

Understanding Landscaping Practices in Oak Park

SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT

09 January 2023 - 06 March 2023

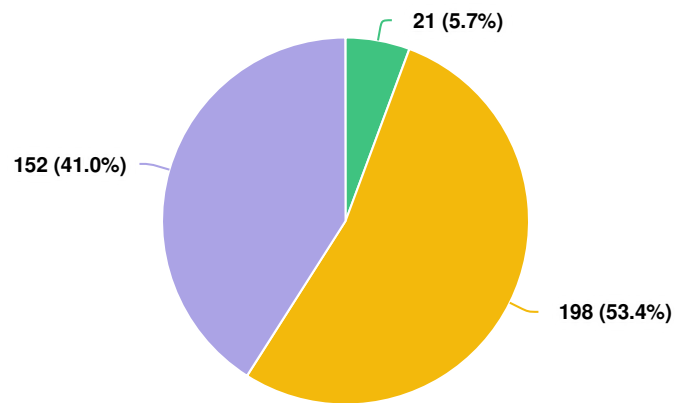
PROJECT NAME:

Landscaping Practices



SURVEY QUESTIONS

Q1 What is your age range?

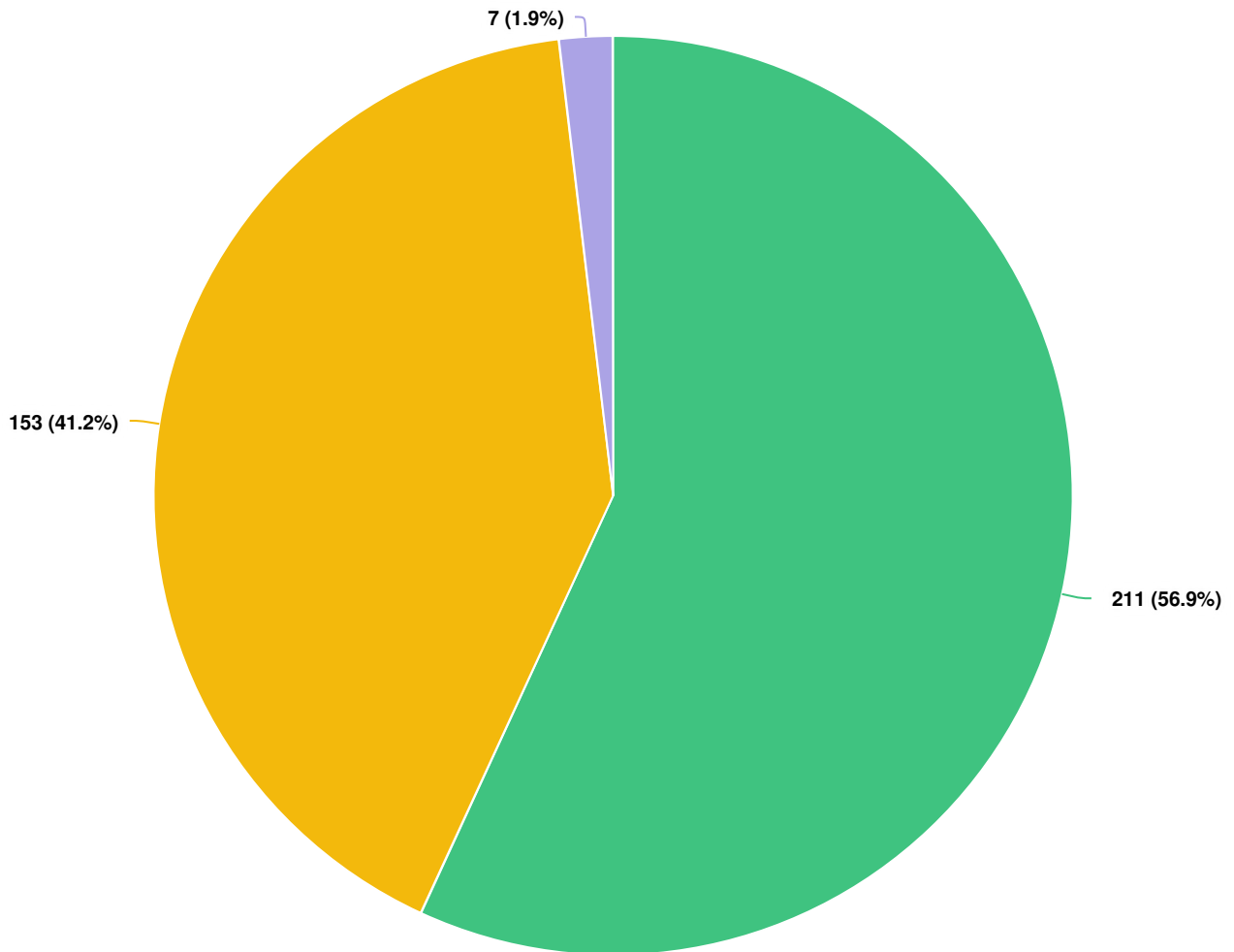


Question options

- 18-34
- 35-54
- 55+

Mandatory Question (371 response(s))
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q2 What is your zip code in Oak Park?

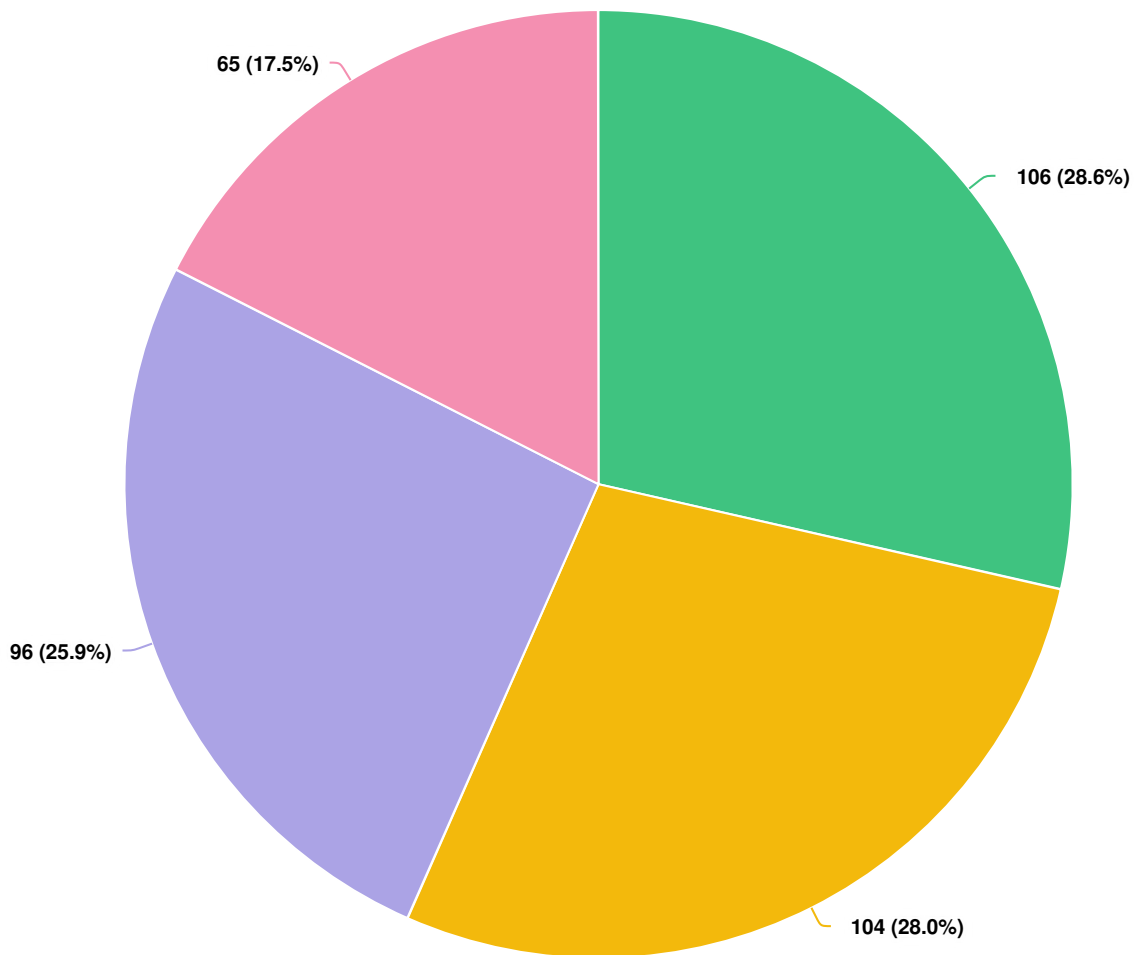


Question options

- Oak Park, IL 60302
- Oak Park, IL 60304
- Oak Park, IL 60301

Mandatory Question (371 response(s))
Question type: Region Question

Q3 What section of Oak Park do you reside in?

