

CdM Residents Assn Member & Community Correspondence

CdM Residents Assn Landscape Equipment Poll 2009

1. Should leaf blowers be controlled for noise and pollution emissions in Newport Beach? If so, how (outright equipment ban, more stringent standards, more restricted hours of operation, permitting operation only on certain days by neighborhood)?
2. Should commercial gardeners have different guidelines/restrictions than residential gardeners?

Poll Results

1. 567 emails sent to CdMRA Members (77% of membership; 9% of all CdM households)
2. 104 responses received (18% response rate; our highest ever recorded)
3. 71% of respondents were from the Village; 21% from planned communities
4. 55% want an outright ban; 85% want to either ban or limit emissions, days/hours, or decibels on residential usage
5. 15% do not support any changes on residential usage
6. 44% also wanted to limit commercial usage in some way; 43% did not answer that question.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMW)

More stringent noise and pollution standards; commercial gardeners should have same guidelines/restrictions as for residential.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMW)

The leaf blowers are a real problem - we hear them pretty much all day every day. I work from home and oftentimes have to close the windows to hear my conference calls. I propose 2 weekdays and one weekend day for ALL landscaping activities that require a great deal of noise. The lawnmowers are every bit as offensive and noisy as the leaf blowers. If everyone manages to move their cars to the proper side of the street twice a week and can take their trash out on time, this shouldn't be much of an inconvenience...

10/21/09 Email: (CdMSE)

We favor a residential ban in the village because of the close proximity of the homes. It is too hard to enforce noise and pollution emissions. We don't favor restricting blowers on commercial property.

10/21/09 Email: (Cameo Shores)

I think leaf blowers should be banned in Newport Beach.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMW)

Yes, they should be banned completely, an outright ban; at least for homeowners. Commercial and Homeowner Associations have more need, but for homeowners it is just laziness that gardeners have to use leaf blowers. District 6, especially, the flower streets of CDM and other areas of Newport Beach of which there are many, are so close to each other, are particularly impacted by this awful ongoing noise. I am a horticultural consultant and have lived and worked here most of my life. I consult for over 15 homeowner associations including Newport Coast Master and Crystal Cove. Blowers are used less in the HOA's than they are in residential properties. I notice that the gardeners at private homes on the flower streets where I live in CdM, blow for sometimes 20-30 minutes in a tiny yard, which is ridiculous. It seems to me they just use up time with an easy task so they can say they were at this residence for a specific period of time. I know how gardeners charge, and if they just did a quick mow and blow, they could not justify charging for an hour of their time. Rakes and brooms work just fine, and it honestly is not much more time than using a blower. My vote would be to ban all blowers everywhere, but I would be very happy if they were just banned from residential properties. It truly is noise pollution. Thank you for letting me voice my opinion.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMSW)

All Zones: All internal combustion landscape maintenance equipment in all zones should be required to have an operational and effective muffler.

Residential Zones: Ban leaf blowers in residential zones.

Commercial Zones: Allow leaf blowers so long as they comply with the requirement to be equipped with an operational and effective muffler.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMNE)

I'm in favor of regulation to limit noise of leaf blowers on residential properties in CDM

10/21/09 Email: (CdMW)

Please place a complete ban on Leaf Blowers. There are 10-15 times per week that I hear them, when I am at home trying to work.

10/21/09 Email: (Cameo Highlands)

My wife and I own two homes in Corona del Mar and we would support an outright ban on the gas-powered leaf blowers. Give the gardeners six months to transition to an electric-only leaf blower (very little noise)...

10/21/09 Email: (Sailhouse)

It is ridiculous that leaf blowers cannot be used or are restricted!

10/21/09 Email: (CdMW)

Liz: Please ban all leaf blowers in Corona del Mar.

Marty: I am in favor of outright ban of leaf blowers in residential neighborhoods as well as commercial areas. This might increase the use of vacuums. I think that they could be used in commercial areas, as long as their noise levels and air pollution levels are regulated.

10/21/09 Email: (Corona Highlands)

I think the regulations should apply to any gardeners, commercial or residential, who operate Leaf Blowers within 500 feet of a residence and the use of Leaf Blowers should not be allowed except during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. M-F and 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sat and Sunday.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMNE)

I feel that leaf blowers should at the very least be tightly controlled, but would prefer they go away entirely. Here in CDM so many residences use gardeners that just making the rules for businesses would not help much. Both businesses and residences should be included.

What ever happened to rakes? But seriously I understand that some cities have required that any leaf blowers used should be ones that have less impact and noise than the common ones - worth exploring?

10/21/09 Email: (CdM Resident)

This is a very important issue to me. I believe there should be a complete ban on leaf blowers, or at the very least some regulation so they are not blowing all times of the day every day of the week (even on Saturdays across the alley). On some days there is exhaust and dust coming through all of my windows. I find it hard to breathe. This cannot be healthy and is occurring on a daily basis. I pity anyone with asthma or any other breathing problems. Not to mention the noise!!

Other cities have accomplished bans/regulations as I am sure Newport/Corona del Mar can do as well. Something needs to be done. I lived for 27 years on the Peninsula and the problems didn't seem as bad there as it is now in Corona del Mar (I live on Marigold). Just about every single residence has a gardner that uses a leaf blower - all on different days at different times. Please let me know any way I can help!

10/21/09 Email: (CdMSW)

1. Yes. Outright equipment ban. ; 2. No [do not exclude commercial gardeners]

10/21/09 Email: (Cameo Shores)

I am definitely in favor of a ban on leaf blowers, similar to the one in Laguna. My reasons are:

1. They contribute to our already overloaded pollution problem. After the gardeners in adjoining properties have serviced their properties, I can actually wipe off the soot that is carried onto our outside furniture. We have asked our gardener to not use his blower. I'd rather live with the leaves in the garden area and sweep the ones in the patio area.

2. The noise is often deafening.

3. From observation, it seems the blowers are used to just relocate the leaves to another area, where they remain.

4. It would be wonderful if this ban applied to commercial areas also. However, this might not be feasible, time or money-wise.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMW)

I think they should limit the time and they can be used if at all.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMSW)

I would like to see them banned. All they do is rearrange what they blow, and make a terrible noise. A broom is more effective and noise free.

10/21/09 Email: (HVH South)

I definitely think we need to consider options for residential gardeners to limit their use (if any) of leaf blowers and consider how other communities have reduced their noise pollution with these machines. Perhaps we start with residential gardeners since I don't think the commercial property has as big a noise impact on the family neighborhoods.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMSW)

Leave the leaf blowers alone! This is just another attack on our freedoms. There just are some inconveniences of modern living. And, why regulate their use only for residential property. This is ridiculous discrimination!

