weekends?
Give me a break!! Go blow if ur against leaf blowers!
I have asked my landscaper to stop using the gas powered blowers.
We live on 1+ acre zoning and have more to worry about then leaf blowers. Perhaps the board should focus on (in no particular order) Creating safe bike paths and sidewalks Pave and fox roads, maintain clear right of ways and remove hazardous trees and road blockages Address the conflict of interest of a board member collecting a salary from an alternative energy firm selling services to the town Balance the budget and maximize the reserves Create opportunities for the towns youth to be more active (a Police athletic league possibly) Support our police and volunteer fire departments in the great work they have done.
Absurd. Enough already please!
Not necessary to dive into this.
People using their own leaf blowers is better then an 8 cylinder diesel truck pulling up with four machines being operated. Removing debris would also keep Lyme diseases down
This is a waste of tax payer money. There are so many other things that are more important. I will not be voting for the current officials if this passes.
We use ours only to clean up the yard in the fall and spring. We have almost 3 acres and to rake that would be absurd. We are financial strapped due to covid, making us buy an electric leaf blower would not work during these difficult times.
About time. I'd buy my own electric one. Don't need a grant.
The survey lists June 1, 2010...should it read 2021?
To expect people to have the extra money to purchase an electric leaf blower is not right.
Most of us use landscapers — they should be eligible for grants too.
This is ridiculous, just stop!
Why don't you focus your time, efforts and our tax dollars on something more important? Don't you people have something better to do? Stop controlling our lives. Oh and maybe you should proofread...2010?
The town should provide trash pick up before a subsidies to buy a leaf blower.
Why am I paying for trash, septic and water privately while you are going to provide leaf blowers?
Electric devices have a limitation beyond a certain sq footage. I tried a blower unit; including several charging units purchased, with poor results. Outside of small plots these devices aren't effective. Sadly. Remote robots as presently with indoor vacuum do offer hope in near future.
I am not in favor of a ban. My infrequent use and the size of my property, no one is bothered by it. I am sure that many others are similar to me.
We personally own an electric blower, our landscapers which require one due to wetlands etc. use them as they are quicker and gets them to where they need to go. If you ban you are making lawn care in a community that has architectural boards and wetlands restrictions very hard to maintain our home. I ask that you make a decision that helps adhere to these challenges. Unless you can subsidize economical landscapers it would be appreciated.
Leaf blowers are unnecessary. Gas powered leaf blowers are an abomination.
I have a mulching lawn mower that works great on leaves. I have reduced my leaf blowing time during the fall from 10-12 hours down to 2-3 hours. It would be good if the town let people know about the benefits of mulching mowers (good for the lawn, too!). That said: In areas where the mower won't go, I need a powerful blower. Electric blowers just don't get it done. They also have run times that are too short. And it also takes energy to recharge those powerful little batteries. Last year, I bought a new gas blower that has much lower noise output and is CARB Tier III compliant,

