



# Administrative Report

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N.2., File # 24-0152

Meeting Date: 2/20/2024

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**To: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL**  
**From: TED SEMAAN, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**

## **TITLE**

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ALLOWING USE OF BATTERY-POWERED LEAF BLOWERS

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The City Council recently made a referral to staff to prepare an item to discuss amending the City-wide ban on leaf blowers and allow the use of battery-powered devices. The current leaf blower ban has been in effect since August of 2018 following City Council's adoption of Ordinance 3180-18.

The Ordinance was revisited by City Council in 2022 following a referral to staff to bring an item considering exceptions to the ban. Reference was made at the time to the numerous Public Works projects impacted by the prohibition and the potential for efficiencies in ongoing municipal property maintenance. On September 20, 2022 the Council deliberated on the subject and voted to keep the prohibition in place.

Since that time, California Assembly Bill 1346 was signed by Governor Newsome banning the sale of gas-powered leaf blowers beginning January 1, 2024. Following approval of the Assembly Bill, a variety of commercial battery-powered leaf blowers have become available that offer significant advantages over gas-powered devices in terms of noise and exhaust emissions.

Battery-powered leaf blowers would provide additional convenience for residents and firms conducting contracted work in the City. Electric leaf blowers would also significantly reduce the time it takes Public Works personnel to manually collect debris from public right of way areas and would offer a means for residents with physical limitations to conduct basic property maintenance that they may struggle to complete otherwise.

It is recommended that the City Council provide direction on any proposed changes to the Municipal Code concerning leaf blowers.

## **BACKGROUND**

On July 10, 2018, the City Council adopted Ordinance No. 3180-18, which prohibited use of all leaf blowers in Redondo Beach. The prohibition impacted Public Works Operations' efficiency, staff time allocation, and contracted work that had previously utilized leaf blowers.

On September 20, 2022, the Council revisited the leaf blower ban and unanimously voted to make no

changes to the Ordinance.

On December 12, 2023, the Council made a referral to staff to prepare an item to consider allowing use of battery-powered leaf blowers.

The primary concerns regarding use of leaf blowers are noise, gas engine exhaust, and dust. Battery-powered leaf blowers emit zero emissions and produce less noise. From an operational perspective, leaf blowers allow City staff, and contracted firms, to collect clippings and debris up to five times faster than doing it manually. For example, the Public Works Department currently spends approximately 7,500 hours per year manually collecting debris from landscape maintenance operations, compared to the estimated 1,500 hours spent annually on this task prior to the adoption of the leaf blower ban. Residents may also benefit from the additional convenience of using battery-operated leaf blowers while performing property maintenance functions. In cases where residents have physical limitations, using a battery-operated leaf blower may be the only practical option to perform certain basic tasks.

### NOISE

Attached are two charts illustrating various levels of noise measured in decibels (dB), along with examples of activities that create certain amounts of noise. A typical gas-powered leaf blower creates noise in the range of 95 to 115 dB, with some industrial models being even louder.

For reference, with noise measurements taken from 50 feet from the source, 50 to 60 dB is considered "Moderate" noise, 70 to 80 dB is considered "Loud" and 90-110 dB is "Very Loud." Anything over 120 dB is deemed "Painful" or "Dangerous." A typical battery-powered leaf blower creates noise in the range of 65 to 85 dB.

In signing Assembly Bill 1346, Governor Newsome banned the sale of gas-powered leaf blowers as of January 1, 2024. While units sold prior to that date can continue to be used, all future blowers sold must meet zero-emission standards. The California Air Resources Board has published a list of battery-powered blowers that meet the new standard (see attached). Staff has researched the recommended products available and found that many would be suitable for use in City maintenance operations as they possess up to 500 minutes of battery runtime, produce a moderate 59 dB of noise, and can cost less than \$500.

### EMISSIONS

Gas-powered leaf blowers produce a significant amount of pollution. They emit a variety of air pollutants, including hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, and volatile organic compounds. Reports show that one gas-powered blower emits an amount of pollutants comparable to that of a small car. Battery-powered leaf blowers run on rechargeable batteries with zero-emissions, resulting in a significantly reduced environmental impact.

