

Proposed Leaf Blower Noise Reduction Warrant Article

To see if the Town will vote to adopt the following General Bylaw:

A. Combustion and Electric Powered Leaf Blowers

(1) Permitted Activity

(i) Leaf blowers (both combustion-powered and electric) may only operate as follows:

- a) between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM Monday through Friday;
- b) between the hours of 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM on Saturday;
- c) no use permitted on Sundays or Federal holidays; and
- d) no more than 2 leaf blowers may be used simultaneously on the same property.

(ii) Effective 1 June 2028, no combustion powered leaf blower may be used on any property in Town. Until that date, combustion powered leaf blowers may only operate from:

- a) 15 March through 31 May; and
- b) 15 October through 15 January

(iii) Electric powered leaf blowers may continue to operate as set out in section (1) (i) above provided:

- a) The manufacturer's label is affixed and indicates a decibel rating of not more than 65db; and
- b) All mufflers and extension tubes supplied by the manufacturer for that leaf blower are used during operation.

(2) Definition: Leaf Blower means any device that uses air to move leaves, grass, and other debris.

(3) Responsible parties: The following parties are responsible for any violation of this bylaw:

- (i) the resident operating the leaf blower; and
- (ii) the company who employed the person operating the leaf blower; and
- (iii) the party who owns the property where the violation occurs.

(4) Enforcement

(i) This bylaw may be enforced by Town Police.

(ii) A person, individually or by his servant or agent, who violates any provision of the bylaw may be penalized by a non-criminal disposition pursuant to G.L. Chapter 40, Section 21D and the Town's non-criminal disposition bylaw. The following penalties apply:

- first violation: \$150
- second violation: \$250
- third and subsequent violations: \$300

Each day the violation continues constitutes a separate violation.

(5) Exemption: No Person shall be subject to the provisions in section (1)(i) and the seasonal restrictions in (1)(ii) to remediate the impact of a severe weather event or accident.

Adopted April 8, 2025