<p>which means it has much lower emissions, low enough to be allowed in California. So perhaps the town ordinance could require that by a certain date -- perhaps two or three years hence -- all gas powered blowers must meet specs for lower noise and pollution.</p> <p>I would add that my wife and I used to rake the entire property. But our backs just won't stand it any more.</p> <p>So in considering an outright ban of blowers, we need to consider those persons for whom neither raking nor electric blowers are an option, which means, if blowers are completely outlawed, hiring landscapers who will rake the entire property...which is not inexpensive.</p> <p>I also think that operating hours make a difference in addition to seasonal restrictions. Not too early on weekend mornings, not too late in the evening, not too many hours in a row.</p>
I would support a year round gas powered leaf blower ban but a seasonal ban is a first step.
This is a solution in search of a problem
Other than the Crimmins proclamation, this is the dumbest thing I've seen come from the TOL Town Board.
Fund the purchase of electric leaf blowers!????? No thanks.
You have a typo in your copy. Come on!!!!
I support reducing gas emissions but I don't think grant funds should be used for this purpose.
<p>My landscapers spend less than 30 Minutes at my house mowing and blowing. Maybe a grant is necessary to be able to buy electric leaf blowers for all landscapers. I can not afford to have them spend more time on my property.</p>
This is ridiculous! We are still in The United States of America!!!!!! Stop the insanity and allow adults to make their own decisions!
No reason to have to listen to gas powered leaf blowers running hour after hour most summer afternoons. The noise level is outrageous.
Stop the insanity!!
Most of the town has 1+ acre zoning. I am going unaffected by the blowing done by my neighbors and their landscapers. This is not a problem in northern Westchester and certainly not in Lewisboro. To add any ban will raise costs for most everyone. There should be NO ban.
The idea that leaf blowers need to be changed due to covid 19 is ludicrous!
How would the town pay for electric blowers?? We can't maintain our roads.
No commercial yard work on weekends & no Sunday's for all residents
Why doesn't the town take care of our roads they are awful instead of banning gas leaf blowers & work on affordable housing for young people who were raised in the town this is stupid and whoever brought this up should be voted out of office
This is ridiculous
<p>Use of leaf blowers during the summer, when there are few leaves on the ground, just ends up blowing dust, and gas powered blowers add significant noise pollution to the dust pollution. During Fall, use of leaf blowers at least serves more of a purpose, but noisy gas blowers should be replaced by more quiet electric blowers, especially in neighborhoods where the lots are small. However, I am not in favor of using tax dollars to subsidize the purchase of electric blowers.</p> <p>Additionally, I feel lawn service providers should be required to take away the leaves or dispose of them somewhere on the resident's property; I sometimes see them blowing leaves onto wooded lots that are aren't owned by the resident.</p>
Leaf Blowers are necessary for cleanup of larger lots. They also help with tick control by keeping property clean.
If the town has money to buy people leaf blowers they should instead use it to restore town property s d remove invasive plants.
Why not get grant money for our roads? Have you driven them? They're awful.
Will you be providing leaf pick up like new canaan does?

If you ban private use the town can not use leaf blowers of any sort as well. Including the large tractor ones.
Why are you punishing those who can afford a landscaper? Am I supposed to loose time with my family because I'm not rich enough to hire people? What kind of class warfare is this?
You realize you want to ban leaf blowers from 10 yrs ago? Did you even edit this?
Stop restricting private property. Between stupid permits and restrictions in this town it's a wonder people even move here
this is stupid
there is no money to subsidize grant funding
the leaves aren't gonna blow themselves and this is the last thing we should be worried about in this time!
i like to do my own yard work and and i don't want you telling me what to do in my backyard
If the State is considering legislation, there is no need for duplicative measures. Focus on town-wide concerns like reducing property taxes.
how does switching to electric leaf blowers help in your assertion that "blowers project particulate matter including pollen, feces, chemicals..." have people been sickened by these machines in our town? can you point to any proof? isn't this yet another whimsical folly that allows the board to feel like they're getting something done while it doesn't even make the top ten list of concerns from your constituency.... keep up this stupidity and you'll be replaced by serious people that care about this town
focus on real issues
Will this lower my taxes?
you've complained about unfunded state mandates....and now we're moving to un funded town mandates? Stop costing me extra money. how much is it going to cost us the replace all the speed limit signs?
I don't use and I hate leaf blowers but they can be efficient. They should be regulated and equipped with serious mufflers and a catalytic converter type pollution device. For years I wrote legislators about doing that but was always rebuffed due to cost and putting landscapers at economic hardship. Had they done it then it would not be such a problem now and the cost; well all the dire predictions of the cost to cars and motorcycles just haven't come true, sooo. I worked from home before retiring and there were 3 or 4 days out of the week the blowers were going, and still are, from very early morning until evening almost non stop. One landscaper would show up, blow dust into the air, the leaves across the road and depart. Shortly after that another would show up, blow dust into the air, blow the leaves back across the road to where the other blew them from and leave. All day long --- and in every case I could have done it in half the time with a rake and broom; even at my age.....total idiocy, the area being done by each of them might have measured 30 x 50 feet at the most!!!
The gas leaf blower I use cost hundreds of dollars and is not as bad for the environment as motorcycles with little limit on their exhaust; electric powered leaf blowers are extraordinarily expensive and there is only one place to safely dispose of the batteries, which are also very expensive to replace.
I am a long time town resident, a senior and I do all my own yard work. I try to be environmentally responsible when managing my property. I mulch my grass and most of the leaves back into my lawn. I don't use fertilizer on my lawn (as a lake front property owner); I also spend man-days each year manually removing leaves from the lake (to reduce plant growth). And I currently do all the 5 recommendations that you provided in your Sustainability Advisory Committee report. However, using a battery powered leaf blower is not adequate to move all the leaves that come down on my property. I use a battery powered leaf blower when I can but they are not as powerful as the gas units. There are times (especially in the fall) when only a gas blower will work. While the battery units are better than they used to be, anyone who says they have the same power can't have real life experience nor do their own yard work (at least with any battery/electric blower under \$500). I also recognize that gas leaf blowers are noisy. But more powerful tools work quicker. I can spend minutes blowing with a gas unit and would need significantly more time with an electric unit. To me, the difference can be lower noise levels for hours with and electric versus minutes annoying my neighbors with a louder gas unit. I only use my blower between 9 and 4 (at less than 30 minutes most times) and never on Sunday. Contractors doing big yards and have several pieces of equipment going for hours. I