Attached are several recent articles comparing the use of battery-powered to gas-powered leaf blowers in terms of noise and exhaust. Consumer Reports tested a number of gas and battery-powered blowers and concluded that battery-powered machines are superior. While performance is comparable, battery-powered blowers are considered superior due to noise and emission reductions. Forestry.com states that, while electric blowers are far from perfect, they are a positive shift in how landscaping is approached in terms of environmental responsibility. HomeQuestionsAnswered.com states that while manual collection is clearly the best alternative for the environment, it may not be

practical for large maintenance operations and that battery-powered leaf blowers provide a reasonable balance between sustainability and productivity.

Also attached is data from the Police Department regarding enforcement of the leaf blower ban in the 13-month period between January 2023 and January 2024. During that time a total of 513 calls for service were received, 89 warnings were issued and 36 citations were written. In many cases, the violating operator is no longer on-site when the responding officer arrives.

### CURRENT ORDINANCE

The ban on leaf blowers is contained in Section 4-24.507(c) of the Redondo Beach Municipal Code, as follows:

#### **4-24-507 Domestic Power Tools**

(c) *It is unlawful to operate any motorized leaf blower in the City at any time.*

Should the Council decide to allow battery-powered devices, or introduce any other adjustments to the current Ordinance, staff will return with an item to make the appropriate modification to the City's Municipal Code.

### COORDINATION

The Public Works Department coordinated this item.

### FISCAL IMPACT

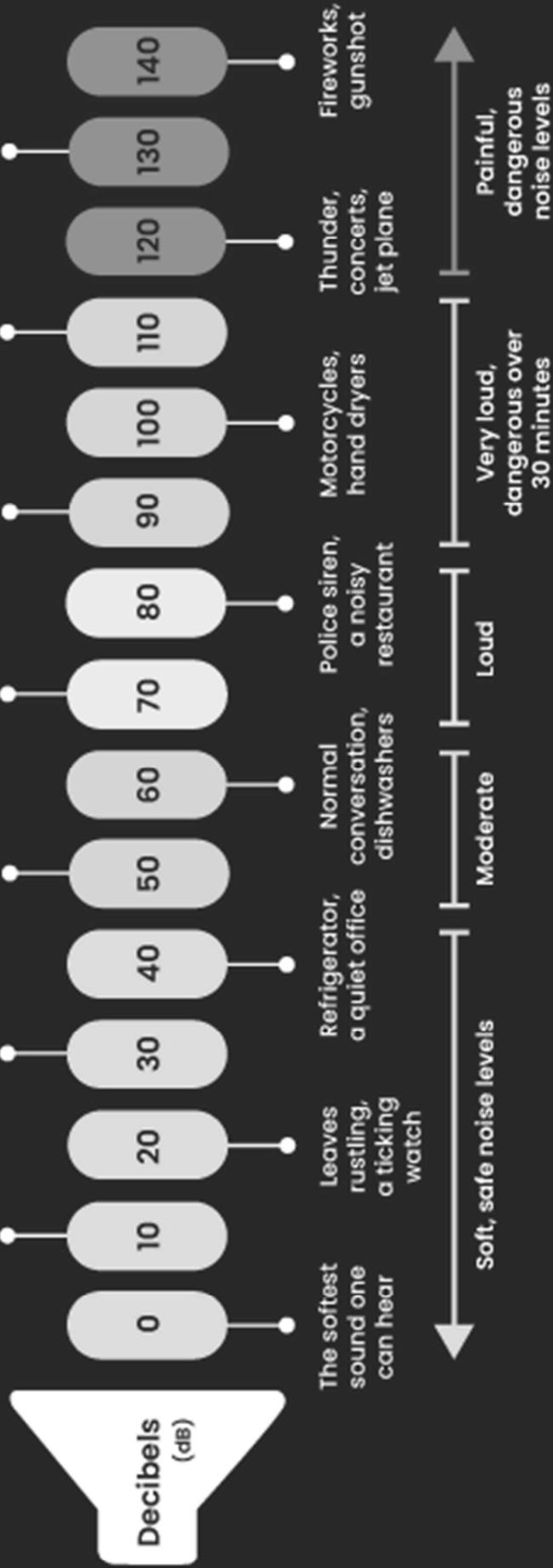
There is no fiscal impact associated with the preparation of this report. It is estimated that the prohibition on leaf blowers requires 6,000 additional labor hours for the completion of regular City maintenance functions. The hours impact is equivalent to more than three full-time Public Works personnel positions and has an annual estimated value of roughly \$300,000, as the total annual cost of a Park Caretaker is \$94,511.