Another example of too much government interference is removing the fire rings that have been on Corona del Mar beach for years. I have lived above them for 24 years and they cause no problem for me. If people stay past closing or drink alcohol, that's what the police are for, and they have the time to enforce the closing time.

Need some more suggestions to further take away our pleasures, conveniences, and freedoms? I'll help:

1. Pass an anti noise beach law. No screaming, laughing or any other loud noise in or out of the water while on the beach. No crying allowed either.
2. Find a way to quite the pounding surf. I hear it at night.
3. Shoot or poison all the noisy sea lions and the Great Blue Heron in trees.
4. Ban UPS trucks and other large vehicles from CDM streets.
5. Remove the "bark" from all dogs. Better yet, ban dogs from CDM period. No more messes to pick up or step in that way.
6. Eliminate the Police helicopter and eliminate all code three "red lights and sirens" from emergency vehicles.



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7. No more power tools, jack hammers, power lawn mowers etc.
8. Ban jet take offs from John Wayne airport. Better yet, ban all airplanes.
9. Only allow people who live at odd numbered addresses to leave their property every other day. Even-numbered property the other days. This would half the traffic and other congestion in our village.
10. Ban skateboards, motorcycles and other vehicles that make noise.

I could go on, but I think you can take it from here. Life used to be free and fun until they invented legislators, lawmakers and city councilmen.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMSE)

I'm sorry to say that because I have to use a leaf blower due to the constant droppings from the city trees on Narcissus, I cannot vote to ban them from use on residential property. Isn't there already a time of day restriction?

10/21/09 Email: (HVH)

Many leaf blowers in our neighborhood, even on separate streets, are simply too loud. If muting is a reasonable possibility then it should be enforced on all residential lots.

10/21/09 Email: (Shorecliffs)

A leaf blower is a leaf blower is a leaf blower. They all create dust and noise that travel far beyond the lot lines. Nothing but a Laguna style outright ban will solve the problem. Focus need to be on the residents. Commercial landscapers will adjust. When I first moved to Newport Beach [1965] life was fine without blowers; we don't need them now!

10/21/09 Email: (CdMW)

Thank you for the informative report on leaf blowers. I have often wished that Corona del Mar had a ban on these machines. Our homes are so close together and our "lawns" are so small there really isn't a need for their use. They mostly blow the debris from one spot to another. A broom and a dust pan would do the same job quietly and cleanly, and we don't have acres to sweep. We also hear a chorus of the machines because of our homes being close together, or else non-stop use throughout the week (including early Saturday or Sunday.)

10/21/09 Email: (Jasmine Creek)

It makes no sense to make regulations that cannot be enforced!!

10/21/09 Email: (CdMNW)

I would like to see things vacuumed rather than blown!! People can dispose of debris properly with vacuums instead of blowing it into the air and onto other property. The vacuums should be electric!! Noise baffles for vacuum exhausts are available and they have minimal affect on sucking power.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMSW)

I have no objection to the gardeners and their leaf blowers. I can only assume they would have to rake or sweep the residue and stay a lot longer.

10/21/09 Email: (CdM Resident)

YES, absolutely. I recommend an outright equipment ban, but at a minimum, restricted hours of operation from 9AM-4PM, M-F. They are very annoying and I don't like hearing them on my only days off work (Sat-Sun).

Commercial gardeners should be held to the same guidelines/restrictions

10/21/09 Email: (Shorecliffs)

I am opposed to the use of leaf blowers in residential areas in Corona del Mar; I would support the continued use of leaf blowers in public areas and common areas in local developments.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMNE)

I think leaf blowers should be eliminated from residential neighborhoods like Corona del Mar. The homes are too close together and gardeners use them to blow dirt from one house to another. The environmental issues alone should cause serious concerns. The noise issue is another matter. The noise cannot be controlled unless blowers are banned altogether. Commercial properties should be exempt due to size and the lack of supervision. Residential areas have homeowners who are able to use a broom.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMNE)

Residential Yes they should be controlled. No weekend use at a minimum.

Commercial: Depends upon time of day and day of week. If the ban is only during weekends, then commercial gardeners shall live by the same guidelines. Restricting hours of operation during the week may be a compromise. Maybe the requirements could be based on a minimum distance from a residential zone. The City should not be exempt from whatever requirements are imposed.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMSE)

I think the leaf blowers that run by gas should be banned, commercial or residential. There are electric options available that are silent and free of exhaust.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMSW)

YES; Outright Equipment Ban; and commercial gardeners should have same restrictions.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMW)

a ban on leaf blowers would be optimum. if this is not possible, then to make the noise somewhat tolerable; limiting the operation of leaf blowers to a single day in each neighborhood would be the best compromise. rakes don't pollute, nor use fuel, nor do they blow leaves and dirt into the street or the neighbors' yard

10/21/09 Email: (CdM Resident)

I say we have enough rules and restrictions already. Plus it is not fair unless it applies to all users, including the city in the parks.

10/21/09 Email: (CdM Resident)

Leaf blowers should not be allowed in CDM. A rake and a brush is just as effective, less noisy and more environmentally friendly. Commercial gardeners should be held to same restrictions.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMNE)

My two cents worth!! Absolutely!!! The neighbor's gardener has gotten a new blower (old one was loud) and this one is ten times louder....When he runs the blower down the 150 feet long cavern between properties it echoes even louder and sound like a 747 taking a short cut down the walk way...There has got to be a quieter model blower out there - OR maybe go back to the old fashion broom...Talked to his gardener Monday and told him the NB is talking about quieter blowers.... IF people around or next to commercial areas (ie. apartments facing the common areas) object to the noise...then they should have same restrictions.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMNV)

I think leaf blowers should be limited to one day a week only. While I understand the need for them, the noise is unbearable at times - especially when occurring almost daily!

10/21/09 Email: (CdMSW)

One man's opinion: Leaf blowers should be controlled for noise and pollution emissions in Newport Beach. Controls should include:

- Limited hours of operation - the same as construction activities something like 7 am to 5 pm M-F, 8 - 1 on Saturday.
- Limited noise - the same as for car stereos - something like not more than 20dB at 20'.
- Limited pollution - no internal combustion engines. Blower motors should be electric.
- Limited pollution - the product of any such blowing must be collected and disposed of properly in either a waste container or ideally a compost pile.
- No limit on or restrictions on use by neighborhood.

The guidelines and restrictions for commercial gardeners SHOULD BE THE SAME as those for residential gardeners.

10/21/09 Email: (CdM Resident)

We should ban leaf blowers due to noise, pollution, and also because they tend to blow waste from their yard to the neighbors. I live in CDM on Larkspur, and the gardeners next door continue to blow grass clippings, and weeds into my garden bed. Commercial gardeners should have the same restrictions.