am not saying to go after contractors but I also don't want you penalizing homeowners who have very limited (but important) usage of gas powered tools. Perhaps appealing to users common sense or courtesy might help.
We have a "tree-intensive" town, and my property is the same. As the trees grow, so do the amount of leaves. We all want a tree covered town and there has been a lot of public discussion over the years about restricting tree cutting. But that means somehow you need to manage the leaves. The town used to pick up leaves at the road but that stopped years ago, forcing some of us to spend even more time handling leaves in the fall. So, the homeowners continually have a bigger leaf problem.
I do not favor a ban or law restricting gas powered leaf blowers. I know it would (at a minimum) significantly increase my work or dramatically increase my costs (by hiring a contractor). I do not want to hire someone to do work I can do (with the right tools) nor can I afford it (especially since contractor costs will go up substantially since they now have to use inferior tools).
Restricting gas leaf blowers would be another step on either adding costs to the homeowner or giving people another reason to leave town.
I would close with some questions:
How many of the people on the Committee actually do their own yard work and do 1 thru 5? Or do they have someone else do it? This suggested "ban" feels like the wine drinker that is OK taxing (or limiting) beer -- as long as wine isn't taxed.
Will the town buy back all my equipment if they ban gas leaf blowers?
Will the town pay for workers to come to my yard to do the work I can no longer do without adequate tools?
The above survey seems to say that one option is to ban gas leaf blowers starting in 2010? What does that mean?
What's next, banning gas powered lawn mowers too? Weed wackers? Snow blowers? Should we ban construction noise too? Airplanes that fly overhead? Cars?
Will the town publicize hearings on this topic or just use the advisory committee recommendations?
This is an unnecessary burden on landscapers, who will ultimately pass the cost of the change onto property owners who are struggling enough with high taxes & Covid financial impacts.
This is an absurd waste of time and resources.
Who would enforce this? Do we really want more unnecedary police interaction with the public at this time?
How will you enforce this law in the waccubuc area where the houses are gated? This seems like a form of class warfare.
So the police will be enforcing this new law...with all the man power they have? As far as I see the police department is already under staffed.
Why doesn't the town focus on the budget and get that in line before you start telling people what they can not use on their own property. Maybe then you could stop stealing money from different departments in order to fund useless things like tennis courts.
You ban these the town has to do leaf removal on my property other wise I will drag them into the streets. I will go towards the streets because that is easier then working uphill towards the woods. So I guess the highway department with all their standing around can deal with it?
What the fuck does the pandemic have to do with leaf blowers. You're on your own property I dont think the virus floated across the road and I'm going to blow it into my neighbors closed window.
Why are you using a world crisis like this pandemic to try and push political items through. Over 100,000 people have died you should be disgusted with yourselves.
If you ban these my husband will have nothing to do on the weekends. I don't like my husband. He can't be home that much.
Will the high school custodians be coming to my property when they are done raking all that property? You can't ban it for companys and private use then use it on public spaces or by government departments.
Are you really wasting time on this?
I would support a ban if we can collaborate with local business owners.
Thanks for amending the survey for those of us who abhor leaf bowing in principle! Rakes and mulching are the way to go.
My property is 1.5 heavily wooded acres, with a 300 ft driveway. I handle all landscaping tasks. The best battery powered gas blower has less than half the power of my gas blower. A plug in blower, also very