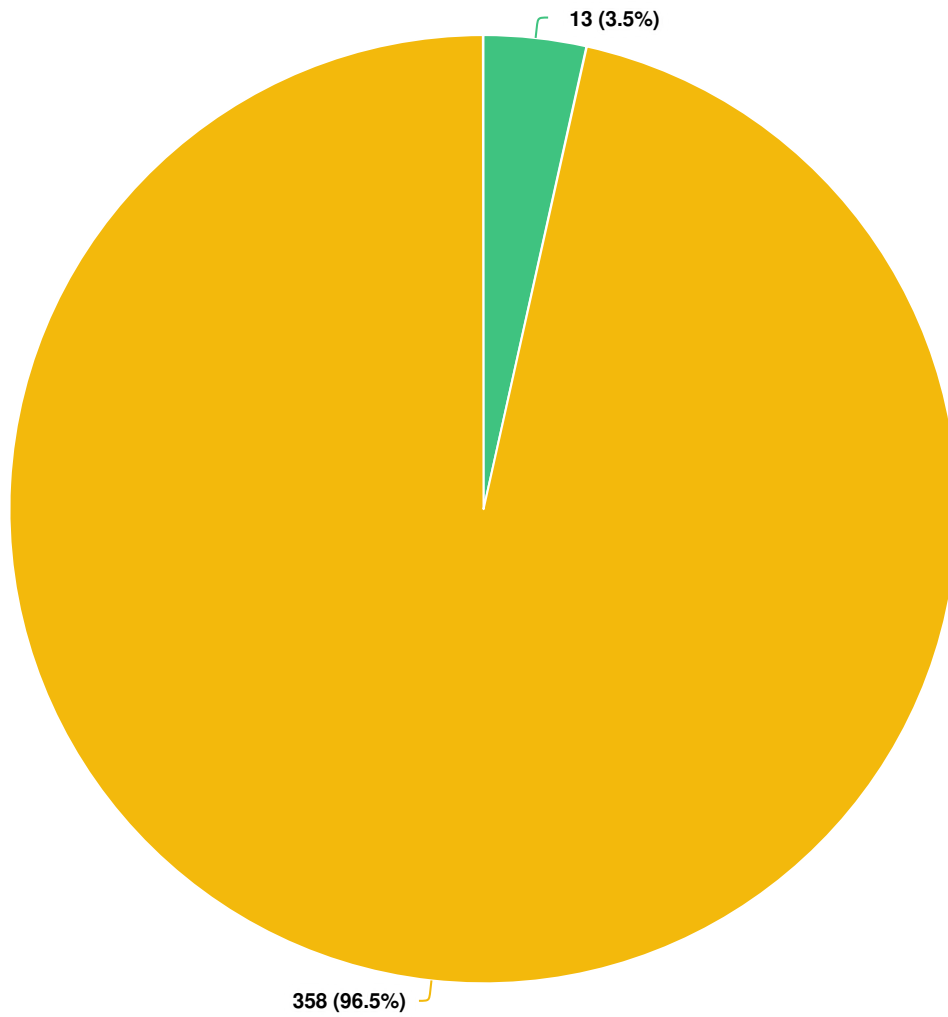


Question options

- Northeast
- Southeast
- Southwest
- Northwest

Mandatory Question (371 response(s))
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q4 What is your housing tenure?

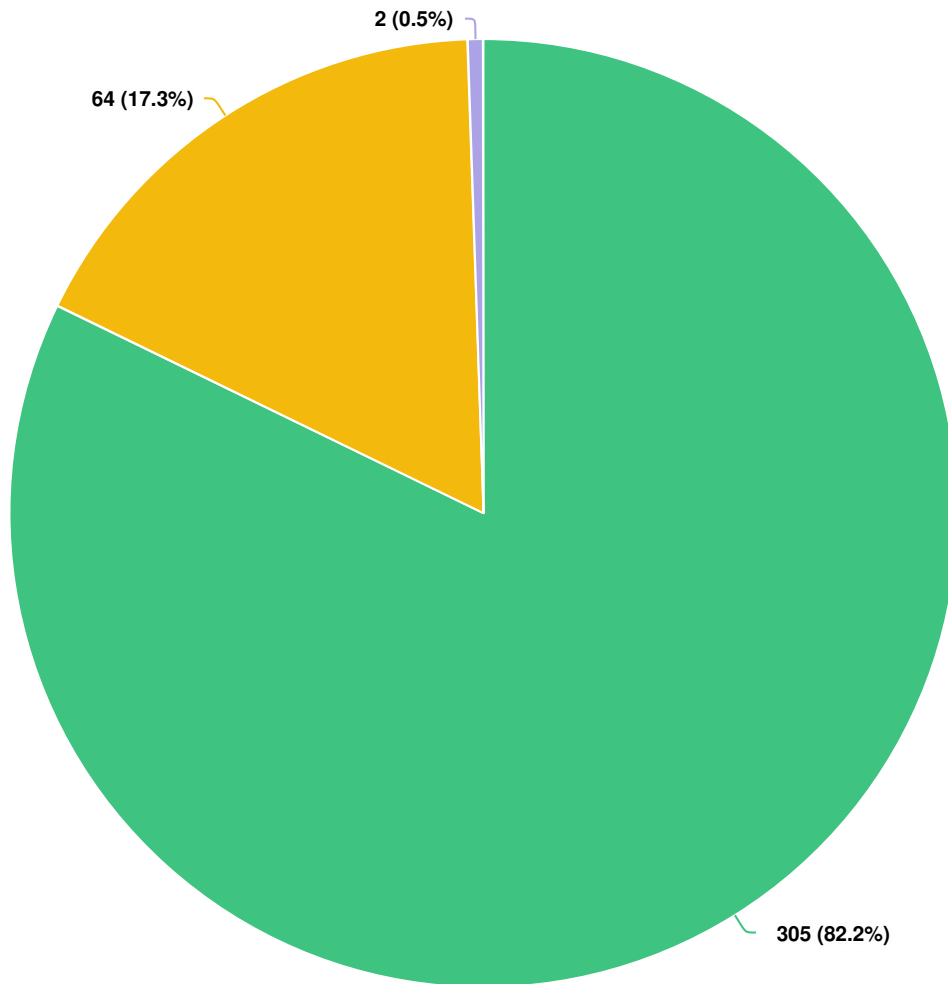


Question options

- Rent
- Own

Mandatory Question (371 response(s))
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q5 How is landscaping/leaf collection primarily handled for your property?

