

Letter to Editor:  
Baristanet.com

*In the interest of balanced reporting, please print the following:*

## **Are Leaf Blowers Really Bad for Your Health?**



**Larry Will** BSME

Vice President Engineering (retired)

Leaf Blower Information Specialist

ECHO Inc.

Email: [info@leafblownoise.com](mailto:info@leafblownoise.com)

Website: <http://leafblownoise.com/>

Reference: <https://baristanet.com/2020/09/new-jersey-quiet-montclair-seeks-to-reduce-gas-leaf-blower-use-in-montclair/>

There is a determined number of people in Montclair that want to ban gasoline powered leaf blowers. You should know that there are organized and substantially financed groups of people, from outside your community, that for reasons of their own, champion and finance this cause. Some supporters have a financial interest in battery powered products.

Over the years, these people have gained a great deal of support, spreading information they have gathered that enhances their argument, but little is said or known about the merits of the new modern leaf blower that replaced its noisy and dirty forerunner. Now when I say new, I am not talking about something that came into being recently. I'm talking about designs that have been in production

since 2005. These products are being ignored by anti-leaf blower advocates because they make most of their arguments false.

All sorts of claims are made against the leaf blower, but truthfully, it is only the noise blowers make that bothers people. The problem is, not all leaf blowers are quiet. Something can be done about that without banning all leaf blowers. A city can choose to ban only the noisy ones because sound levels are [marked](#) on the blower by the manufacturer. Quiet leaf blowers have been on the market for a long time.

Because sound volume is expressed in decibels, which is a logarithmic value, the number can be misleading. Sound has been reduced by 75% on a quiet leaf blower to 65 dB(A) per an industry Standard. You can witness a [video](#) of an actual sound comparison demonstration on my website. The difference between a loud blower and one that is quiet is impressive. In the process of reducing sound, the irritating noise or scream from the main air impeller has been removed.

Anti-leaf blower advocates cite [exhaust emission](#) as an issue. This has been reduced by as much as 90%. [Particulate matter](#) or [PM10 and PM2.5](#), which are often mentioned, are not viable issues against the leaf blower because this component is not generated by leaf blowers. Neither is the Corona virus. Leaf blowers are used outdoors, and a virus [cannot survive in sunlight or ultraviolet light](#).

I could go on, reiterating the reasons why these and all other complaints about leaf blowers are invalid, but that would waste your time. If you want to learn more about these false claims, check out my website.

<https://www.leafblownoise.com/>.

If you do not want to lose the use of your leaf blower or you want to avoid increased prices for professional care, follow what is happening on the legislative level in your area and make your feelings known.