weak, would be impossible. I've been using these blowers for 30 years. My neighbors, most with property size equal to or greater than mine, also use gas blowers or have hired landscapers that utilize gas blowers. Unless there's a post storm cleanup, all mostly adhere to an 8am to 5pm use time, with Sundays off. Note: I also use my blower to clean snow off my driveway and walkways if it's a dry, 2 inch or less powder (usually in January/ early February), and do so for my neighbor including her car. It takes 15 minutes this way as opposed to over 1 hour each of shoveling.

Become a landscaper or do your own yard work and you won't bitch about using a gas powered leaf blower. If the smell or smog bothers you don't go outside or wear a mask. Lawn mowers and chain saws are just as bad and create 5% of the nations air pollution so if you ban leaf blowers you should ban those too and can come to my house hand pick my grass and leaves. People just need a reason to bitch they don't care about the environment its the noise that bothers them

I am in favor of banning gasoline powered leaf blowers. I don't really care if the Town grants funding toward the purchase of electric leaf blowers. I've always thought that leaf blowers are a scourge on the environment and a source of unnecessary noise pollution.

no need for the town to grant money for electric leaf blower ...they are cheap enough for us to buy ourselves

Dumb idea. Like your plastic bag ban. How'd that work out ? You will be raking leaves or paying someone a lot more to take your leaves

If the grant for leaf blowers is not from our town funds I would support it. I would think most residents can afford to buy their own electric. Corded electric leaf blowers can be purchased at a reasonable cost around \$70 for a reasonably powerful model. In addition to the fines, the noise pollution is bothersome. Contracted landscapers come and destroy our peace running several small engine machines at once and destroy any hope of enjoying the outdoors when they invade a property, affecting all surrounding neighbors.

Ban idiots from living here

On 2 acres of property the amount of batteries needed to complete the job will be astronomical. The power is not the same and with rolling black and brown outs when will the batteries have time to charge.

There is no need for leaf blowers during the summer months.

It's a noise issue . We live here for the quite - how about a time of day ban ? We relax after work in our own back yard and the landscapers are still blowing after 5 pm and all through the weekend. So annoying! I want to hear the birds not 3 blowers and a weed whacker etc

This is an absurd waste of time, money and breath. There are far more important issues we can and should be discussing and putting funds to. Stop wasting tax payer dollars with this petty nonsense and let's discuss real issues that a people actually need.

Vote Crimmins out

Vote Crimmins the Town Divider out

Enough already! This town is becoming absolutely insane! Good luck getting people to ,Move here!

banning gas leaf blowers is ridiculous. the town should worry about more important things.