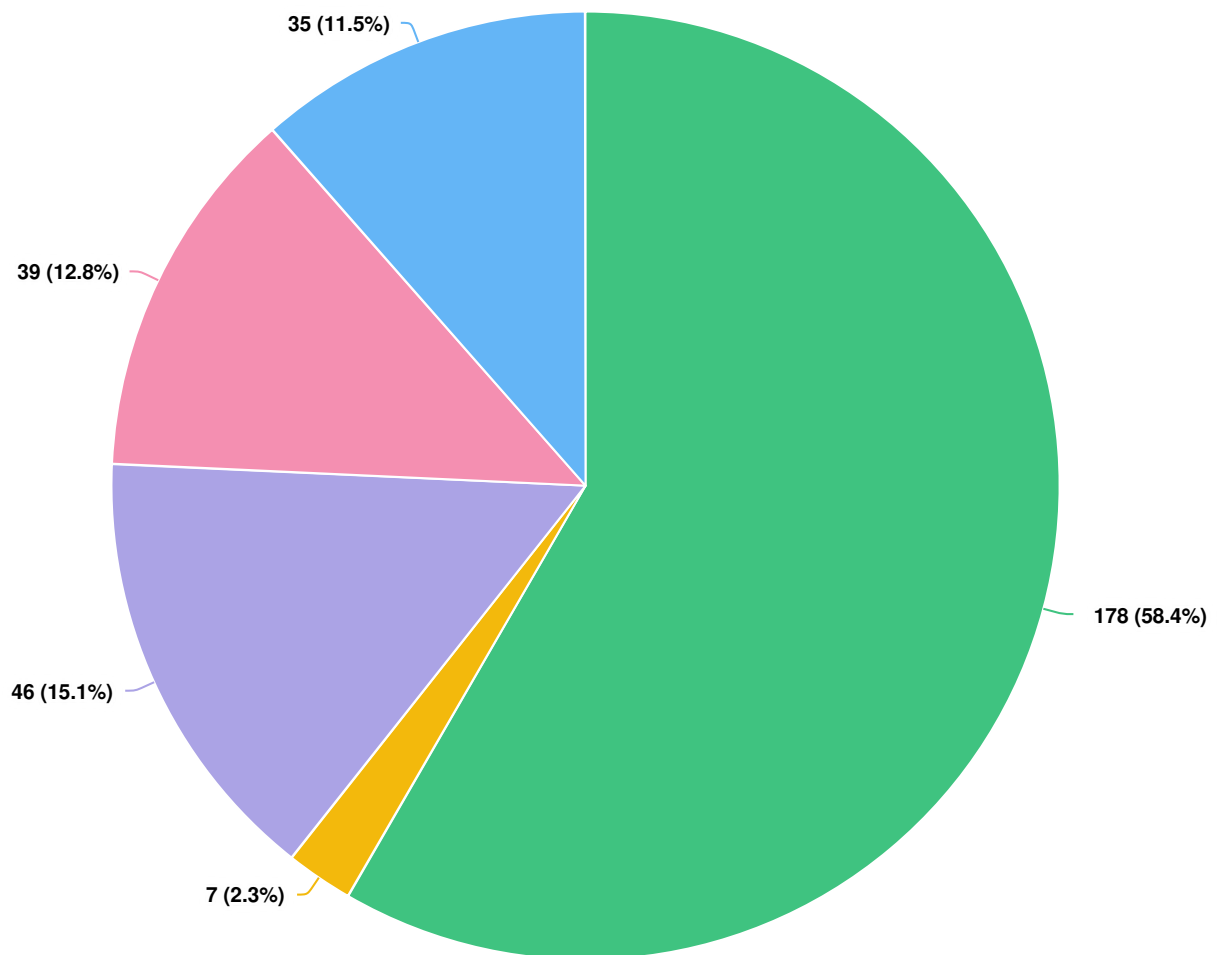


Question options

- Self
- Contracted service
- Not sure

Mandatory Question (371 response(s))
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q6 What do you primarily use for landscaping/leaf collection on your property?

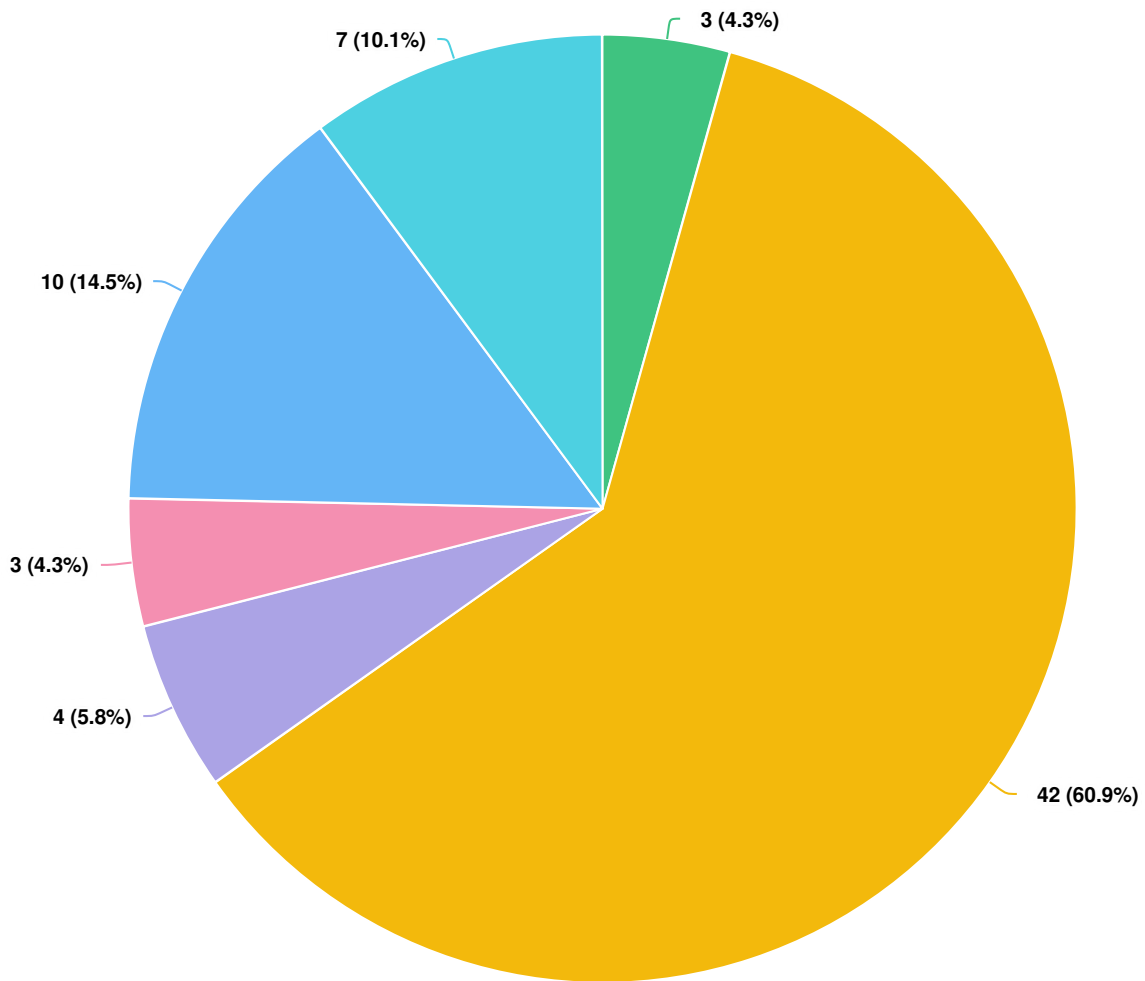


Question options

- Manual raking
- Gas-powered leaf blower
- Electric-powered leaf blower
- Mulch with lawn mower
- Other (please specify)

Mandatory Question (305 response(s))
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q7 | What method does your contracted service primarily use for landscaping/leaf collection on your property?



Question options

- Manual raking
- Gas-powered leaf blower
- Electric-powered leaf blower
- Mulch with lawn mower
- Not sure
- Other (please specify)

Mandatory Question (69 response(s))
Question type: Radio Button Question

Q8 If applicable, please enter the name of your contracted landscaping service:

trillium42 1/31/2023 02:25 PM	What the heck people, please check the flow of this survey before it rolls out wider! SELF
Rose 1/31/2023 03:29 PM	M&M Landscaping
Abreed 1/31/2023 05:40 PM	None of your business
Lauraderks 1/31/2023 06:03 PM	no landscaping
OakPark123 1/31/2023 06:29 PM	Garcia
Madasway81 2/01/2023 02:22 AM	Ramon
Tchasson 2/01/2023 03:52 AM	Rasta with a Rake
Jadonelan 2/01/2023 04:53 AM	Lorenzo's Landscaping
Robert 2/01/2023 06:21 AM	Hulen Landscape
Clamenza 2/01/2023 07:00 AM	No way am I giving up the name of my landscaper to a government entity.
Gail 2/01/2023 07:00 AM	Hoy Landscaping
Amanda Turnbull 2/01/2023 07:29 AM	VIP landscaping
Emily	No idea- realty mortgage co. Contracts them

2/01/2023 07:30 AM

Imusielak

Unknown

2/01/2023 10:28 AM

dgb468

Unknown, they are hired by the property manager

2/01/2023 10:31 AM

Amanda

Herreras Landscaping

2/01/2023 05:14 PM

DianeP-R

Hoy

2/01/2023 07:06 PM

Meeshb@gmail.com

Landscape concept@

2/01/2023 09:22 PM

Esmeralda F

Jesse H

2/01/2023 11:17 PM

susanspo

Hoy

2/02/2023 06:42 AM

Jeff Kott

Herrera's Landscaping

2/02/2023 09:22 AM

SCT

Neighbor boy

2/02/2023 03:18 PM

Jodie

MT

2/02/2023 05:41 PM

Elaine Johnson

Ray and Rafa

2/02/2023 05:58 PM

Btreece

Fairways

2/02/2023 06:42 PM

Tjoy

Dahlia's

2/03/2023 03:42 AM

lcalhounsikora@gmail.com M&D Landscaping

2/03/2023 04:24 AM

gc812 Hoy

2/03/2023 05:25 AM

MEP Hoy landscaping

2/03/2023 06:05 AM

Barbara Private employee for our condo

2/03/2023 06:54 AM

Christine Worny Ray & Rafa

2/03/2023 09:19 AM

rwienke Gonzalo Perez

2/03/2023 10:08 AM

jjolenn Hoy

2/04/2023 06:31 AM

Furbug Bonilla & Gomez

2/04/2023 12:19 PM

Jim Johnson Ray & Rafa

2/05/2023 12:56 PM

Paul Gierstorf BW Landscaping

2/05/2023 07:47 PM

K Jose Arroyo Landscaping

2/15/2023 01:36 PM

Julanne Montville Hoy Landscaping

2/16/2023 07:54 AM

Bsangabriel None of your business

2/24/2023 05:13 AM

ElaineJohnson Ray and Raffa

3/04/2023 07:39 AM

SuperDooper
3/06/2023 06:46 AM

None of your business

Optional question (41 response(s), 330 skipped)
Question type: Single Line Question

