



Gas-Powered Leaf Blower Ordinance Transition

Jonathan Burch, AVM/ Neighborhood Services Director

May, 20, 2025

Overview



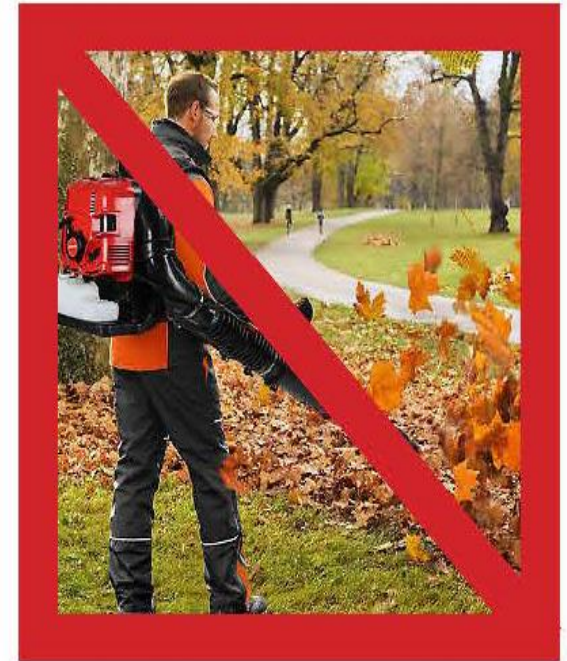
- **Ordinance overview**
- **Outreach/education underway**
- **Enforcement plan**

Summary of Equipment Restriction

A-47.4



- **Adopted in spring 2023**
- **Phase approach to ban**
 - **Not permitted June 1 to September 30 in 2023 and 2024**
- **Full ban beginning June 1, 2025**



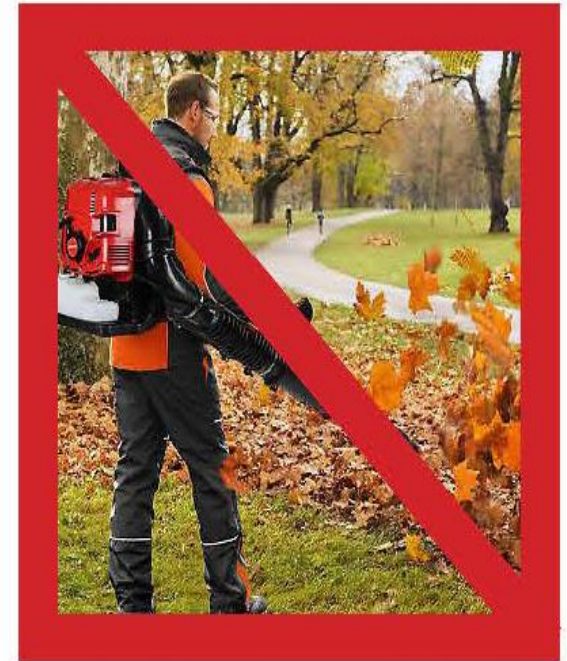
Gas **X**

Summary of Equipment Restricti

A-47.4



- **Applies to:**
 - **Property owner using a gas-powered leaf blower.**
 - **Business owner using a gas-powered leaf blower.**
 - **Landscaper using a gas-powered leaf blower.**
 - **Property owner who has hired and is permitting a landscaper to use the gas-powered leaf blower on their yard.**



Gas **X**

Summary of Equipment Restricti

A-47-4



- **Electric leaf blower permitted**
 - **Mon-Fri 8AM to 6PM**
 - **Sat & Sun 9AM to 4PM**
- **Maximum decibel level - 65**
- **Contractor Registration Required**



Electric



Target Audiences



LANDSCAPER CONTRACTORS

- ❖ **Residents**
- ❖ **Non-Residents**

PROPERTY OWNERS

- ❖ **Residential**
- ❖ **Businesses**

23/24 Engagement/education



- **Village Facebook page**
- **E-news blast**
- **Resident survey - landscape practices**
- **Landscaper listening session**
- **Ordinance FAQs (English/Spanish)**
- **Direct emails to registered landscapers**
- **Flyers with QR code to web page (English/Spanish)**
- **Discretionary enforcement approach**

Outreach Initiatives - Landscapers



- **Carryover from 2023 and 2024**
- **Online Survey (April 16, 2025)**
- **Landscaper Open House (April 30, 2025)**
- **Direct engagement**
 - **Communications**
 - **Property Maintenance Inspectors**
 - **Public Works**



ONLINE SURVEY RESULTS

- **Environmentally conscious business**
- **Electric equipment is now incorporated into workflow**
- **Consistent enforcement is key to compliance**
- **Gas blowers provide more power to allow technicians to increase productivity**
- **Battery performance is challenging**

Outreach Initiative - Landscapers



OPEN HOUSE – APRIL 30, 2025

Landscapers' Feedback:

- No charging stations**
- No battery disposal assistance for non-residents**
- Increased prices for landscaping services**
- Expense to build the battery infrastructure.**
- Residents mistaking electric blowers for gas-powered**
- Readily available incentives**

Recognition & Support Highlight



Dig Right In Landscaping, Inc. **Jeff Swano**



Outreach Initiatives - Proper Owners



May/June OPFYI Newsletter
Village Website
Oak Park Association of Realtors
Building Owners & Managers Association
Arts District
DTOP
Visit Oak Park
Chamber of Commerce
Hand-Delivered Flyers
Welcome Center
Civic Engagement Festival
Farmer's Market

Outreach Partnership



ACE Hardware

- **\$20 gift card with the purchase of an electric leaf blower throughout May.**
- **Available at Olson's & P.J.'s Ace Hardware**
- **Gas-powered leaf blower buy-back event on Saturday, May 31 for residents and registered landscapers**

Enforcement



- **Strict enforcement by the Village**
 - **Tickets**
 - **Limited use of warnings**
- **Dedicated inspector during June and July to respond to complaints**
- **Residents can help enforcement**
 - **propertyissues@oak-park.us**
 - **Address**
 - **Date**
 - **Firm (if available)**



Questions?