I am our lawn and yard maintenance person, have been for almost 30 years. I could not complete yard clean-up without the backpack blower. I have always worn n95 mask and ear protection. 1 tank of gas lasts about 2 hours. Today, for example, I'll use it for about 15 to clean walkways, deck and driveway. The blower is about 10 or so years old, I maintain it myself. I'd be happy to switch to electric for the sake of the environment, however, from the research I've done, there is no equivalent electric backpack blower. Because of arthritis, etc, I can't hold the hand held equipment for more than a few minutes. Then there is the expense. We are very environmentally conscientious and would support some kind of compromise, gradual phase-in and subsidy once an equivalent electric blower comes to market.

Lewisboro has many different land sizes. Perhaps a ban should only be for properties below 2 acres where houses and people are close together and electric machines are less viable

Pretty sure you meant ban after 2021, not 2010? I'd like to see all gas leaf blowers banned, and electric during the summer but feel the seasonal ban on gas blowers has a better chance of getting approved and would be content with that first step.

I would also like to ban outside power tools, chain saws, compressors etc. in general on weekends before noon.

Bravo. Absolutely. The Noise pollution is also a problem of gas leaf blowers.
I a Bedford resident AND landscaper. Thank you so much for doing this- You might want to adjust the starting time for the ban from 2010 to...Also, we have a two acre woodland property. It really is perfectly doable without gasoline blowers. Let nobody convince you otherwise- or send them to us ;)
Grounds maintenance is important. Wet leaves and Nature debris left On the ground can cause accidents. Are you going to restrict snow blowers too?? It's not easy and it's good to be informed and to try to do what would be healthier. Having said that, I am in favor of REPLACING things for healthier solutions - Not BANNING things. We should have choices, not restrictions.
I would like to see an increase in mulching blades on mowers instead of removing fall leaves... pass that law please.
see above you are saying here to ban something in 2010, please update the year. The question above doesn't give a way to really give an opinion and you are forced to answer yes or no on order to submit the survey. I support the ban is the town gives grant funding to residents who need it. There are residents in this town who can get an electric blower with their own funds-I am concerned about the landscapers who may not be able to afford to get rid of their gas blowers and replace them and do zi fire my landscaper if they continue with gas blower
It's about time to forbid and to make illegal gasoline powered leaf blowers as well as any other gas powered motors in Lewisboro as well as every else.
How will a proposed ban be enforced? What would be the penalties? What outreach is being done to the landscape contractors and companies to get them to use electric blowers or rakes instead of gas blowers? It would be to their workers' benefit to reduce their exposure to gas blowers' carbon monoxide and the particles Blown into the air.
So glad you're conducting the survey! 1) note the date above says June 1, 2010. Typo? 2) would be supportive of funding within a reasonable limit. Not sure why landscapers cannot simply take it upon themselves to buy new equipment and then charge the users. Is it that expensive?
Landscapers, tree professionals and homeowners may use leaf blowers for cleanup after tree work, clearing brush, construction work, storm cleanup and should not be restricted during summer months. I rarely hear or see leaf blowers being used in a frivolous manner. Leaf blower emissions need to be improved and the discussion should continue but this type of law would alienate good citizens who are already stretching finances to live in a high tax region. Many laws with good intent have unintended negative outcomes. Education and positive support, understanding and listening is the right approach. Certainly grant program/ financial incentives can help. Bullying people with a law like this is simply wrong at this moment in time.
There is no way at my age (67) that I could take up leaves from a heavily wooded lot with almost a 75% shade canopy.
This is not about Covid - no one should be using the pandemic simply to try and advance one of their pet issues.
Ban gas leaf blowers year round not just for the health and noise concerns but as an incentive to transition to electric. Let's face it, so many people in our community use a service for their yard work that banning gas blowers has very little individual affect. It would mean that a couple hours out of the week would be affected. But the services that manage a dozen properties a day will be forced to adapt. That's where the greatest reduction of emissions and noise will come from.
Banning during the summer when really not needed makes sense -- year round no as for large properties there is no practical way to rid of leaves without a leaf blower of some sort and electric is not that much better than gas
grant funding for electrical blowers only for residents who for physical reasons depend on the use of a blower.
Our electric leaf blower is less noisy than gas powered, but still pretty noisy. Other than limiting days/hours of use for any blowing, and unless Lewisboro is going to help landscapers purchase electric, noise will not be diminished significantly.
FOR LANDSCAPE PERSONNEL
Require a \$10,000 permit to use loud models. Ban from 9 - 5 during the week when people are working at home.