10/21/09 Email: (Spyglass Hill)

Don't you have any more serious problems to address?. A little noise in blowing leaves isn't an issue.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMW)

1. I favor a stronger restriction on the noise level generated by blowers. In addition, it has been my experience that similar noise levels result from gas-powered lawn mowers in our area. I believe the restriction should apply to all gardening implements that exceed a certain (fairly low) db level.
 2. I feel that commercial gardeners working in close proximity to homes should be held to the same standards. There are ways to quiet gardening machinery.
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10/21/09 Email: (CdMNE)

I don't mind the gardeners' blower noise as long as it doesn't go on for a long time. Some of the blowers are pretty noisy, however. Perhaps a control on the decibel level could be recommended.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMNV)

Restrict completely. Commercial gardeners should have different guidelines.

10/21/09 Email: (HVH South)

I understand the facts that the noise of leaf blowers can be seriously damaging to ears and hearing, and to lungs and the respiratory system. These facts are based on scientific knowledge of medical professionals.

Individuals who use leaf blowers may not understand or comprehend the serious long term health consequences. They work at risk.

I believe that administrators who have the understanding and power to control at least some of the health damage, also have the responsibility to do something about the problem even if it is only a type of informational educational campaign to inform and encourage people about the above scientific facts.

Homeowners who have the education, and understanding and power to control at least some of the health damage from leaf blowers to themselves and their employees also have a responsibility to do something about the problem.

20 years ago, I as a homeowner, requested my gardener to never use a leaf blower, and he did not object. It was that simple. I still have that same gardener working in our garden weekly. He rakes and sweeps, uses a little water which is confined to flower beds, (not the



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street). We don't have all that dust, dirt, and mold blowing on the plants, patio furniture, or parked cars on the street. He and his crew can work our garden more peacefully, without the dust, exhaust and noise of the blower.

Appropriate professionals advise us with their unique body of knowledge. We should make decisions based on their expertise. Homeowners who care may only need to make the simple request to garden without noisy dusty blowers. Sometimes people only need "permission" to request a change in routine.

Homeowners who don't have a sense of responsibility may need to be motivated by laws and fines. I would start with education first, in an active campaign for voluntary control of the leaf blowers which damage both body and peace of mind. Advertising professionals should be consulted for a motivational campaign. Get experts.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMSE)

An outright Ban is our preference, unless mufflers could be added along with a time schedule conducive to neighborhood peace. Electric blowers, rather than gasoline driven machines, would reduce the noise level. We could approve a modified rule for commercial properties.

10/21/09 Email: (HVH)

Simply put, I categorically object to leaf blowers. People have managed with brushes and shovels for centuries.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMSW)

I don't think you should disallow leaf blowers. It is the only way the job can be done efficiently. However, I think we need a time established when workers can come and do lawns. There needs to be a rule that no one can work on any residential property before 8:00 a.m. at the earliest. Even 9:00 a.m. would be nice.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMW)

I am in favor of a complete ban on the use of leaf blowers by gardeners on residential property. As used by many gardeners, the garden cuttings are only moved to other locations, such as corners or streets, and not permanently removed at all. In addition, the leaf blowers create noise and dust pollution. I would like the rules to apply to all gardeners in the city, not just the ones who work on residential property.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMSW)

I recommend a total ban on leaf blowers in CDM just as they have in Laguna Beach. The noise levels and air pollution report show cause for concern for the health of the residents in our small community with houses so close together.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMNE)

I vote for an outright leaf blower ban both for residential and commercial. Why on earth would anyone want them to be different????.....they both are an extreme annoyance for the intrusive noise nuisance as well as polluting the air we breathe with their fumes and the debris they blow around and into our gutters and alleys only to end up in our ocean. When we had our office in Newport Center we were bombarded with the noise from the gardeners outside even though we were in a building with windows that could not be opened...and now, I for one, am sick and tired of my Friday mornings wake up at 7 AM....from my neighbors' gardeners just 3 feet from my bedroom window with a blower that sounds like a jet plane taking off....back and forth for a minimum of 10 minutes along with the choking fumes....even the best ear plugs can't mute that sound. A full ban would be such a relief for all of us who suffer.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMSW)

There definitely should be a ban on noisy lawn work in the early hours of the morning. At present, NB allows work to begin at 7 AM, 8 on weekends. That is too early. My neighbor's gardener comes to work on Sat. am and begins using the leaf blower promptly at 8. Of course the fumes are annoying, and I'd love a ban on gasoline powered blowers for both commercial and residential properties, but I'd be surprised if a law like that would be enforced even if it was passed. Thank you for surveying residents.

10/21/09 Email: (CdMNV)

My vote is to leave it as it is. By segregating the blowing to certain times in certain communities will do nothing to lessen the amount of noise. It will just allow some days/times to be quiet and the others to be ultra-noisy. The same amount of leaf blowing will be going on.

10/21/09 Phone Call: (HVH)

Absolutely no weekends for any landscaping equipment. We should ban gas blowers for pollution and noise.

10/22/09 Email: (CdM Resident)

All leaf blowers, residential and commercial should be banned. It effects our health, property values with excessive pollution (noise and air), and productivity. Productivity because a lot of Newport and CDM residents are self employed or have home office. The cities with a flat ban against any kind of leaf blowers have had the most success implementing the ban - like Laguna Beach has done.

10/22/09 Email: (Jasmine Creek)

Gardeners usually use leaf blowers instead of brooms. Sweeping will take them a lot more time. Are people willing to pay gardeners more to sweep than blow?

10/22/09 Email: (HVH South)

It is my opinion that leaf blowers should be banned completely from Corona Del Mar. When I had gardeners, I banned the use of them on my property and would place my broom out each week for them to sweep my patio and sidewalk. Gardeners do not seem to own brooms these days. Not only is the noise a problem, but the blowers throw dust and debris into the air, into your pool and all over the sides of your house, doors and window ledges. I now no longer have gardeners as I have converted to a synthetic lawn. My lawn looks beautiful year around, no more lawn clippings in my pool, dramatically reduced water bill, no more fertilizer or chemicals washing into the bay, etc.

10/22/09 Email: (HVH)

No controls on leaf blowers; commercial and residential should be the same.

10/22/09 Email: (CdMNE)

I am definitely in favor of banning leaf blowers. They are unhealthy, including for those who use them, and they really disturb the peace in lovely Corona del Mar.

10/22/09 Email: (CdMSW)

Yes! Equipment ban!. For commercial gardeners limited hours and more noise abatement.