Q9 | **If applicable, please consider entering the phone number for your contracted landscaping service:**

Rose
1/31/2023 03:29 PM

7084435598

Madasway81
2/01/2023 02:22 AM

708383

Robert
2/01/2023 06:21 AM

7084433381

Clamenza
2/01/2023 07:00 AM

7083863800

Amanda
2/01/2023 05:14 PM

7086552377

DianeP-R
2/01/2023 07:06 PM

7083441587

Esmeralda F
2/01/2023 11:17 PM

7088631949

susanspo
2/02/2023 06:42 AM

7087426817

Jeff Kott
2/02/2023 09:22 AM

7086567313

Jodie
2/02/2023 05:41 PM

7736771815

Christine Worny

7738295470

2/03/2023 09:19 AM

jjolenn

7087426817

2/04/2023 06:31 AM

Furbug

7087244437

2/04/2023 12:19 PM

Bsangabriel

7088675309

2/24/2023 05:13 AM

SuperDooper

7088675309

3/06/2023 06:46 AM

Optional question (15 response(s), 356 skipped)

Question type: Number Question

Q10 | If applicable, please consider entering an email address for your contracted landscaping service:

trillium42

1/31/2023 02:25 PM

SELF@myhome.com

Abreed

1/31/2023 05:40 PM

biteme@yahoo.com

Esmeralda F

2/01/2023 11:17 PM

jessehlandscaping44@yahoo.com

Jeff Kott

2/02/2023 09:22 AM

herrerasslandscaping3@gmail.com

Christine Worny

2/03/2023 09:19 AM

firststone274@gmail.com

Bsangabriel

2/24/2023 05:13 AM

biteme@thisisntasurvey.com

SuperDooper

3/06/2023 06:46 AM

yeahright@JokePark.org

Optional question (7 response(s), 364 skipped)

Question type: Email Question

Q11 | Any additional comments?

Carrie Jensen

1/31/2023 02:12 PM

For what it's worth, I agree with the concept of getting rid of gas-powered blowers for the noise nuisance and eco factors. And I would also be happy with losing the street leaf pickup- it was terrible this year. Piles as large as cars for days on end, which was a major hazard.

trillium42

1/31/2023 02:25 PM

PLEASE ask people if they want to switch to a pay per lawn/leaf bag system, instead of raking into the streets, as we spend several hundred thousand dollars on yearly!!! MOST places do it that way, you know. PLEASE ask about banning gas leaf blowers (or is that the secret aim of this?) OP used to be more progressive. Now lots of

places are ahead of us on many things. See for example <https://takeayard.com/leaf-blowers-illegal/> PLEASE fix the survey so it knows to not ask you for your landscaper info if you do not have one, or lets you answer none/N/A. Thanks.

Agupta1022

1/31/2023 02:31 PM

Front gets mulched into landscaping. Back is leaf blower cleaned with electric

Laurie Casey

1/31/2023 02:58 PM

We never rake our leaves into the street for collection. We keep them in our garden beds or mulch them into our lawn.

chrislutz

1/31/2023 03:03 PM

I answered "self" meaning that I take care of my own lawn, but I got several questions regarding contracted services. Perhaps the logic of the survey is broken??

jakob

1/31/2023 03:07 PM

Please ban gas leaf blowers immediately, and consider a ban on gas lawnmowers down the road as well.

amybcarson

1/31/2023 03:22 PM

Ban gas-powered leaf blowers! Even better, encourage folks to leave their leaves alone to enrich the soil beneath!

Rose

1/31/2023 03:29 PM

I know they definitely use a blower but I'm not sure if it's gas or electric.

monablaber

1/31/2023 04:41 PM

Growing up in Oak Park, no one had leaf blowers. We raked the leaves into a pile at the curb (and the kids, and sometimes adults, jumped in them). When leaves cover our lawn now, we rake and mow/mulch the lawn. Some of our neighbors just leave them. Why do people think their lawns need to look like carpets? Leaf blowers are harmful to operators' health, bugs and birds, our hearing (and sleep, for those of us with neighbors whose blowers start at 6 am), and the climate. I understand that some are worried about small businesses increasing costs or having enough work. But what about the cancer and hearing risks to employees who operate leaf blowers? I would think anyone who hires landscapers now would still do so even if they left the leaves in place. There's lots we can hire landscapers to do to create thriving yards without making someone risk their health to blow every piece of nature off our lawn.

Keithposson

It's nice to have our streets cleaned and leafs pickup in the fall

1/31/2023 04:25 PM

OPave

1/31/2023 04:49 PM

The leaf collection process is dangerous and wasteful. The mountains that are piled in the streets are a hazard and there is no need to pickup all the leaves. Leave them on the ground for mulch and flower bed cover.

swmr23

1/31/2023 05:01 PM

We manually rake leaves to three main. locations - flower beds, street, and compost bin. We have 5 trees that drop leaves on our property. It is fun to build a leaf pile for the kids in early fall that we move to the street after a few weeks. It would be great if this survey captured how many trees are dropping on a property and what contributes to various other landscaping plans and needs - watering, veggie gardens, cut flower gardens, grass only, no lawn, natives present, etc.

kentner

1/31/2023 05:09 PM

Please ban gas powered leaf blowers. Also, advocate that people leave their leaves in place and/or rake into garden beds.

katier

1/31/2023 05:23 PM

Please ban gas leaf blowers ASAP. The are loud, toxic and ruin the summer

Nancy

1/31/2023 05:31 PM

we use the leaves on our garden beds . . . the rest of the leaves are raked and then put into the street for pick up . . .

Abreed

1/31/2023 05:40 PM

This isn't a survey, it's an attempted shakedown and search and destroy mission to punish small business. You should be ashamed and your department should be disbanded.

camiller9

1/31/2023 05:40 PM

Also need to rake and use electric blower, but I use mower to mulch as much as I can

Kodell123

1/31/2023 05:49 PM

Encourage people to leave the leaves.

dchien

1/31/2023 06:00 PM

I don't think the Village should pay to have the leaves collected. At the very minimum the frequency should be reduced. I do realize there's a need to keep the gutters and sewers clean so I hope that your analysis will look at these costs.

MPinOP

1/31/2023 05:58 PM

I really just use it as mulch in garden.

Lauraderks

1/31/2023 06:03 PM

use rakes, corded electric lawn care devices, or mulch for biodiverse landscaping

sschweri

1/31/2023 06:18 PM

I think leaf collection on the street is archaic and should be replaced by fee-based collection systems (leaf bags or compost bins). Thank you!

djc

1/31/2023 06:24 PM

We tend to get about 80% of our leaf cover within about two weeks. It's too much to mulch, so we rake. Also use a battery powered leaf blower in a few spots, and will do a bit of mulching with the mower later in the season.

OakPark123

1/31/2023 06:29 PM

Please do at least one more leaf pickup in December. While we use a service it's never enough because the leaves are so plentiful; we have to rake/blow additional times, and that's usually right around when the last pickup is, sometimes after. One more pickup would solve that. Obviously it would be contingent on there not being snow.

Jwitt

1/31/2023 06:44 PM

Small yards on block employ services that excessively use gas powered blowers that are loud and polluting and serve very little purpose

Spinoza9742Linden

1/31/2023 06:58 PM

Why do you want this info?

Oak Park Coyote

1/31/2023 07:14 PM

Those darn parkway trees are just so disrespectful in how they can't just fall into our yards.

Merritt Kanan

1/31/2023 07:20 PM

I would really like to see Oak Park provide more leadership on ecologically responsible lawn care. The gas powered leaf blowers are a nuisance not just because of noise but because of the fumes that often mean I have to have my young children come inside when neighbor's landscapers come by. When we first moved to Oak Park, I thought that having the ability to rake leaves into the street in the fall was wonderful, but it now seems to me that it would be much better if residents were encouraged to mulch with their fallen leaves and to compost using municipal compost. Because most residents (or their landscapers) do not follow guidelines about leaf collection, the piles

grow in size to the point where they become hazards and are clearly becoming contaminated with other materials. It is time for a review of these practices!

cutmesomeslackjack

1/31/2023 07:24 PM

Oak Park chooses the least efficient, most polluting and dangerous form of leaf collection and offers it free of charge. Raking leaves into the street where they clog drains, create hazards for cyclists, and require an armada of heavy machinery to collect is so strange. Is there another city anywhere that does it this way? Meanwhile people who bag their leaves and yard waste have to pay for the privilege of having them collected. This is absurd too when the street collection is free. In any case Oak Park should be encouraging people to leave their leaves or mulch them in place. Leaf collection, like so many common landscaping practices, is as environmentally harmful as it is pointless. You could literally just end the pickup service and not replace it and we'd be better off.

alixmikesell

1/31/2023 08:36 PM

Please outlaw gas leaf blowers- they are so disruptive and noisy.

llallos

1/31/2023 09:14 PM

While we compost and mulch some leaves, we rake Oak leaves into the street for the village to take because they take too long to decompose.