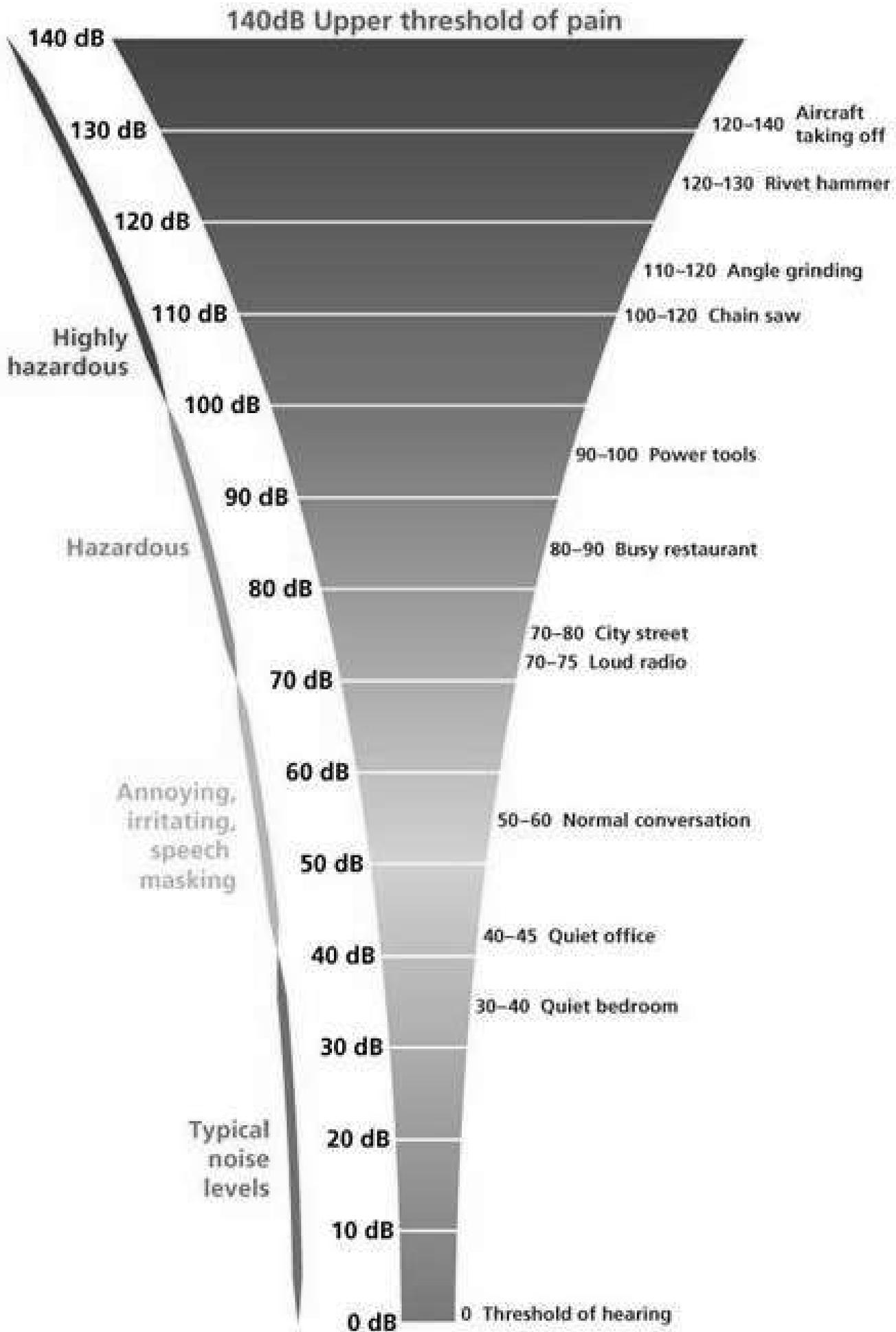
### **APPROVED BY:**

*Mike Witzansky, City Manager*

### ATTACHMENTS

- Noise Decibel Charts - MDHearingAid.com, Pinterest.com
- Noise Impacts, Storables.com, January 14, 2024
- Emission Impacts, YardLifeMaster.com,
- California Air Resources Board - Zero Emission Cordless Leaf Blower Listings
- Online Articles - ConsumerReports.org, Forestry.com, HomeQuestionsAnswered.com
- Police Citation Overview - January 2023-January 2024







GARDEN TOOLS & EQUIPMENT

## How Loud Is A Leaf Blower In Decibels

Modified: January 14, 2024

Share:

Written by: Daniel Carter

Discover the noise level of leaf blowers in decibels and how it impacts your outdoor environment. Explore the best garden tools and equipment for a quieter and more peaceful yard.