10/22/09 Email: (CdM Resident)

In the name of the health & safety of not only the citizens, but the uneducated, unprotected layman doomed to neurosis & or cancer from lead & arsenic poisoning, they must be banned entirely. It is cruel & wrong to subject unknowing workers to Ethyl lead from the carbon monoxide (one amongst other human poisons from the machine), but then also arsenic or worse should heaven forbid the blower touch asphalt. Even if they themselves were provided masks, it would not protect our children, elderly, or afflicted. The ones privileged & educated well enough to prevent death causing disease (especially when the age old rake & broom is the prevention, & such an obvious & easy solution), are mandated to do so no matter if you are asking Church or State. It's not just ethics, it's indisputable science in this day & age. Not respecting this new information is now irrefutably harmful. Before the science, & all the general public had to go on was noise pollution, & a sense that something was wrong about it, has now been proof their instincts were correct. Whomever's "convenience" it is in using leaf blowers today, it is not the consumer, the user, the worker, or even the landscaping business, who's workers will certainly have trouble down the road. It may only be the manufacturer itself left who at all benefits from this supposed "convenience" of leaf blowers, for it is extremely short sighted & uneducated. ALL will be better for completely banning the leaf blowers. Especially the worker who is stronger, healthier, with a greater muscle mass, smarter & able to finish school, & stay out of jail (but not if they are breathing lead poisoning all day at work, instead of using a rake/ broom). Eliminating the noise pain is just a bonus for doing the right thing in protecting our people. Approaching the peoples whom fear this to be costly in time or effort, can be far more easily motivated when given the truths that set them free. It's not even a sacrifice when knowing the quality of life goes up for them especially. That it is done for their protection, maybe even more so than our own. It can be



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done. It should be done. We are willing to try. Get a majority on even one street to pilot something, & lead the way. If they can see it, they can do it. If whomever is on the board has any difficulty pulling up (Googling Harmful Health Hazards of....., news coverage of arsenic released by blowers from the asphalt, etc.) Call me. I'm happy, & honored to help. O.C. Diplomat for Healthychild.org, U.S.G.B.C. member, H.V.P.F.O. Board Member

10/22/09 Email: (CdMSW)

Thank you for the amount of effort you have put into keeping us updated on this issue. Leaf blowers in residential areas should be totally banned. Particularly in the village area of CDM, the lots and landscaping are not such that they require a great deal of maintenance ~ small lots, minimal landscaping. Regarding the commercial portion, while presenting the same issues ~ air quality and noise ~ there is more "insulation " from these issues in commercial buildings and areas. The exception to this would be those commercial areas adjacent to residential areas in the Village section of Corona del Mar. At least in our case, there was no increase in cost when we told our gardeners we would prefer they sweep rather than use a leaf blower. They gladly complied.

10/22/09 Email: (CdMNE)

No controls for residential gardeners; no controls for commercial gardeners. I do not believe in any restrictions on leaf blowers.

10/22/09 Email: (CdMSW)

Yes. More restricted hours of operation. Perhaps between 10 and 5. Commercial gardeners should have different guidelines. Normally residences are not near commercial properties. Homeowner Assoc. should have ability to specify operations in areas under their control.

10/22/09 Email: (Shore Cliffs)

I think leaf BLOWERS should be band due to the air pollution they cause. They should have to use the VACUME type systems. The noise is temporary, although aggravating. The dirt that is blown around is disgusting.

10/22/09 Email: (Jasmine Creek)

No, let's not control leaf blowers. Why don't we save our energies for the things that really matter.

10/22/09 Email: (CdMSW)

Yes, leaf blowers should be controlled for both commercial & residential. I'd like to see them only be able to operate during the week (no weekends) and only during certain hours (maybe 9 am - 3 pm). Hope this helps bring us closer to a resolution to this issue, thanks!!

10/22/09 Email: (CdMSW)

If there is going to be a ban on leaf blowers, I think it should apply to all venues within the city.

10/22/09 Email: (CdMW)

I say ban them completely. Laguna Beach and other cities have already done so.

10/22/09 Email: (Corona Highlands)

My friends at Bayshores said it is outlawed there. A friend from Laguna said it was outlawed there. I think it should be outlawed in all of Corona del Mar. I live in Corona Highlands and put in synthetic lawn to be able to save water, AND get rid of our gardener. However, our neighbors still have "blowers" and the noise and dirt in the air (and homes) is awful. I walk in the mornings along PCH and the businesses, and they just create dirt and blow everything into the streets when using the blowers.

10/22/09 Email: (CdMSW)

How would one control a Leaf Blower for noise and pollution? I think they are handy and time saving, I'm glad my gardener uses one. It only takes him a few minutes, I can stand the noise for that short time.

10/22/09 Email: (CdM Resident)

Yes, leaf blowers should be controlled. Only those with the lowest db rating should be used. Perhaps only electric blowers should be allowed and those need to meet the db restrictions as well. I'm also in favor of a ban on blowers and a return to the rake and broom. No, commercial gardeners should not have a different set of guidelines.

10/22/09 Email: (CdM Resident)

Turn the leaf blowers off

10/23/09 Email: (CdMSE)

Ban Leaf Blowers in residential areas

10/23/09 Email: (Jasmine Park)

I'm opposed to the use of leaf blowers and my gardener is not allowed to use them on my property. Gardeners abuse these devices which, by their nature are noisy, and more importantly, air polluters. Additionally they are now used to clean out gutters, flower beds (which also removes topsoil) and anything else that keeps the gardener from having to sweep, rake or bend over. This activity is obnoxious in that it disburses/launches EVERYTHING else besides the leaves into the air to be distributed in the form of fine particles over a wide area of the neighborhood. The gardeners argue that this saves labor and banning the devices would cost them jobs and cause unemployment. Well, this is a straw argument as (mentioned above) the gardeners use them to

disburse debris as much as possible to avoid having to dispose of it. NOT the intended use. I'm happy to pay a bit extra to have my gardener use a broom and rake which takes very little extra time and leaves the area as it was before they arrived—clean and soil intact.

10/23/09 Email: (CdMW)

My choices (all should be enacted): stringent standards (I don't believe there are standards now); more restrictive hours of operation than the 7 to 10 and no Sundays (perhaps weekdays only from 8 to 5); operation only on certain days by neighborhood (perhaps the day before street sweeping).

10/26/09 Email: (CdMSE)

Leaf blowers should be banned! Having said that I don't believe it will happen! I believe strongly that the CdM neighborhood would benefit by regulation of both restricted hours and days (no usage on Weekends) Commercial should have the same guidelines as residence of the Village essentially live in the commercial district. The reasoning for my opinion is as follows: Noise pollution; Dust particulates (everything from dust and pesticides to animal and rodent feces); No actual cleaning takes place the dust and leaves re settle on the adjacent residential property and the process starts all over; Sweeping has the same net result and contrary to most opinions takes about the same time and effort for residential areas; The commercial blowers blow dust, dirt and oil laden particulates into the street gutter to the ocean and onto neighboring residential.