Tgrace

1/31/2023 09:57 PM

Gas powered leaf blowers should be prohibited in Oak Park. The pollution is extremely noxious!

Madasway81

2/01/2023 02:22 AM

Leave gas leaf and all leaf blowers alone. Go do something about crime instead of this nonsense.

Bphillips100

2/01/2023 03:53 AM

Eliminate gas blowers and lawn mowers. Encourage/incentivize people to do their own lawn work with eco friendly methods. Remind them they live in a "progressive " community.

cschroeder

2/01/2023 05:15 AM

We 90% rake the leaves and mulch/mow the other 10%. We use the mulched leaves for flowerbed coverings and around the base of our trees for the winter.

rnlaz

2/01/2023 05:38 AM

We use a combination of manual raking, mulching with an electric mower, and leaving many of our leaves alone. We have a lot of leaves!

Robert

2/01/2023 06:21 AM

I do not support the ban on gas powered leaf blowers.

Jen

2/01/2023 06:22 AM

It's time to ban LOUD gas powered leaf blowers.

Deb

2/01/2023 06:26 AM

We also mulch with lawnmower

Lorac

2/01/2023 06:38 AM

I use mu leaves as compost in my garden.

Jim A. Major

2/01/2023 06:44 AM

I think that the VOP wastes too much time and money looking good on paper for things that don't line up with reality. I believe that there are much higher priorities for the VOP with which to deal.

Clamenza

2/01/2023 07:00 AM

Don't ban leaf blowers. It's a waste of time and it won't change a thing for the climate.

Resident

2/01/2023 07:08 AM

Leaf blowing is quiet disruptive both to the humans but also to all animals in the area. I would prefer that they are banned. Also, leave collective was a mess this year. Streets were left messy and did not seem effective at all

Joel Kramer

2/01/2023 07:12 AM

I also rake, and I'm also tired of leaf blowers.

Galen Garapolo

2/01/2023 07:17 AM

I would like OP to ban all gas powered lawn equipment and to also address chemical fertilizing

Leslie Sutohen

2/01/2023 07:16 AM

We mostly leave the leaves after mulching

Allyson Raines

2/01/2023 07:20 AM

At least 6 neighbors on my block have services and they are so loud and obnoxious with rising mowers, but mostly using leaf blowers year round for not just leaves but grass clippings. Post pandemic my job went fully remote so I work from home and listen to this daily March/April- October/November. It is one of the things I hate most about living in a city where many people have enough money to pay

for this service. Also, all of these services are weekly! Grass really doesn't need that. We mow every two weeks so the services are also overkill.

Amanda Turnbull

2/01/2023 07:29 AM

We like to keep half our leaves on the gardens, but I let them blow the ones from the yard.

X@x.com

2/01/2023 07:43 AM

I like the current leaf collection system very much.

Allison

2/01/2023 07:57 AM

I would love the village to stop paying for leaf collection and encourage people to mulch and compost!

Gk

2/01/2023 08:03 AM

We rake our leaves over our garden beds, then compost in the spring. Loud leaf blowers should be banned.

Jennifer Cunningham

2/01/2023 08:04 AM

Gas powered leaf blowers should be banned. They are damaging our environment and they are so loud it's infuriating. Almost all of our neighbors use a lawn service with insanely loud leaf blowers every time they mow let alone for leaves in the fall

Amy Rosenthal

2/01/2023 08:08 AM

We also do a lot of raking by hand! And we try to mulch up some of the leaves and put them on our garden beds. We'd love to see a way to do that mulching in a more communal fashion.

Antonia

2/01/2023 08:09 AM

Please ban gas leaf blowers.

OakParkMillers

2/01/2023 09:17 AM

I think requiring battery leaf blowers for the landscaping contractors is racist. A lot of these companies employ Hispanic people. You have targeted a minority population. A battery operated leaf blower is impractical for them. They are expensive. The battery leaf blower requires charging. As the companies drive from job to job, where are they supposed to charge their blowers. Charging is time consuming. All the work will go to the big landscaping companies driving out the medium and smaller ones. They won't survive. Putting these hard working people (some immigrants) out of work and unemployed. You only hear from residents who support this. But you need to examine it carefully. To assume these Hispanic minority owned companies should be mandated to battery powered leaf blowers is privileged and racist.

yeahright

2/01/2023 08:45 AM

This survey isn't about landscaping practices or leaf pickup, it's clearly about leaf blowers. I strongly advise you to stop considering a leaf blower ban, or a ban on gas powered blowers. Banning gas powered blowers is a regressive action on some of the lowest income folks in our community. Landscaping companies would need to invest thousands into expensive electric blowers and means to charge or power them. Guess where they are going to charge? Connected to idling diesel truck engines of course (or even less efficient generators). So now you traded one problem for another. And the technology is not even close to mature for electric blowers to replace gas blowers. You'll drive landscapers out of this area, and/or force them to raise prices (or have them just ignore the law entirely, now you have an enforcement issue targeting a minority population. Doesn't sound very DEI to me.

LD

2/01/2023 08:39 AM

I would Love to see oak park adopt organic and sustainable plant and lawn care for all of its municipal properties, as well as promoting the transition away from growing lawns (and transitioning its own properties away from high water use plants such as turf) Lastly, banning leaf blowers in favor of more eco friendly practices would be a great way to further benefit the environment and the community.

Na

2/01/2023 08:47 AM

As far as leaves, I do not like when they are piled in the street due to the need to sometimes street park.

Sarah Enloe

2/01/2023 09:15 AM

I rake the leaves off of my lawn and use them in the garden as mulch.

Stewie7374859959

2/01/2023 10:03 AM

Yeah my neighbor's gas leaf blower company is way too loud

Imusielak

2/01/2023 10:28 AM

Please do not ban gas leaf blowers.

dgb468

2/01/2023 10:31 AM

Leaf blowers are mainly used in the courtyards and can be very loud in the early morning, even with windows closed.

bdenhart

2/01/2023 10:33 AM

No more gas leaf blowers!

Gunderson

Even after grinding there are too many leaves to use for mulch. Some

2/01/2023 10:54 AM

still end up in the street for pick-up by the Village.

Bjenig

2/01/2023 11:22 AM

I loathe leaf blowers.

Amy

2/01/2023 11:25 AM

I really wish the village would encourage folks to use their leaves as compost and to improve our soil. The leaf cleanup and haulign away seems excessive and unnecessary by and large. We are not using best practices in landscape management and soil management. And leaf blowers are the worst for noise pollution and unnecessary use of fossil fuels.

Gundy

2/01/2023 11:28 AM

I use a combination of methods. 1. mulch some leaves into grass. 2. rake some leaves into flower beds as mulch. 3. rake and rechargeable blower into my own compost bin and brown lawn bags for pickup.

Sibylmunoz

2/01/2023 11:32 AM

We also have an electric leaf blower. We compost with the city of oak park, but the giant oak tree out front drops more leaves than we can fit in the can. We definitely rely on the city's lead pick up to help with clearing our leaves.

Joan Sla l a

2/01/2023 11:46 AM

I do participate in village composting program & I also keep the leaves in beds in place until spring

Ann

2/01/2023 12:00 PM

Would like to see a ban on gas powered leaf blowers. Way too loud!

Keli

2/01/2023 12:57 PM

Please consider banning or restricting gas powered leaf blowers

Laura HB

2/01/2023 02:44 PM

I strongly support phasing out of leaf disposal through the village. Leaf removal is an ecologically unsound practice that disrupts the natural cycle of growth and decay, destroys overwintering habitat and protection for countless insects, and depletes the soil. Furthermore, removal of the leaves perpetuates a cycle in which homeowners remove the leaves from their properties and then purchase and truck in mulch to cover the bare ground. We should instead teach homeowners how to effectively manage the leaves in their yards.

Bob Quinlan

2/01/2023 02:34 PM

We could care less about pick Up. It's a bonus for the giant homes with many oak trees. We have no trees.

randr0610

2/01/2023 03:08 PM

Need to extend leaf collection further into December since 1) not all leaves have fallen by end of November and 2) there is no December yard waste pickup.

Bryan Gilsenan

2/01/2023 03:32 PM

Leaf blowers cause a lot of noise pollution.

Gerri

2/01/2023 04:32 PM

We have always valued that OP picks up leaves when raked into the street. We try to use the leaves as mulch as best we can.

