

The Village of Mamaroneck Department of Public Works (DPW), Police Department and Commitee for the Environment wish to remind residents of the restrictions on using Leaf Blowers in the Village.

#### Operation of ALL types of Leaf Blowers is banned May 15 - September 30

The DPW may grant a 7-day exception after a major storm.

Violations by owners and landscapers are subject to fine. Please discuss the alternative gardening methods (shown on the flip side) with your landscaper.

Report Violations to VoM Police: (914) 777-1122

#### Please Keep Mamaroneck Leaf Blower Free this Summer

Permitted use from October 1 - May 14 Mon-Fri: 8am-6pm. Sat: 10am-4pm. Sun. & Public Holidays. No Use

### Leaf Blowers Harm our Health & Environment

# **Health Effects**



Leaf Blowers can add 5 pounds of particulate matter to the air every hour: Breathing this dust, pollen, fecal matter, mold spores and pesticides increases asthma and lung disease, especially in children and the elderly.



The Noise disturbs your neighbors and puts the person operating the blower at increased risk of hearing loss.

### **Environmental Effects**



A gas-powered leaf blower releases more carbon monoxide in an hour than driving a new car to Baltimore and back (8 hours)! They cause nitrous oxide and ground-level ozone pollution.

All that blowing dries out and removes top soil.

### **Turn Over for Solutions**

## The Village Asks You To

🧭 Leave the Leaves



Keep your family safe, enrich your yard naturally and don't blow away the lightning bugs and butterflies.

The Committee for Environment recommends these alternatives to blowing leaves into road-side piles.

# Mow Them

Mowing leaves breaks them into small pieces that disappear between the blades of grass and decompose over winter fertlizing your lawn in spring.



Spread the leaves around your lawn with a rake to ensure all areas get some of the benefit.



Use a mulching blade and/or a high-cut setting to ensure the leaves get well shredded.



Tough leaves like oaks might require two passes with a regular mower.

Once mulched into the grass the leaves won't blow away. The benefits of leaving leaves has been proven by long term studies at Purdue and Michigan State Universities.

# **Mulch** Them



Collect cut leaves in the mower's catcher bag and put them on your garden beds, along with the leaves that fall there naturally. This insulates the soil over winter and acts as an organic fertilizer.

### **Compost Them**



Creating a leaf pile in a corner of your yard will result in a rich compost.



You can also add in lawn clippings at a ratio of 3 parts leaves to 1 part grass clippings. Don't forget to mix the pile every so often.

#### Ask your Landscaper to try these methods.

For more information visit our website: www.village.mamaroneck.ny.us/committee-environment-cfte