10/26/09 Email: (CdMNE)

Thank you for the opportunity to give my opinion for this poll. This leaf blower issue is one that I find very important as it annoys me several times each week. I can practically set my clock by the neighbors' gardeners blowers. In fact I cannot use my phone (and I have a home office) when the gardeners are using their blowers. So this not only cuts into the quiet enjoyment of my property but also disrupts the conducting of my business which is legally operated from my home. I believe that we should outright ban leaf blowers in neighborhoods that have small lots like CdM and suggest that such a ban be made based on lot size. After all how hard it is for a worker to rake and sweep by hand on a lot that is 30' x118' when most of the land is covered with the structure? My suggestion is to ban the blowers on any lot that is under 7100 square feet. This would cover even a CdM lot that is 60' x 118'- are they even anymore of those left?

10/26/09 Email: (CdMNE)

Outright ban.

10/27/09 Email: (HVHS)

Thanks for even being willing to discuss the issue. I am definitely against leaf blowers, for all the reasons we probably all state. They are excessively noise and pollution producing. As I drive around town and watch them in action; most of the time the gardeners whether homeowner or association, blow the cuttings and dirt from the yard and sidewalk into the street. I suppose they figure our city street sweepers will eventually pick it up. The second main concern for me is the air pollution. Being a person with asthma, leaf blowers are a health concern for me.



Corona del Mar

RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS RECAP
LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT

The small particles thrown into the air are the most damaging for all lungs. Newport Beach is known in the county for its clean air and quality of life. Eliminating leaf blowers would increase our desirability.

10/27/09 Email: (CdM Resident)

We feel that leaf blowers should be completely banned from residential and commercial use.

10/28/09 Email: (CdMW)

I believe the only way to control the noise and pollution emissions from leaf blowers is to outright ban them. To do anything other would only invite some to push the limits and go around the restrictions. I also believe this ban should apply to ALL gardeners in Newport, INCLUDING commercial and City Parks.

10/28/09 Email: (The Terraces)

LUNG CANCER: Anyone give THAT a thought? What bothers me the most, is that no government body or medical profession has come out with the concern of WHAT ARE LEAF BLOWERS doing to our lungs? Does anyone consider that all the dirt and debris blown into our gutters is then blown into the air for our own lungs to filter out? I'd like to know the stats on lung cancer in So Cal; in other places, like Chicago where I'm from, the weather, of course prohibits using the L.Bs year round. But us, we have it day after day after day. Pls, get medical professionals in on this; noise is one thing, but I just put up with that, but the debris my lungs have to filter out is quite another and a BIG concern of mine. I've been on this bandwagon for years, but no one seems to be addressing this issue!

10/28/09 Email: (CdMW)

I remember when gardeners raked and swept and they never complained. The only thing that blowers do is blow the debris from one place to another. Outlaw blowers completely.

10/29/09 Email: (Cameo)

I am against leaf blowers. They go on too long and are too loud.

10/29/09 Phone Call: (CdMSE)

Ban is ok; need to stop noise.

10/29/09 Phone Call: (CdMSE)

Don't change anything. It's hard to water now, and if we limit the use of leaf blowers everything will just get dirtier. It is also a hardship on the gardeners and on the homeowners.

11/01/09 Email: (CdMSE)

Thank you for bringing this issue to the CDM residents. Yard care once was a personal responsibility but now it is an industry that spills its noise and pollution into residential areas of town. CDM residents think that if their yards are perfect then their lives will seem perfect to neighbors and passers by. This false notion is where the remedy to excessive yard noise must start. CDM needs to launch an educational program to inform its citizens that a "shaggy" yard is a greener yard. What is a shaggy yard? Well, I think a shaggy yard is a yard that gets maintenance only twice per month instead of every week. Bingo! All yard maintenance issues cut in half. 10,000* service trips into town per month reduced to 5,000; 2,000 hours of 2-cycle gasoline engines running reduced to 1,000 hours; 2,000 hours of noise and fumes reduced to 1,000 hours. (*writer's estimates) If voluntary compliance proves to be impossible, I believe the same result can be achieved by a new ordinance prohibiting gasoline engines between the 1st and the 15th of every month. In a like vein, I encourage the CDMRA to look very hard at the ever-expanding popularity of at home car-washing services. Our zoning laws are being circumvented when private companies bring these activities to our narrow streets and alleys with their noisy vacuums and buffers. Bona fide entrepreneurs pay taxes and assume all risks by establishing car washes in normal city locations zoned for this work. The neighborhood operators, I think, are unfairly hurting them. What next? A company that offers to come to your house to put new tires on your car?

11/03/09 Email: (CdM Resident)

Our family owns 3 properties in Corona del Mar, one in the 400 block of Heliotrope, one in the 400 block of Goldenrod and one in the 200 block of Dahlia. We are in favor of banning leaf blowers in the residential section of Corona del Mar. We are also in favor of banning leaf blowers in commercial areas, as they not only cause noise and air pollution, but are harmful to the health and well being of the commercial landscape employees who use them.

11/04/09 Email: (CdMNE)

Ban the use of ALL gas powered leaf blowers.

11/13/09 Email: (CdM Resident)

I say we have enough rules and restrictions already. Plus it is not fair unless it applies to all users, including the city in the parks.

11/16/09 Email: (CdMSW)

I would like to see the leaf blowers banned.

11/16/09 Email: (HVH)

In my opinion, leaf blowers are an inefficient and unnecessary tool for cleaning up around homes and streets. They should be restricted to parks and not used in residential areas.

11/16/09 Email: (CdMNE)

No restrictions; and no, commercial standards do not need to be the same.

11/16/09 Email: (Jasmine Creek)

Our belief is that commercial gardeners must be able to use them at times they are permitted to work in residential areas. And we believe that homeowners must be able to use those efficient tools at all times that gardeners can use them.

11/16/09 Email: (CdMNE)

City should limit noise of blowers. (Should subsidize purchases of quieter mowers and blowers.) City should limit hours they can be used to after 10: 00 a.m.

11/16/09 Email: (CdMSW)

Leaf blowers should be banned in Corona del Mar. This is especially applicable to commercial vendors.

11/16/09 Email: (Spyglass Ridge)

Thank you for this opportunity. I have observed many gardeners using leaf blowers all over the city. Many of them just blow debris into the street, as far as the neighbors' yards or under parked vehicles and then drive away. I would support more stringent noise control and time limits for both commercial and home-owner used leaf blowers. I have an electric leaf blower but feel a broom does a much better job and only uses my energy. Professional gardeners would strongly object to a complete restriction but it would be a quieter city with less pollution. This includes Pacific View Cemetery.

11/16/09 Email: (Corona Highlands)

I would like to suggest that gardeners should use battery powered leaf vacuums instead of gas powered blowers. Besides the gas fumes and noise, dirt and dust is blown from one house to another.