Diane

2/01/2023 04:58 PM

Gas powered leaf blowers should be banned in Oak Park, not just because of the use of gas, but because they are so loud and contribute greatly to the incessant noise pollution in the village.

Jim

2/01/2023 06:09 PM

I would like to see the Village discontinue leaf pickup. Very expensive and not necessary.

Michelinluse

2/01/2023 06:30 PM

Please prohibit use of gas leaf blowers. Really bad for environmental health of the community.

jpaut4896

2/01/2023 06:37 PM

I use as many leaves as I can in my gardening and mulch a lot through mowing but appreciate the leaf collection because I have more than leaves than I can use/get rid of. I hope the village doesn't cut this useful service. I do not have kids so this is one of few services that I am able to use as resident.

NA

2/01/2023 08:24 PM

Leaf blowers should be banned, noisy and bad for our health

Cate

2/01/2023 08:28 PM

The village could better use the \$350k spent on collecting leaves in the streets. I hope we can reallocate those dollars to equity goals. Street collection of leaves disproportionately affects renters with access to parking and navigating the streets, presents a hazard to bikes as well as to children and crossing the street.

J Bro

2/01/2023 09:54 PM

I only started using my leaf during Covid. Many of our progressive neighbors started working from home, and immediately commenced complaining about the hired crews' noise. I have suggested reframing

the situation as low paid laborers increasing productivity & pay with less labor that was previously invisible to the corporate class. . The OP progressives aren't so much for the laborer after all. Now I love my leaf blower. I suspect that our village contacted leaf collection is fiscally untenable if they are disallowed from breaking even current decibel ordinance. Focus people!!

Becki Zobel

2/01/2023 09:55 PM

We use both rakes and electric cordless leaf blowers to get some of the leaves to the. We also use the compostable program for most of our yard waste including some of our leaves. We also LEAVE some on the yard.

Mark

2/02/2023 01:38 AM

We keep leaves in place to fertilize lawn.

Maryf

2/02/2023 05:48 AM

I wish we could educate people about the benefits of leaving leaves in place.

susanspo

2/02/2023 06:42 AM

I would support switching to electric blowers.

Susan Kurtenbach

2/02/2023 08:37 AM

I leave the leaves in my backyard on the gardens for mulch. The leaves from my maple tree in front are hard on the grass, so I rake them and put some on the garden and the rest in the compost bin.

junemoon15@gmail.com

2/02/2023 09:04 AM

the gas powered leaf blowers are such a nuisance. it's really so, so noisy and unnecessary.

Jeff Kott

2/02/2023 09:22 AM

You should have a combo option for question #6; many people mulch and use a blower of some sort, not just one option

Lucy b

2/02/2023 09:13 AM

PLEASE ban landscaping companies from using gasoline powered, industrial strength lawn equipment on tiny lawns creating a horrible natural environment for wildlife, as well as serious noise pollution for residents. This is an environmental catastrophe.

Josh Kirchner

2/02/2023 09:21 AM

The piles on our streets need to end. If the village is going to continue to do leaf collection we should invest in a vacuum system that removes them from the parkway.

Amy Lee

2/02/2023 09:30 AM

I support I banning gas power leaf blowers.

jcastillo81@gmail.com

2/02/2023 09:54 AM

This is a waste of resources.

Julie

2/02/2023 10:04 AM

We like the leaf pickup service. We have a small lot and no reasonable way of leaving, mulching or composing all the leaves.

JLM

2/02/2023 10:12 AM

This who issue is ridiculous. People use leaf blowers (of any type) for max 5-7 months of the year. The fact this issue is taking up valuable Village time and resources is unbelievable.

S

2/02/2023 10:31 AM

First they came for the gas powered leaf blowers, and I spoke out - because this village has a lot more things to be doing to improve our society than worrying about 5 minutes of noise from a leaf blower.

cloudyduck

2/02/2023 10:54 AM

Can we please encourage not raking/getting rid of leaves? Yes, clear your gutters, clear the sidewalks, but it is free fertilizer, and natural habitats for many creatures. It is such a waste of money, gas, time, and street space. And can we please encourage clearing sewer covers of the leaves so it doesn't flood?

OPAF

2/02/2023 10:57 AM

Please ban gas leaf blowers. Please also require a licensing fee from landscaping companies that covers the cost of leaf pickup.

eau

2/02/2023 01:02 PM

I hate the sound and smell of leaf blowers

dadams.chi

2/02/2023 02:42 PM

Stop letting tree branches cover stop signs. This is a very common practice and one that can cause confusion. It seems like a pretty obvious requirement.

FirePitsSuck

2/02/2023 02:49 PM

If people can pollute the neighborhood with burning fire pits, why can't I burn leaves. Just try to justify to me why fire pit polluton is acceptable and burning leaves is not. The fact fire pits are still allowed in Oak Park makes all of you in village government look like complete moronic imbeciles (and frankly racist given the fact that children of color are disproportionately affected by asthma and thusly directly harmed by fire pit smoke). Have the courage to ban fire pits and make the air in the village safer and cleaner.

Sherry

2/02/2023 02:45 PM

The current model of moving leaves to the end of a block with inadequate street lighting is so dangerous. I don't know why we don't put them mid-block so Drivers don't have to swerve when turning onto our streets at night. It is so unsafe.

OakPark312

2/02/2023 02:49 PM

The big piles of leaves at corners were incredibly dangerous this year especially. It also saddens me that these are picked up by the garbage truck (and thrown in the garbage) instead of being used for the community compost. Can the village consider composting them in the future?

Peggy

2/02/2023 02:49 PM

I also use a battery powered leaf blower. If I am unable to do it I call a friend and they do it for me. They use a rake and my battery powered leaf blower.

EL

2/02/2023 02:47 PM

We rake some in fall but would appreciate additional leaf pickup in spring, as we leave leaves in beds over winter as many environmental experts advise.

Liz Lukehart

2/02/2023 02:49 PM

I'd love to see a gas power leaf blower ban take effect ASAP, and a leave the leaves educational campaign

Jack

2/02/2023 02:58 PM

Rather than pick up leaves the village contractor should collect ,mulch and bag and allow home owners to buy and use the mulch on there landscape beds

Martin

2/02/2023 02:59 PM

I don't know why the village is still collecting leaves, why not have the people that want them taken away and use a landscaping service just pay them to do it.

Etta

2/02/2023 03:00 PM

The Village leaf pick up is a wonderful service which I support and will to continue. Please do not eliminate it

Joan S

2/02/2023 03:06 PM

It would be nice to have additional leaf pickup in the spring, so we could overwinter the leaf coverage in planting beds. Gas-powered leaf blowers should be banned.

Smith Smith

2/02/2023 03:08 PM

We use a combination of rakes and an electric blower. We have a larger property and large trees on Elmwood Avenue. Our neighbors use contractors and I could care less about what others do on their property, despite the loud Saturday morning. I wouldn't dictate what others do with their own homes.

None

2/02/2023 03:16 PM

Loud equipment not good.

Sheila

2/02/2023 03:17 PM

We use a compost bin for our raked leaves. A compost bin should be at all residential homes that get village garbage service. Also out law gas leaf blowers.

SCT

2/02/2023 03:18 PM

I support the use of leaf blowers.

ML

2/02/2023 03:26 PM

Leave the leaves please! They are useful for insects in the colder weather and they use so many resources to haul away.

twig482

2/02/2023 03:34 PM

We use finer chopped leaves in our gardens. We take our large red maple leaves into street because they don't breakdown over the winter. We also put some leaves in our compostable container.

PJP

2/02/2023 03:32 PM

Ban gas blowers!!

Dolores Carrizosa

2/02/2023 03:41 PM

I encourage VOP to pass ordinances that prohibit loud, noisy leaf blowers powered by gas.

Kristen

2/02/2023 03:43 PM

We rake the leaves into our beds and keep them mostly!

screenname

2/02/2023 03:55 PM

I don't understand the objective of this survey. Landscaping practices are more than leaves. In my opinion, the village should cease leaf collection. If people want to remove their leaves, they should bag them and pay for the disposal. That's what they do in Glen Ellyn and Wheaton.

Ridgelande

2/02/2023 03:52 PM

Please ban leaf blowers immediately. They are an unnecessary nuisance since most leaves can be mowed or raked.

C

2/02/2023 03:51 PM

Support banninh gas leaf blowers but keeping street leaf collection.
Thanks!

Karen McMillin

2/02/2023 03:54 PM

Ban gas leaf blowers. Piles of leaves left at street corners is hazardous!

Anne White

2/02/2023 04:10 PM

Please cease the leaf blowers. Encourage native plantings. Make composting an opt out choice.

Robin Cozette

2/02/2023 04:10 PM

i would love to have access to free mulch from leaves gathered.

