

From: [Eric](#)
To: [Hudgins, Ariel](#)
Subject: Leaf Blower ban
Date: Thursday, December 10, 2020 9:27:56 AM

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Dear Ariel Hudgins,

I live in Pasadena near Pasadena City College where I work and would like to add my name to those who support the leaf blower ban proposal. Being at home because of the pandemic I see what is going on in the neighborhood much more clearly now. It seems every day there's someone or several within close proximity using these awfully toxic machines that also blow everything on the ground into the air and broadcast it over a large area. I barricade myself inside the apartment and try to seal the windows a couple of times per week.

I do hope that large organizations that are some of the worst offenders not be given exemptions if indeed the ban comes to pass.

Operations that use these sorts of machines (2 stroke) have had literally decades of warning that they need to find alternatives but I haven't seen much in the way of actual practice although I would certainly give credit to some private citizens who have switched to electric, that does help some at least. It seems to me that picking up the dirt using machines that don't put lots of pollution into the air would be a rational way to go.

Thank you, I appreciate efforts of all involved.
Sincerely,

Eric Herdan

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Alison Lifland](#)
To: [Hudgins, Ariel](#)
Subject: Yes, I'm in favor of banning leaf blowers
Date: Thursday, December 17, 2020 1:57:34 PM

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Dear Ms. Hudgins,

I've been a Pasadena resident for over 20 years, as is my husband Charles Lifland

We are strongly in favor of banning leaf blowers. As I type this, I have been listening to a nearby leaf blower whine for the last hour.

They are a noisy nuisance.

Another one just started up at a different neighbor's. Argh!

Best,

Alison Lifland


From: [Mario Hubert](#)
To: [Hudgins, Ariel](#)
Subject: Leaf Blower Ban
Date: Wednesday, December 23, 2020 11:43:50 AM

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Dear Ariel Hudgins,

I'm a resident of Pasadena, and I'm writing to you to make my case to ban leaf blowers. I live in the north of Pasadena on Marengo Ave, and I almost daily directly experience the bad effects of leaf blowers. Several times per day, I hear someone using a leaf blower. Here are my reasons, why leaf blowers need to be banned (as they are in South Pasadena and other areas in California):

1. Leaf blowers damage our health:

- 1. Dust and mircoparticles:** Leaf blowers blow all the dust and dirt from the ground into the air. And we need to breath all this. We banned smoking in public spaces and have strong restrictions for cars, but the dirt that leaf blowers release into the air goes unfiltered in our lungs. Whenever our neighbors use a leaf blower I can see a layer of dust on cars and furniture. The people using leaf blowers are the most affected because they are directly exposed for a long time, and the masks or fabric that they use for protection is not appropriate to protect them from the microparticles that they breathe in. Normally, people use leaf blowers for up to 2 hours non-stop. And then another neighbor uses their leaf blower for another 2 hours. Then I would need to breathe all this stuff for almost the entire morning and afternoon. (At this moment, two neighbors are using their leaf blowers at the same time!!!)
- 2. Gasoline:** Apart from the dust that they distribute, the engines of these leaf blowers are among the worst engines out there. They stink the first minute they are turned on. In contrast to cars, these engines have nothing close to the filters and catalysts that are required for cars. It makes me dizzy just smelling what comes out of the exhaust of a leaf blower.

2. Leaf blowers damage the environment:

- 1. Dust and mircorpartidles:** The dirt that leaf blowers blow into the air, heavily worsens air quality. It not only affects humans but also the animals in our neighborhood.
 - 2. Gasoline:** It's unquestionable that the unfiltered exhaust damages the environment.
- 3. Leaf blowers are a safety risk:** I regularly use my bike to move around Pasadena. Whenever I see someone using a leaf blower, I need to be very careful because the dust worsens the visibility of the street and regularly dust and small particles enter my eyes, so that I can't safely ride my bike. More than once was I about to fall off the bike or crash into a car because something went into my eyes.
- 4. Leaf blowers disturb our neighborhoods:** These leaf blowers are so loud! It is so annoying when someone uses their leaf blowers. Even when I'm inside my home (doors and windows all closed) I can hear these things as if they are right next to my ear. It's impossible to relax in my own home when someone uses leaf blowers.

5. **Leaf blowers are not effective:** It takes hours to clean up the backyard and the street with leaf blowers, and they basically just spread out all the dirt instead of collecting it. Therefore, leaf blowers are not more time-efficient than a traditional broom. A broom costs less, doesn't emit any CO2 and dangerous microparticles, and it is absolutely quiet. A broom doesn't take more work either, because leaf and dust are very light and carrying a leaf blower for hours on the back is very exhausting.

For all these reasons, I really pledge you to ban these leaf blowers. They really deteriorate the quality of life in Pasadena, and they have no advantage over other tools. Pasadena is such a beautiful city, and without these devices it would be much more worth living here.

Kind regards,
Dr. Mario Hubert

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