11/16/09 Email: (Cameo)

I would support an outright ban like Laguna Beach for residential neighborhoods. Commercial and city property use would be constrained based on proximity to residential neighborhoods. Commercial would also need to phase in some alternative, lower noise lower emission equipment regardless of where they are used.

11/16/09 Email: (CdMSE)

Yes, we should ban leaf blowers in Corona del Mar. It's noise pollution and they are disturbing our piece... Plus, my next door neighbor uses them and three times this year they have blown out my pilot light on my water heater from next door, they are that powerful.

12/22/09 Email: (CdMNE)

We think they should be banned altogether, but then an alternative to cleaning up yards should be proposed. Commercial use in the Village near homes should be banned.

12/22/09 Email: (CdMW)

I am a resident of Corona del Mar. I would also like to limit the noise from the leaf blowers, and perhaps limit having leaf blowers only allowed on one assigned weekday, i.e., Thursdays when the trash trucks arrive.

02/08/10 Email: (CdMW)

The noise and smell from leaf blowers is extreme. There are neighbor's whose gardeners even use them down the sides of our house, and the noise drowns out any conversation, tv or music that may have been taking place inside the house. We can hear other blowers from at least a full block away. For commercial gardening, is there an alternative?

02/08/10 Email: (Cameo Shores)

I would like to see an outright equipment ban on the "leaf blowers." In addition, I think the Commercial gardeners should have the same guidelines as residential gardeners. My suggestions are as a result of my own observations and experience over the years. We employ Roger's Gardens Landscape, and they do not use blowers on our one acre property. I have actually studied the Leaf Blowers in action. The end result is that dirt, pollens, and leaves fly up into the air, and land "somewhere" nearby. When our Gardeners used Leaf Blowers (a few years ago) the dirt and leaves landed on our clean windows, door mats, and cars. The pollens which were stirred up caused great havoc with our allergies.

CdM Residents Assn Landscape Equipment Poll 2006

Landscape Equipment Noise - City Ordinance Modification - October 2006

Would you support a modification to our existing City Ordinance in an effort to reduce noise in and around our neighborhoods from the use of various landscape equipment?

- 12 = Ban the use of gas equipment in CdM
- 9 = Establish more stringent standards
- 8 = Limit the days and hours of operation
- 3 = No change to existing ordinance
- 1 = No Opinion

10% of those polled by email responded to this question. Most were in favor of either eliminating the use of this equipment and/or adopting more stringent restrictions in our City ordinance. (Current Ordinance allows motorized construction/landscape equipment to be operated Monday-Friday from 7:00 a.m.-6:30 p.m.; Saturdays from 8:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. No operation is allowed on Sundays or Holidays.

Again, a number of people questioned whether tighter restricts would work since we don't enforce the hours of operation in our current ordinance. The City's response to that statement is to make sure that Code Enforcement is called so that a record of the violation can be logged and a citation issued. Without residents making this call, there is no way for the City to enforce every ordinance every time. **Code Enforcement can be reached at 949.644.3215.**

Those in favor of banning or restricting the use of equipment also cited environmental issues (air pollution as well as noise pollution) as reasons to enforce or tightening the current ordinance.

One of the respondents included this quote in her response:

According to a March 2006 news release from the South Coast AQMD
"These machines are a significant source of smog-forming emissions," said Roy Wilson, Governing Board Vice Chairman of the South Coast Air Quality Management District and Riverside County Supervisor. "In one year, the average two-stroke backpack leaf blower emits as much pollution as 80 new cars."

<http://www.aqmd.gov/news1/2006/CoachellaValleyleafblowerevent.html>

CdM Residents Assn Landscape Equipment Poll 2005

Leaf Blower Use & Noise - December 2005

Should all landscape power tools, lawn mowers, edgers, hedge clippers and leaf blowers be required to have mufflers to lower noise to reasonable levels?

- Yes = 29
- No = 3

The majority of responses we received support an outright ban; some supported more noise restrictions on their use in residential zones and some thought it was inappropriate to restrict the use of these trade tools. Other comments included:

- Are city employees exempt from the law?
- Please be fair to the landscape maintenance workers.
- We respectfully disagree that leaf blowers should be banned.
- Get rid of them now!
- I say ban them now.
- No gardeners at all on weekends.

It is our hope that more of you will comment on the issue so that we can formulate what we believe to be a community consensus to be presented to the City Council for consideration. While the ratio of those that support a ban is significant, we do not feel the current number of respondents is enough to sway our city leaders. For those of you that have yet to comment, please send us your thoughts. As you consider your position, consider that several cities have completely banned Leaf Blowers in residential zones, such as Laguna Beach, Malibu and Beverly Hills to name a few. Huntington Beach and Irvine have specific Leaf Blower ordinances requiring Leaf Blowers to have mufflers to reduce the noise impact on neighbors.

Mail Recap – Landscape Equipment (2006 Poll Responses)

Neutral on this one. But how about some noise ordinance on air conditioners? I recommend updating the building code to not allow new construction to have exterior air conditioners. They look terrible & are annoying to neighbors.

Great idea to limit strength of sound (don't know how you police that-like the police officer in Laguna who issues tickets to Harley's using a noise meter?) but at least limiting the days and hours of use would be nice, although perhaps make it difficult for the gardeners to schedule their work. They work very hard and I have no idea if this would be a large hardship for them.

I would completely support a ban on leaf blowers and mowers in CdM. Trying to work at home, the noise from landscaping is very disruptive. Not to mention, pollution from leafblowers and lawnmowers, and gas fumes from landscapers driving into the neighborhood, reduces air quality. If implemented, the City should help homeowners with examples of gardens and landscaping which do not require mowing or pruning, which are H2O and California friendly, so people have options.

NOISY EQUIPMENT - yes, I think there should be standards for the equipment which could involve features such as mufflers. But how can you require this without going after the Saturday motorcycle road warrior crowd - it seems like those with the loudest exhaust become kings of the road.

I feel very strongly that CDMRA should adopt an ordinance to eliminate the use of ALL non-electric leaf blowers AT ALL TIMES in Corona del Mar. Corona del Mar's small lot size, density, and limited landscaped yard space should all be adequate reasons to contend that the use of a rake or broom (versus a leaf-blower) would not significantly impact the amount of time required to remove residential leaves and debris.

Sadly, although the reduction in noise and pollution would improve our quality of life, I doubt that many involved in Newport Beach's political decision-making process would be brave enough to support such an assertive ordinance. So, as an alternative I propose:

1. The complete ban of all two-stroke engine leaf blowers, (the type of engines that burn oil and gas simultaneously, producing excessive noise and pollution in comparison to other types of engines are readily available.), and,
2. A weekend ban (Including the ENTIRE day Saturday), of all non-electric blowers, edgers / "weed-whackers", lawnmowers, hedge-trimmers, chainsaws, chippers, etc.