Kem

2/02/2023 04:13 PM

Blowing of leaves is noisy and ends up dispersing leaves to neighbors

M

2/02/2023 04:18 PM

Reduce the number of leaf collections in the fall. Having so many is a waste of money. Do 1 leaf collection in spring so we can leave leaves for insects and animals to use over winter. Ban all leaf blowers. They are air and noise polluters. We can rake, whether homeowners or lawn services.

carol

2/02/2023 04:21 PM

Along with raking, we use lawnmower. We then either bag the leaves with stickers or put them in the gutter/ street to be picked up by village.

Preston

2/02/2023 04:23 PM

I hate the piles of leaves in the street that disrupt traffic. I'm in favor of people being responsible for disposing of their leaves responsibly.

LWR

2/02/2023 04:30 PM

We only rake the small area of leaves on a patch of grass or on the sidewalk and just move those leaves to nearby beds. We use 100% of our leaves to mulch beds or in our compost pile. The village pickup of leaves is wasteful and unnecessary.

M.Torre

2/02/2023 04:34 PM

Hopefully some policy can be enacted that prohibits gas-powered leaf blowers! They not only pollute the air but also produce high decibel noise! Thank you

wgreenhouse

2/02/2023 04:34 PM

very small private service for our condo building (relative of janitorial services provider). I would like him to use electric equipment for our very small amount of landscaping but I am up against most of my neighbors in the condo association. It's all about cost.

Andy Byrne

2/02/2023 04:46 PM

Gas leafblowers create an airpollutant as bad as gas fumes themselves. The sound grates on the nerves, and persists sometimes for hours as one landscape service after another come and go on a block in a single day. It's not just retirees who are affected by the obnoxious noise. there are people who are infirmed who can't escape it; walls are not thick enough to keep out the growl of the gas motor. there are housewives and husbands at home and small children who are home duruing the day and also become annoyed or worse agitated by the loud sound. there is no shutting that roaring sound out of the house even if the leaf blower or gas mower is a block away. Residents should not to have suffer such a sound in Summer or anyother time. People will get knots in their stomach when they hear the gas motors staring up or even see the lawn truck stopping in front of a house. You know the racket is soon to start. It's detrimental to folks' mental health, even physical health. The environment also suffers. Let's respect each otfher by accepting limits on how much noise an Oak Park resident has to put up with. Ban gas leaf blowers and gas lawn mowers. Other communities have done the same. Why not progressive Oak Park? Andrew Byrne

Deborah

2/02/2023 05:16 PM

I think Oak Parkers should be encouraged to avoid gas leaf blowers AND encouraged to keep the leaves on their garden beds and/or mulch them into the lawn with a mower.

Kristen G

2/02/2023 05:22 PM

We use both rake and electric blower

Adrian

2/02/2023 05:36 PM

My yard receives leaves from two mature norway maples, a mature white oak, three redbud trees, and from a neighboring ash tree as well as smaller trees, including witch hazels, and shrubs. I mostly rake my leaves; although I do use an electric leaf blower to blow leaves out of areas that I can't rake, such as out from underneath shrubs and from ground cover. I do mulch leaves with my lawn mower as much as I reasonable can, but I have so many leaves at times that my lawn mower strains and gets overwhelmed and the amount of leaf matter is too thick for my lawn to absorb. I wish that I had a machine that could grind dried leaves into much smaller particles than my lawn mower can break them down into, but there is no space on my premises for such a machine. If I lived out in the country, I would try to get one.

Barbara Bodner

2/02/2023 05:29 PM

We try to rake a substantial amount of leaves on our flower beds as mulch ; additional goes in our compost bin and only a few are [laced in the street for village pickup.

Jodie

2/02/2023 05:41 PM

I support getting rid of gas leaf blowers but landscapers should be subsidized to buy new equipment

bniewijk

2/02/2023 05:53 PM

We rake our leave into the street and the village collects them.

Elaine Johnson

2/02/2023 05:58 PM

I strongly urge the village board to enact a ban on gas powered leaf blowers

banleafblowers

2/02/2023 07:51 PM

Ban gas powered leaf blowers, please! Also, make landscaping companies pay a licensing fee to operate in Oak Park that will cover the cost of leaf collection. And an additional fee to drive their dump-truck/trailer combo during rush hours.

geore

2/02/2023 08:42 PM

We'd all be better off if we just ignored the leaves and let nature deal with them.

djwess

2/02/2023 08:55 PM

We rake all our own leaves into the street and the village plows/collects them. So is that self or contracted? We consider ourselves as living in central OP - right on East Ave., just south of South Blvd.

Aida Stefanelli

2/02/2023 09:07 PM

Trees & leaves only in street side of property. VOP picks up leaves and we are grateful. Leafblowers are only used during the day and we don't understand why people complain.

Judith Gaietto-Grace

2/02/2023 09:30 PM

We landscape with native plants. We leave most of the leaves until spring. I dislike leaf blowers; gas leaf blowers should be banned.

Patricia Doherty

2/03/2023 12:28 AM

I rake leaves out to the curb and into the street for collection. I have a reel-type push mower and too many leaves for mulching.

terri

I live on a corner and have the entire parkway on both sides to rake -

2/03/2023 06:15 AM

I am NOT going to bag all the leaves for the village and then have to pay for them too!!!

leaves

2/03/2023 06:25 AM

i wish OP would ban very loud leaf blowers --- there should be a max on decibel level...

chet161

2/03/2023 07:18 AM

Curbside leaf collection is ESSENTIAL in Oak Park. You want to be a tree city? Collect the leaves.

Nancy

2/03/2023 08:07 AM

We rake most of the leaves and leave a light layer mulched with the lawnmower

Ojtopitges

2/03/2023 08:08 AM

None

Christine Worny

2/03/2023 09:19 AM

We want gas leaf blowers outlawed

Anne LeFevre

2/03/2023 09:22 AM

We do both manual raking (onto garden beds and for leaf pick up) and mulch with lawn mower. We have too many leaves from one of our trees in particular to mulch all of them with the lawn mower and/or to rake them onto garden beds.

Mark

2/03/2023 09:36 AM

Your survey should enable multiple answers: I rake, blow, and mulch-mow leaves, all about equally.

Peter

2/03/2023 10:00 AM

Please phase out the gas powered blowers and grass cutters. I rake some leaves to the street in the fall and save the rest for mulch and around bushes and flower areas until spring. In the spring the leaves have to be removed from around the bushes and disposed of. Some I keep for mulch.

HarveyDad

2/03/2023 10:43 AM

Use my grey compost bin for backyard and weekly curb pickup for front yard.

Gaipied

2/03/2023 11:32 AM

The survey fails to allow those of us who use both self and a service to identify. Yes leaf blowers, gas powered, are noisy but their environmental effects are minuscule compared to all the idling engines at drive ups for fast foods, banks and pharmacies as well as

all the unnecessary traffic created on Madison by the new configuration and 'road diet' plus all the no right hand turns from 7-7 in OP. Then there are the idling UP trains and OP police cars during the winter at Village Hall. And the always forgotten open pollution sewer running through OP, the Eisenhower. Most lawn services are run by Hispanic families in OP and any ban will seriously affect their livelihoods. Diversity is a greater umbrella than OP usually thinks about. The north shore Communities have already dealt with this issue.

<https://digitaledition.chicagotribune.com/html5/mobile/production/default.aspx?edid=2ffd71e2-c9c6-4c3d-bd1a-82a3e66846b6>

gerrirode

2/03/2023 12:40 PM

Do not take away the street leaf pickup. This is a very valuable service that the village gives to homeowners and makes the village streets safer for bicycle riders.

Bob

2/03/2023 02:13 PM

A chronic problem related to leaf collection is the spotty enforcement of parking rules in my block (300 block of S Grove Ave). Illegally parked cars prevent collection at the curbs. Same problem occurs after snow.

Camille Yu

2/03/2023 06:16 PM

The survey is way too basic. We not only use a landscaping service, we do a lot of maintenance ourselves. We usually do not use a singular landscaping company either. Some use gas blowers, some electric. From the way this survey is organized, it is certain what the outcome is meant to be and does not address the varying requirements residents have. Agreeing that gas blowers are bad for the environment, the move to ban primarily seems to be by people who just don't like the noise under the veil of environmental concerns. The survey should include lot size, number of trees, primary, or secondary streets, etc.

Nonya

2/03/2023 08:40 PM

There should be no leaves left in paid overnight parking zones. It makes it so hard to park when people leave the leaves there for a week. Either that or during that time the parking zones should be relaxed so we dont get tickets for parking out of the zone. I got over 5 tickets last year thanks to the zone parking being full by the I got off work at 11pm due to leaves taking up spots.