Gardening & Outdoor

Garden Tools & Equipment

Leaf Blower

*(Many of the links in this article redirect to a specific reviewed product. Your purchase of these products through affiliate links helps to generate commission for Storables.com, at no extra cost. [Learn more](#))*

### Introduction

If you've ever used a leaf blower, you know that these powerful tools can make quite a racket. The noise they produce is not only a nuisance to those in the vicinity but can also have broader implications for the environment and public health. In this article, we'll delve into the world of leaf blower noise, specifically focusing on the decibel levels these machines generate.

Leaf blowers are a ubiquitous sight in gardens, parks, and landscaping projects. They offer a convenient way to clear leaves, debris, and grass clippings from outdoor spaces, but their noise levels often spark debates and concerns. Understanding the decibel levels of leaf blowers is crucial for both users and those affected by the noise.

In the sections that follow, we'll explore the concept of decibels, examine the noise levels of common leaf blowers, discuss the impact of noise pollution, and provide practical tips for reducing leaf blower noise. By the end of this article, you'll have a comprehensive understanding of how loud leaf blowers can be and how to mitigate their noise impact.

### Key Takeaways:

- Leaf blowers can reach noise levels of 60 to 110 dB, similar to a busy city street. Understanding decibels helps us make informed choices to minimize noise pollution.
- Gas leaf blowers are noisier than electric ones, reaching 95 to 115 dB. Choosing quieter models and mindful usage can create a more harmonious outdoor environment.

READ MORE: [How To Start Leaf Blower](#)

## Understanding Decibels

Decibels, often abbreviated as dB, are the unit of measurement used to quantify the intensity of sound. This logarithmic scale is designed to reflect the sensitivity of the human ear to different levels of sound. The threshold of hearing is set at 0 dB, with each increase of 10 dB representing a tenfold increase in sound intensity. For example, a sound measured at 20 dB is ten times more intense than a sound measured at 10 dB.

When it comes to leaf blowers, it's essential to understand the decibel levels they produce. The noise output of these machines can vary significantly depending on factors such as the type of blower, its engine power, and the distance from the source of the noise. Leaf blowers typically fall within the range of 60 to 110 dB, with gas-powered models generally being louder than electric ones.



To put these numbers into perspective, a normal conversation at a distance of 3 feet registers at approximately 60 dB, while a busy city street can reach around 85 dB. Exposure to sounds exceeding 85 dB for an extended period can lead to hearing damage, making it crucial to assess and manage the noise levels of leaf blowers, especially in residential areas and public spaces.

Understanding decibels allows us to gauge the potential impact of [leaf blower](#) noise on our surroundings and take appropriate measures to minimize its effects. In the next section, we'll delve into the specific noise levels of common leaf blowers, shedding light on the varying degrees of noise pollution they can generate.

## Noise Levels of Common Leaf Blowers

Leaf blowers come in various types, each with its own noise profile. Gas-powered leaf blowers, known for their robust performance, tend to produce higher decibel levels compared to their electric counterparts. On average, gas leaf

blowers can generate noise ranging from 95 to 115 dB, with some industrial models reaching even higher levels. In contrast, electric leaf blowers typically operate at a quieter range of 65 to 85 dB, making them a more favorable option for noise-conscious users.

It's important to note that the noise level of a leaf blower is not solely determined by its power source. Factors such as the design of the machine, the efficiency of its motor, and the presence of noise-reducing features also play a significant role in shaping its acoustic footprint. Some manufacturers prioritize noise reduction in their leaf blower designs, incorporating advanced engineering techniques and sound-dampening materials to mitigate the impact of their products on the surrounding environment.

When selecting a leaf blower, it's advisable to consider not only its performance but also its noise output, especially if you'll be using it in residential areas or noise-sensitive locations. Understanding the decibel levels of common leaf blowers empowers users to make informed choices, balancing their need for functionality with a commitment to minimizing noise pollution.

By being mindful of the noise levels associated with different types of leaf blowers, individuals and landscaping professionals can contribute to creating quieter and more harmonious outdoor environments. In the subsequent section, we'll explore the broader implications of noise pollution and its effects on both human well-being and the ecosystem.