I plan on stopping all gas leaf blowers & mowers on my property.
I understand a machine that mulches leaves is best for the lawn. is there a way for the town to purchase some that residents can borrow or rent at a discount?
I asked my landscaper to stop leaf blowing at the beginning of the season. Mostly because it is loud and annoying. If people with large properties want to use them I have no problem with them. If you are close to a neighbor I would prefer you be considerate and buy a broom or rake. I ceased the leaf blowing more because it disturbed beneficial insects. I don't know that there is a covid impact one way or another. They are just loud and environmentally unsound overall.
Blowers are for fallen leaves, so I asked my landscaper not to use until then.
The immediate quality-of-life improvements due to massively reduced noise- and particulate emissions pollution will Be immediately tangible. I am in full support!
Environmental Stalinists at it again. If Internal combustion engines are legal then leave landscapers alone. This is nonsensical overreach
1)Noise pollution, for some of us, is as much a problem as air pollution. 2) Bulk purchases with price discounts that can be extended to the landscapers might help - many of those small businesses would be slow to transition b/c of cost (and maybe power too).
I would support any type of regulation 100%!! I chose the one box I believe could possibly win, based on other Westchester towns. I would LOVE to see a complete ban on gas powered blowers all year, on any type of blower actually - it would be a dream as it's something I've been fighting in favor of for so many years. But...having seen & heard the absolute (absurd and unscientific) opposition from government, leaf blower manufacturers & their lobbying, landscapers and home owners who prefer an impossibly sparkly lawn above all else, including the health and peace of neighborhoods, I think it will sadly be a futile fight. Homeowners who prefer peace, quiet, health and less carbon emissions currently have NO rights. It should not be that way. There should absolutely be regulations placed on leaf blowing to limit the amount of noise, pollution, and madness 24/7 as leaf blowers rage on - esp when there are no leaves to be blown. Our communities need to support a change toward zero emissions immediately. Thank you for fighting for us!
Forget lawns..plant a vegetable garden!
Electric only is better than no ban at all but would prefer complete ban
Typo where u have "2010". Also i would support a ban regardless of grant funding.
Maybe a limit on gas leaf blowers rather than a ban.
Gas leaf blowers are now used year-round replacing rakes, brooms and sometimes snow shovels. Time to ban them. Some days it is impossible to enjoy being outdoors for the noise and exhaust fumes that are produced. The ban should apply to landscapers as well as residents.
You had better ban all two-cycle engines - why pick on just one form? How is a leaf blower different from a weedwacker, hedge trimmer, chain saw, etc. They all use the same basic engine. This is a case of the "green" folks going overboard and not thinking this through. Why not tell landscapers that they have to stop work at 5pm instead of 7pm? I am sick and tired of tried to enjoy an evening and having commercial lawn mowers next door in the cocktail hour.
Please think this thing through and stop listening to those extremists who worry about every little emission? Let's ban generators since they case emissions. How about lawn mowers themselves? Are sheep the answer? You are going overboard on a problem that doesn't exist except in the minds of a few purists. BTW, electric leaf blowers have almost as much noise pollution as gasoline powered one.
Storm exemption will not work since cost of maintaining duplicate equipment and maintenance would be prohibitive. I appreciate the sentiment but the technology is not there yet.
Condo Association landscapers use gas powered
Ban leaf blowers altogether.
Ridiculous
Dan Welsh is a crook and a liar.