N/A

2/04/2023 08:10 AM

Leaf blowers, especially gas powered, are a community health issue. Please review these two links for more research studies and the adverse affects.
<https://yaledailynews.com/blog/2021/12/03/environmental-advisory->

council-talks-leaf-blowers/ <https://sustainability.wustl.edu/rethinking-lawn-equipment-2/> Thank you for you time considering this opportunity for improving the neighborhood.

jbwolfe

2/04/2023 07:49 AM

My maple trees often have not completely deciduated until mid December about the time leaf collection ends. Need more time.

Sukupmr

2/04/2023 09:10 AM

We leave the leaves and self compost in open bins to allow any overwintering insects to complete their lifecycles.

Sukupmr

2/04/2023 09:13 AM

We leave the leaves and compost on site in open top bins to allow for overwintering insects to complete their lifecycles

Laura Crawford

2/04/2023 10:51 AM

Please ban gas-powered leaf blowers and mowers.

Anon

2/04/2023 12:10 PM

The people who want to ban gas blowers are crazy. Electric ones don't work as well as gas we know because we have one. We rake and blow our leaves into the street for cleaning days, love it, love the fact the city picks these leaves up.

Ellen Barton

2/04/2023 12:43 PM

I push leaves into garden bed to compost

IrvS

2/04/2023 04:06 PM

More people should be encouraged to eliminate their lawns, and replace them with native plants that do not require fertilizer, insecticides, weed removal or treatment, raking of leaves, or watering (once established)

Emily

2/05/2023 06:28 AM

The giant piles of leaves that are accumulated usually close to an intersection are dangerous. They pose a traffic hazard, often an unexpected one. I'm not sure why people are obsessed with clearing all the leaves from their property. We mostly just try and remove them from our concrete pathways.

AdamDean

2/05/2023 10:02 AM

I support the idea of discontinuing curbside leaf collection, to reduce the costs that are being shared by the community as a whole, when benefiting individual property owners very differently. This should be evaluated as a way to reduce the excessive costs associated with living in Oak Park.

MK

2/05/2023 11:23 AM

I'm a landscaper and a homeowner. I ask my clients to rake as many leaves, in their entirety (not mulched) onto their planting beds to help with beneficial insects and ultimately future soil health

sweenkthl@aol.com

2/05/2023 11:54 AM

I raked my leaves but a few times my landscaper does them. He uses a leaf blower.

Jim Johnson

2/05/2023 12:56 PM

I encourage the village to ban gas powered leaf blowers and move to more sustainable practices. Finding ways to aggregate leaves collected without loading up the streets with them is encouraged as all the leaves in the street make driving hazardous.

Paul Gierstorf

2/05/2023 07:47 PM

It seems to me that collecting and disposing of leaves in big piles is more environmentally friendly and effort/cost efficient than manual bagging. Regardless of method, there needs to be some form of public service offered to remove the fallen leaves. Our community is a functioning urban environment - not a forest preserve. If leaves are not removed they create safety hazards on roads and sidewalks for walkers, runners, bikers and drivers - especially when combined with rain and snow.

Susan Messer

2/06/2023 07:13 AM

We have learned to keep all our leaves and use them for mulch and compost. It pains us every time we see homeowners and lawn care companies blowing all their leaves into the street, disturbing all the rich micro-habitats, losing the nourishing benefits of leaf mulch. It's hard to know how to talk to homeowners about this--to let them know about the damage they're doing without them feeling judged or pushed to do something they don't want to do.

Tari Delisi

2/06/2023 07:45 AM

We collect with rake and mow over several times before placing back in garden beds.

beth

2/06/2023 07:55 AM

I do not think we should do leaf pickups any longer. Leaves are an important resource for trees, plants, and insects. Piling them into the street for pick up destroys all those resources. And it creates huge piles that make it dangerous to drive, and difficult to park, and often, the leaves just aren't picked up on our street. This leads to problems in the spring when the sewer covers are clogged and then the street floods. Thank you! Anything you can do to promote this survey would be great! I saw it on a west cook wild ones email.

randy.kelso@gmail.com

2/06/2023 09:31 AM

I hate the sound and smell of gas powered leaf blowers. They should be dissuaded from use. Id rather residents were encouraged to leave the leaves on the lawn.

karenmbopp

2/06/2023 10:12 AM

I use my leaves for mulch and compost.

Michelle

2/06/2023 02:53 PM

We rake leaves off turf but keep leaves on plant beds and will clean up come Spring

silvana1002

2/07/2023 07:37 AM

None

Rasheda Jackson

2/07/2023 07:51 AM

Although we primarily do manual raking, we also use a leaf blower from time to time.

Mary

2/07/2023 11:39 AM

I even pick up neighbor's leaves to compost them in my compost bins with my vegetable waste.

GretchenB

2/08/2023 10:26 AM

I work from home and cannot stand the noise of gas powered leaf blowers that interrupt my day more loudly than any other noise in the neighborhood. They pollute too much and should be banned.

Amary

2/09/2023 04:51 PM

If weather allows adding one more weekend to leaf pick up would be beneficial with the amount of leaves to pick up.

-

2/12/2023 04:27 PM

I often leave my leaves on top of my garden as mulch and to protect other plants over winter partially because my trees drop after the last leaf collection. I feel like the last leaf collection is too early in the season oftentimes.

kathyhale

2/12/2023 08:54 PM

At our vacation home in Wisconsin, we use only electric battery operated leaf blowers. In Park Ridge we were not allowed to put leaves into the street. Home owners had to bag the leaves or mulch them. Saved the suburb from paying for leaf pickups. It was also safer for driving on the streets when no leaf piles were allowed.

Shawna Seaton George

I collect and shred all leaf litter and use it as mulch or store for home

2/13/2023 06:49 AM

composting.

SWN100

2/14/2023 10:34 AM

Weird survey

Mr. Irv

2/15/2023 07:21 AM

We place less than a third of our fallen leaves into the street for pick-up. The remaining leaves are mulched, placed in our flower beds or composted for later use.

B

2/15/2023 09:25 AM

I rake only from the lawn, rake most of the leaves to the plant beds, rake a little to the street in the front, and compost the rest.

edisselhorst

2/15/2023 09:27 AM

The leaf collection in the street is dangerous. Especially with the new company creating huge piles where it makes it impossible to see cars in the intersection and narrows a two lane down to one lane. That has to change.

BJM

2/15/2023 10:07 AM

Ban gas powered leaf blowers.

Karrin Burns

2/15/2023 10:59 AM

I have installed native plantings in a large area of my front yard. I have been adding leaves from the rest of the yard (mulched with mower and raked) to the garden to decompose.

Msolon

2/15/2023 11:06 AM

I am in the process of de-lawning & replacing with ground cover, food crops & pollinator-friendly native plants.

K

2/15/2023 01:36 PM

I would like to reduce the use of gas leaf blowers but any ban should be gradual to give small businesses (often owned by people whom Oak Parkers typically claim to advocate for) time to adapt their employee, scheduling, and financial situations. Any outright ban thereof will surely reduce many landscapers' capacity to provide service while losing some clients when rates are raised. It is important for the environment but a respectful balance is required too.

Maria

2/16/2023 10:36 AM

Leaf blowers are a Nuisance

Kevin

2/17/2023 03:42 AM

I use my leaves as mulch and make my own compost with them

Bsangabriel

2/24/2023 05:13 AM

This isnt a survey. This is a phishing scam so you can shake down my landscaper. The village is the worst, and the sustainability plan is laughably stupid.

jeverson

2/24/2023 07:28 AM

I put about half of our leaves on our landscaping beds.

Mkpowell

2/24/2023 09:24 AM

We also rake and mulch with our lawn mower, so we use multiple methods

doopergirl

2/24/2023 01:51 PM

I save leaves in fall to use in my home compost bin throughout the year.

Dr. Bob

2/25/2023 08:00 AM

Terrible survey questions. Extremely prejudicial towards the desired end and unfortunately that end is anti-hispanic since almost all lawn services by home owners are Hispanic. Unlike the single use plastic survey where economic impact of the owners of establishments involved, no consideration is given in this ban to those issues in this survey or likely even being considered. If OP really wants to be diverse, it forgot to be on this issue.

Don

2/25/2023 12:58 PM

i would like leaf blowers outlawed

LWR

2/27/2023 07:45 AM

100% of our leaves remain on our property in our beds.

ElaineJohnson

3/04/2023 07:39 AM

I urge the village to ban gas powered leaf blowers as soon as possible

jb74

3/05/2023 11:15 AM

leave the leaves!

SuperDoooper

3/06/2023 06:46 AM

This isn't a survey. This is a tool for shaking down landscapers. Your approach is embarrassing and inappropriate. Keep picking up yard waste (it's literally the only village service besides snow plowing the streets that most people value) and stop trying to punish gas powered leaf blowers. Make this a nice and easy place to live without hoisting a progressive agenda that most don't support down our throats.

Optional question (211 response(s), 160 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question