PLEASE, at least allow us to enjoy our weekends in Corona del Mar without the obnoxious noise and smell of a revving leaf blower, a grinding edger, or any other equipment with a comparably disturbing decibel level!

According to a March 2006 news release from the South Coast AQMD:

<http://www.aqmd.gov/news1/2006/CoachellaValleyleafblowerevent.html> "These machines are a significant source of smog-forming emissions," said Roy Wilson, Governing Board Vice Chairman of the South Coast Air Quality Management District and Riverside County Supervisor. "In one year, the average two-stroke backpack leaf blower emits as much pollution as 80 new cars."

In a 1999 Orange County Grand Jury report entitled "Leaf Blower Pollution Hazards in Orange County", the Orange County Grand Jury took action to make recommendations that would "improve the quality of life in Orange County," and recommended that cities, school districts, community college districts, and the County stop using gasoline-powered leaf blowers in their maintenance and clean-up operations. The major findings of this report show that:

- * Toxic exhaust fumes and emissions are created by gas-powered leaf blowers, edgers, and similar equipment

- * The high-velocity air jets used in blowing leaves whip up dust and pollutants. The particulate matter (PM) swept into the air by blowing leaves is composed of dust, fecal matter, pesticides, fungi, chemicals, fertilizers, spores, and street dirt which consists of lead and organic and elemental carbon.

- * Blower engines generate high noise levels. Gasoline-powered leaf blower noise is a danger to the health of the blower operator and an annoyance to the non-consenting citizens in the area of usage. Landscape firms and gardeners will argue that the leaf blower is an essential, time-saving tool that has enabled them to offer services at a much lower cost than if they had to use rakes, brooms, and water to clean up the landscape. However, cities that have banned leaf blowers altogether have not seen costs rise significantly.

The landscape noise is a problem. I don't think passing an ordinance is the answer. Some gardeners use their blower for 5 to 10 minute clean-up and some go on for 45 minutes to an hour. I would like to think the people living in the neighborhoods would take personal responsibility to control their own gardener's. What about enforcement of the prior to 7:00 a.m. work ordinance. It would be nice to take a quiet walk prior to 7:00 a.m. The construction crews are out on construction sites by 6:15 sometimes working by 6:30 and alot of trucks running with music



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playing. It makes no sense to make more rules when you can't enforce the ones you have.

I would like to see the machines for leaf blowers banned in this city. Not only is the noise pollution very, very loud but the fumes from them actually make you very nauseous. Starting work at 7:00 in the morning doesn't always mean 7:00. Many times the workers show up at 6:30 with their radios blaring and wait until 7:00 to start their drilling, hammering, etc. It is way too early in the morning to be waking up to this noise. Is it possible to make it an hour later?

CdM should definitely back any plan to abate noise from landscaping equipment...they are in constant use all over cdm and really impact daily life in a very negative way

I'm surrounded by construction projects (like most in CdM) and have found that the noise really begins at 6:30 a.m. when the workers arrive. Car doors slam, loud conversations, etc. I would like to see a change to not allow arrival at a construction site prior to 7:00. I would also like to see the elimination of garden blowers or very tough restrictions on the level of noise and also on the removal of debris. Right now, too many yard workers simply blow the debris into the gutter/storm drains or someone else's yard rather than actually disposing of the waste.

I am not in favor of changing the current city ordinance on Landscape Equipment noise.

Yes - Use of machinery and equipment should be limited to Monday thru Friday only - 8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. Non-compliant equipment should be banned. Especially gas powered leaf blowers. Whatever happened to the broom and dust pan. These Gardeners are lazy.

Mufflers on the blowers required and days and hours of use.

I would support a complete ban on gas-powered blowers.

I am so pleased to know that others are requesting an ordinance to ban leaf blowers! I have written to the city, and Assemblyman Van Tran has done so as well. Laguna Beach has an ordinance prohibiting leaf blowers. My pet peeve for sure.

Support controls



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ABSOLUTELY NEEDED, ESP AT AREAS THAT MIGHT BE ADJACENT TO CONSTRUCTION SITES AS WELL!

I'm very interested in noise pollution from landscaping equipment.

Restrict hours/days of operation - We live across from Inspiration Point and the City workers sometimes start their blowers at 5:30 AM. The noise from local gardeners doesn't bother us.

I would support banning the use of leaf blowers in CDM. These noisy machines fill the air with dust particles and who knows what else. They often simply blow debris from one area into another. Many gardeners have gotten a bit lazy and are using them at full power to move large patches of garden debris and to clean out flower beds which causes additional noise and air pollution. I've asked my gardener not to use the blower in my yard.

Yes; standards, restricted hours, ban of certain equipment

Yes, restricted hours

Yes; standards, restricted hours, ban of certain equipment

Yes; ban certain types of equipment

Yes; ban certain types of equipment

Yes; ban certain types of equipment

Yes; ban certain types of equipment

Yes; standards, restricted hours, ban of certain equipment

Yes; ban certain types of equipment



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Yes; standards, restricted hours, ban of certain equipment

Yes; restrict hours and enforce standards

Yes; cease using due to health impact; willing to appear before City Council to support this change.

No change

With our doors open allowing the wonderful ocean breezes to flow through we also get all the noise pollution as well. (Cars, planes and leaf blowers.) Wouldn't it be nice to at least not have the irritating sounds of the gardener's leaf blowers, etc. on the weekends. Is it possible? A lot of areas prohibit gardeners on the weekends. Corona del Mar would benefit with a little bit of peace by keeping the noise from the leaf blowers to Monday through Friday. .Let's get some peace around here

Mail Recap – Landscape Equipment (2005 Poll Responses)

I strongly agree that leaf blowers should be abolished; Beverly Hills did it over 10 yrs ago.
Ban leaf blowers & SUVs. Thank you for Newsletter

Strongly support doing something about leaf blowers.

Leaf Blowers: NB should follow other cities' lead and adopt an ordinance to eliminate these unpopular tools

City should not allow leaf blowers

Hi - just my two cents' worth on the leaf blower topic. I think they're obnoxious, and should be banned, and replaced with rakes and brooms. I'm willing to pay a little more for quiet gardening that doesn't produce noise and air pollution.

I hate to be a Scrooge during this wonderful Christmas season but just have to send thanks right now. Your 'Leaf Blowers' article hit a nerve. I've observed the mis-use of these implements for years. Used properly they can be fairly quiet and convenient. However, most gardeners use them as you suggest; to blow debris away--into a neighbor's property or the street-- creating noise and air pollution in the process. Some gardeners like to rev the engines like old boys rev the engines on their muscle cars just to hear them. I remember Lavena Hayton testifying alone before a Newport Beach City Council meeting years ago advocating the ban of leaf blowers. Of course, the gardeners present disagreed but she made good observations. I wish somebody in my family would develop a muffler, if nothing else, to make these machines less intolerable. In the meantime, a good broom and picker-upper is the preferred method by this gardener.