The properties are too large to use electric leaf blowers. Please let's stop this petty nonsense. There certainly are more important things to concern ourselves with.
It helps to start somewhere and I think banning gas powered leaf blowers is a good first step to reduced noise and exhaust pollution.
Many people who live in this area have many acres to take care of, eliminating the use of leaf blowers especially in the Fall would be absurd !! Wouldn't our town look good to potential buyers if our town looked like a shit house that wasn't kept up with. Please people find other things to worry about. Here is an idea... why don't we spend the time and effort into finding a reliable cable company that doesn't charge an arm and a leg!
Please ban all gas powered Blowers.
This is ill advised. What's next, lawnmowers, chainsaws and cars? Where will this end?
Stay out of our personal lives
How about returning your focus to roads, schools and taxes? These are areas that urgently need your real focus. In this posturing exercise, there are many County, State & Federal agencies that you are needlessly duplicating. This sort of political adventurism is not helpful in our town. Our citizens are assaulted on all sides by bureaucrats, and we do not need more such "help."
Property is too large for an electric leaf blower
Ridiculousness at its finest.
Not everyone has the time to take or recharge an electric leaf blower when they work 6 days a week, or financial means to replace what they have with something comparable.
Very exaggerated concern, better ways to spend our time and resources
Stop wasting time on dumb bans that do nothing but hurt the hard working landscapers of this town.
Ban gas powered blowers on the weekends
It is important that there is still provision for using gas blowers during fall clean up season. Many homeowners (like me) in Lewisboro have multi acre plots that they landscape themselves. Electric blowers do not have the range we need. We try to mulch as many leaves as possible with the lawn mower, but we still have to do a couple of days blowing the leaves onto a tarp and dragging into the woods. We rake as much as possible but the volume is just overwhelming.
We elect our politicians to do the business of the town, not run our lives.
This unfairly targets small business owners and minorities who are the majority of day laborers employed in this town
You start paying my mortgage and taxes and you can start deciding what I use to clean my property!
I support a ban but don't feel that the Town has to provide funding to purchase electric leaf blowers. I would also support a year-round ban but feel a seasonal ban is most likely to get support.
Use your solar earnings to buy electric leaf blowers! You're probably getting a nice chunk per CDG supplier; 2% (possible) of the town enrolling would bring 140 subscriptions, enabling roughly 1 MW of solar capacity. Westchester Power would get \$75,000 for this endeavor. Take a clear and fair chunk of that and give away ten (or more, if they satisfy some broad and ambitious environmental criteria). Additionally, there's a NYSEDA program that will award substantial dollars to municipalities that are ahead of the game. \$100k should be easily achievable from that grant program and I know the CEC director (Brad Tito; Dan knows him well) would feel really good about an initiative that reduces greenhouse gases in the form of electric leaf blowers...
I in fact do not have a preference on the funding option. I would support a ban either way. My thought is that the professional landscapers would be hardest hit, as raking and other means takes so much more time to complete the job. I would not want to hurt the small business owner, such as my landscaper who we use only occasionally for fall clean-up and some small odd jobs. I wonder how we can help support the small landscaper in this process. And very rarely do we use our electric leaf blower but we have one as it sometimes comes in handy.
I do not have a landscaper nor do I own or use any leaf blower. I am not that fastidious about my property. All of my neighbors use leaf blowers and I have no problem with it!!!! It is not reasonable to expect that people in our area rake or use electric blowers. We do not live on half acre lots! Also, your

