

June 22, 2018

ATTENTION PROFESSIONAL LAWN CARE PROVIDERS

Leaf Blower Bans are coming to your area!

There will be a vote at the July meeting of the Beaconsfield City Council to ban the use of all gasoline-powered leaf blowers.

City councils all over the United States and now in Canada are taking steps to ban the use of all gasoline-powered leaf blowers. There is a well-organized, heavily financed and politically influential group of people at the center of this movement. In several occasions they have been successful in convincing Mayors and City Council Members to support this detrimental and controversial regulation, but the good news is, it can be prevented.

I am a retired [Vice President of Engineering](#) at ECHO Inc., a leading manufacturer of gasoline powered professional lawn care products. I provide pertinent facts about leaf blowers that controvert false anti-leaf blower claims made to city councils in support of a ban, but I cannot prevent a ban, alone! You must take the leaf blower noise issue seriously. If you want to prevent a ban in your area, you must give up those noisy blowers and

train your operators to be courteous while using them. But more important at this late date is to speak out publicly about how a ban will impact your customers and employees as well as your livelihood and the future of your business.

If you rely on the leaf blower in your business and are suddenly faced with a blower ban, your cost of doing the cleanup work at your customer's location will increase by a factor of eight.

Using a broom or a rake is at least eight times slower than using a leaf blower. Battery-powered leaf blowers are also slow due to their limited performance. Check it out at: [http://leafblownoise.com/#Leaf_Blower_vs_Broom.](http://leafblownoise.com/#Leaf_Blower_vs_Broom)

You must flood the Beaconsfield Council Chamber with local landscapers at the next meeting where a leaf blower ban is scheduled to be discussed and is likely to be voted upon. Only you and your colleagues, true stakeholders, can make a difference through a show of solidarity within the local landscaping industry. It would not be unreasonable for one to ask the Mayor for more time to prepare a response. Introducing a bill one month and voting on it the following month is unreasonable if the Mayor truly wants to know public opinion.

The loss of profit or the alternative increase in cost to your customers must be made clear to the city council and to all the residents of Beaconsfield. If people clearly understand the impact of such an ordinance, it will be defeated by popular acclamation. Take advantage of the media and the Internet to make your point.

Are all your blowers quiet? Do you blow dirt in the street or on neighboring properties? Do you idle down the blower when someone walks by? Do you start using your blower before 8:00 AM or run it after 5:00 PM? Do you run more than one blower at a time in a residential area? Do you use it on dusty or untreated surfaces? Okay, maybe not in your case, but if you have only one noisy leaf blower on the job, all leaf blowers are reviled and therein lies the reason for people wanting to ban them. Be prepared to address the issues for this sort of thing will be the only way a ban can be defeated.

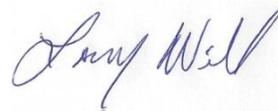
Other things you can do include starting a letter campaign to your city council members and to the editors of your local news outlets. Organize your profession and express your concerns with a united front. Notify your customers with a letter as to what a ban will mean to them. Choose a representative to make a presentation before the city council when public comments are being solicited. Support this spokesperson by attending council meetings along with other lawn care providers and homeowners in opposition to a blower ban. I can help with the details by providing you with reliable facts at my website: <http://leafblownoise.com/>).

The only real issues with the leaf blower that you can impact directly is sound and how and when the blower is used. Make a commitment to stop using your outdated and noisy blowers in residential areas. You probably already have quiet leaf blowers in your inventory, but in case you don't, keep in mind that manufacturers have spent millions of

dollars addressing sound with design changes on your behalf. They have created quiet gasoline powered leaf blowers at 65 dB(A). Look for the sound label to see which are quiet: <http://leafblownoise.com/Sound%20label%20mounted.jpg>.

I have included below a link to the letter I sent to Mayor Georges Bourelle regarding the upcoming vote on the leaf blower ban in Beaconsfield. Please familiarize yourself with all the issues and know that the only true issue is noise.

Best regards,



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References:

[Letter to Beaconsfield Mayor](#)

<http://montrealgazette.com/news/local-news/west-island-gazette/beaconsfield-council-ponders-leaf-blower-dilemma>