I received your recent newsletter and would like to respond to the issue of leaf-blowers in Corona del Mar. Both my husband and I are very interested in an ordinance in prohibiting leaf blowers, as in effect in Laguna Beach. We live in the village and resent the noise associated with them. We also object to our neighbors' leaves being blown onto our property. We prohibit our gardeners from using blowers out of respect for our two next door neighbors. We appreciate your interest in gathering interest for this.

Are city employees exempt from the law? The leaf / sand blowers and lawn mowers start around 6:00 AM at Inspiration Point and sometimes as early as 5:30.

I think Leaf Blowing noise should be limited or banned and I think drivers should slow down on Corona Del Mar streets. My wife and I have a dog and child on the way and are fearful about cars tearing down Marigold Ave where we live.

Though I regret the noise of 1/2 horsepower, their use should be allowed but restricted to shorter hours than by the City Municipal Code. I'd favor permitting them only during weekdays and Saturday from 8 to 5.

I am a resident of Harbor View Hills South, and I want to voice my support for a leaf blower ban or, at least, noise restrictions on gardening power tools. I would prefer a leaf blower ban, however, not only because of the excessive noise, but also because of the spreading of dust and debris to other locations. Please let me know if I can help accomplish this in any way.

For our part, we don't like the noise very much either, but understand that the landscape maintenance people are trying to provide maximum service at the best possible price. It is grossly inefficient to hand rake all debris and would cause our service providers to have to raise prices or lose money. Please try to be fair to the situation. I say get rid of them. My neighbor's gardener blows debris into the air and debris into my home.

We read your December newsletter editorial on leaf blowers and would respectfully disagree with your suggestion that we need to specifically ban them. Frankly, we don't think there is any possibility of changing your mind so we won't spend time trying. As you point out, there is already an ordinance covering the noise aspect of your problem. Beyond that, a face to face discussion with your neighbor is (or was) the usual approach to solving such issues. Another ordinance is not the way. Having lived in this town for 73 years, we find it sad that people get so worked up about a truly trivial matter. Thus you have two votes to drop the issue where it lies.

Please note that I am in favor of a complete ban on leaf blowers.



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Please consider this email a vote against leaf blowers. I would and do vote to outlaw them in CdM

We are strongly in favor of an ordinance prohibiting leaf blowers.

We live in one of the most beautiful places on earth and the incessant noise pollution from blowers significantly affects our lovely environment in a very negative way.

Thanks for your news letter. It is much appreciated. I just read your article on leaf blowers. I'd like to see NO GARDENERS at all on the weekends! It's irritating to be entertaining outside on Saturday or Sunday and all of a sudden the loud invasive noises of the gardener's power tools fill the air. We have enough of this stuff during the week. How can we get rid of them on the weekends?

I read your article re; regulating leaf blowers and I am ALL FOR IT. Let me know if you need me to write letters or anything. The noise, blowing of debris from one yard to next is crazy and I want it stopped.

In reading your newsletter regarding Leaf Blowers, I could not agree with you more. I have personally banned the use of blowers on my property by my gardeners. Occasionally our gardeners get a new employee that starts up the blower and I instantly run out and tell him to shut it off. We actually leave our own push broom out each week for our gardeners to sweep up after themselves.(It is a shame that gardeners do not seem to own brooms these days!)

Leaf Blowers blow dust and dirt all over your windows and sills creating a huge mess! The noise is intolerable. My wife and I both believe strongly that they should be banned from the city.

Leaf Blowers should be eliminated due to the noise and pollution they generate. The best way for a resident to do this is to use landscaping which does not require cutting or mowing. Then the need for a leaf blower is eliminated.

Leaf blowers are nuisance noise and should have severe restrictions placed upon their use and noise level or be banned altogether (my preference). It's beyond me why a 10'x10' plot of land (which is what most yards seem to be here in CdM) needs to be cleaned up something besides a rake or broom and dustpan.



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This subject is my pet hate and they have gotten noisier and sound like chain saws. Only low power should be allowed.

I believe that leaf blowers are a definite issue that should be addressed by our association. When you live on a standard 30' beach lot, there isn't much room for error when it comes to showing consideration toward your neighbor. For twenty some years my wife and I have put up with our neighbor's gardener blowing grass clippings and leaves from their yard and patio onto our patio and it's furniture. While I have asked the gardener both politely and not so politely to please refrain from doing so it continues to this day. Just this past week we witnessed a gardener blowing an enormous quantity of leaves off the Big Canyon property and onto Jamboree. With the heavy traffic there you can only imagine the mess it created. It shouldn't take the highest degree of intellectual capacity to understand that moving debris from one location to another isn't a very effective way of containing and disposing of it. Lets get rid of these noisy, messy machines and go back to the broom and dust pan method of clean up and give our neighbors and beautiful city the respect they deserve.

Regarding your article in the residents news letter about Leafblowers...Get rid of them as of now, they are the most noisy and dirt spreading machines I have ever known, not only do they use them for sidewalks and yards, roofers use them to clean off the roof dust after cutting tile, being so high the dust is blown over a wide area, and like your article said, why so loud I will never know...Also the 2 cycle engines produce so much pollution, I can't believe they are legal. So, I repeat, ban all leaf blowers..

I think it would be in the interest of all we change the hours and days of building construction. When the typical house was built in our city the time of building was approximately 60 days or less...Now it is from one year or more, loud radios, construction noise , streets blocked, pollution from trucks idling in the streets, God knows what .. So, I say, and many people that I have talked to say,

- # 1 No work on Saturday and Sunday
- # 2 New hours 8 AM to 5:30 PM
- # 3 No Radios
- # 4 No blocking streets, and sidewalks

These are just a few things, but something has to be done, it is upsetting every neighborhood, anybody who has been within a house or two of a new condo ha felt the abuse of the contractor ,



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they just don't care.

I strongly agree that leaf blowers should be abolished; Beverly Hills did it over 10 yrs ago.
Ban leaf blowers & SUVs. Thank you for Newsletter

Strongly support doing something about leaf blowers.

Leaf Blowers: NB should follow other cities' lead and adopt an ordinance to eliminate these
unpopular tools

City should not allow leaf blowers

Hi - just my two cents' worth on the leaf blower topic. I think they're obnoxious, and should be
banned, and replaced with rakes and brooms. I'm willing to pay a little more for quiet gardening
that doesn't produce noise and air pollution.