reasoning is not consistent if you make exceptions for municipal properties or if you do not regulate generators. I say leave it alone!!
Seriously? This is the shit you are worrying about! Get your f'ing priorities in order.
<p>This is local government, environmental,, creep/ control. First leaf blowers, then, lawn mowers, chain saws, mosquito and tic sprayers...</p> <p>Lithium battery cost/ disposal is a big environmental issue/ concern. The need to replace and dispose safely. You may find 10 yrs from now our clean water is permeated with lithium toxins, among other things(unintended consequences).</p> <p>Length of operating time is an issue for residents that are 2 acre zoned or more. The debilitating cost of batteries and the powered equipment will financially impact landscapers and trickle down to residents costs. The upfront conversion costs required may put some of these landscapers out of business.</p> <p>Some residents use blowers for very short periods like cleaning up saw dust or other residual debris from exterior work. That should not be an issue. Technology for gas powered leaf blowers, among others, has not yet caught up to justify this type of mandate.</p>
We live on two acres and a gas powered leaf blower is the quickest most efficient way to maintain our property. Electric leaf blowers are run by electricity created by fossil fuels. What's the point?
What would be next lawn mowers, snow blowers, and generators. This is a ridiculous ban and a waste of the boards time.
<p>I use my gas power blower during the summer maybe every two weeks for 10 minutes. During leaf season, an electric blower lacks the power to blow the amount of leaves, often wet, across my yard. I also don't believe my Landscaper's overuse their blowers during the summer. They don't use them until the end of the service and for no more than 20 minutes. Real care and analysis needs to be performed to understand the impact on small businesses and likely fee increases passed to the consumer.</p> <p>Lastly, more Lewisboro specific research needs to be provided to make informed decisions. Southern Westchester county towns compared to northern Westchester towns should be separated considering the additional land here.</p>
<p>There should be commercial trade in possibilities for local landscaping businesses as well with funding not only residents</p> <p>You can't just ban the use but you can change the method seems to be a happy medium business gets a hand replacing gas with electric and the</p> <p>Towns air quality improves!!!!</p>
Most homeowners in Lewisboro, unlike almost any other Westchester community, are surrounded by woods. Average lot sizes here are such that when combined with our rural setting, even basic landscaping requires significant work. Electric leaf blowers simply don't have the power nor range to be efficient or useful. They are an inferior tool. Additionally, banning gas leaf blowers doesn't ban gas powered mowers, ride on mowers, gas generators after storms, etc. Selecting blowers is arbitrary and banning the use of private tools on private land is a clear infringement of homeowners rights. You are opening the town up to litigation and setting a dangerous precedent.
How in the world would the town provide a grant for the use of electric leaf blowers to residents? Would the ban effect the town and its employees as well?
There are more important issues to spend your time on. Too much government regulation.
Please let's not make this a "thing". There are bigger problems to deal with. We have a right to maintain our property. Using an electric blower is just not feasible.
This is just out of control!!!
There is more important things to worry about then people using their leaf blowers!!!! Get a grip on life!!!
Try and stop this because I'll still use my leaf blower anytime I want on my property!!! I pay taxes lived in this town for over 50 years and I've never heard such crap in my life!!!! Can't tell me what I can do and can't do on my own property that I've paid for!!
Most lawns are too large to rake in this town. The town must have a feasible alternative for the residents before banning anything.
This discussion is a waste of town time and resources.

It makes sense for towns like Katonah where houses are close together and people only have 1/4 acre of property in town. In lewisboro most people have at least an acre or 2 to take care of. Seems like an knee jerk reaction just because towns around us are doing this.

I feel to permit a limited ban is a slippery slope and you're taking unfair advantage of a pandemic by trying to pull the wool over the community's eyes when people are stressed and distracted. You're not listening to the overwhelming majority of Lewisboro who don't want a ban. If you're going to make some decision based off of a survey, then make it more well known that there is in fact a survey the community should be taking! Why wasn't this mailed? I had no idea about this until recently. Despicable trickery.

No ban on blowers

For the safe improvement of our environment

First leaf blowers, then lawn mowers, tic sprayers, chain saws, cars?...

lots of trees, the town is so large and diverse I think you can broad stroke this type. Maybe in congested areas of lewisboro yes condo's etx.

Given average size of people's lots. Raking and electric blowers doesn't make sense.