## Impact of Noise Pollution

Noise pollution, including that generated by leaf blowers, can have far-reaching consequences for both human health and the natural world. Prolonged exposure to high levels of noise can lead to various health issues, including heightened stress levels, disturbed sleep patterns, and an increased risk of cardiovascular problems. In residential areas, excessive noise from leaf blowers can disrupt the tranquility of neighborhoods, impacting the quality of life for residents and diminishing their overall well-being.

Furthermore, noise pollution can disturb wildlife and have adverse effects on ecosystems. Birds, small mammals, and insects may be particularly sensitive to loud and persistent noises, which can disrupt their natural behaviors, communication, and reproductive patterns. In urban and suburban environments, where leaf blowers are commonly

used, the cumulative impact of noise pollution can fragment habitats and contribute to the decline of certain species, thereby disrupting the delicate balance of local ecosystems.

Recognizing the multifaceted impact of noise pollution underscores the importance of addressing and mitigating the sources of excessive noise, including those associated with leaf blower usage. By understanding the implications of noise pollution, individuals and communities can take proactive measures to minimize their contribution to environmental noise and promote a healthier, more harmonious coexistence with nature.

In the following section, we'll delve into practical tips for reducing leaf blower noise, offering actionable strategies for mitigating the impact of these tools on both human and environmental well-being.

## Tips for Reducing Leaf Blower Noise

While leaf blowers are valuable tools for outdoor maintenance, their noise levels can be a cause for concern. Fortunately, there are several strategies that users can employ to minimize the noise generated by these machines, fostering a quieter and more considerate approach to landscaping and gardening activities.

READ MORE: [What Is A Leaf Blower](#)

### 1. Choose Quieter Models:

When selecting a leaf blower, opt for models specifically designed with reduced noise emissions. Electric leaf blowers, in general, produce lower decibel levels compared to gas-powered ones. Additionally, look for products labeled as “low-noise” or “quiet operation” to prioritize acoustic considerations in your purchasing decision.

### 2. Maintain and Service Regularly:

Proper maintenance of leaf blowers, including regular cleaning, lubrication, and tuning, can contribute to quieter operation. Ensuring that the equipment is in optimal condition helps minimize unnecessary noise caused by mechanical issues or wear and tear.



### 3. Time and Frequency of Use:

Be mindful of the timing and frequency of leaf blower use, especially in residential areas. Avoid operation during early morning or late evening hours when noise sensitivity is heightened. Additionally, consider alternatives such as manual

raking or sweeping for lighter debris removal tasks to reduce overall reliance on leaf blowers.

#### **4. Use Noise-Reducing Attachments:**

Some leaf blowers offer compatible noise-reducing attachments or accessories, such as mufflers or diffusers, which can help dampen the sound produced during operation. Explore the availability of such add-ons for your specific leaf blower model to enhance its acoustic performance.

READ MORE: [\*\*When Was The Leaf Blower Invented\*\*](#)

#### **5. Distance and Direction:**

When using a leaf blower, pay attention to the direction of the airflow and the distance from surrounding properties. Position the blower in a manner that minimizes the propagation of noise toward neighboring homes and outdoor spaces, thereby reducing the impact of the sound on others.

By implementing these practical tips, leaf blower users can actively contribute to mitigating noise pollution and fostering a more considerate approach to outdoor maintenance. These measures not only benefit the immediate surroundings but also promote a culture of responsible and mindful landscaping practices.

As we conclude this exploration of leaf blower noise and its implications, it's essential to recognize the role that individual actions and choices play in shaping the acoustic landscape of our shared environments.

### **Conclusion**

The noise generated by leaf blowers is a topic of significant relevance, intersecting with considerations of public health, environmental impact, and community well-being. Understanding the decibel levels of these tools and their broader implications empowers individuals to make informed decisions and adopt practices that contribute to a quieter and more harmonious outdoor environment.

By delving into the concept of decibels and exploring the noise levels of common leaf blowers, we've gained valuable insights into the acoustic footprint of these ubiquitous garden tools. The varying noise profiles of gas-powered and electric leaf blowers underscore the importance of considering noise emissions when selecting and using outdoor maintenance equipment.

Furthermore, our exploration of the impact of noise pollution has shed light on the multifaceted consequences of excessive noise, ranging from its effects on human health and well-being to its disruption of natural ecosystems. Recognizing the far-reaching implications of noise pollution underscores the need for conscientious approaches to noise management, especially in residential and natural settings.

As we've discussed practical tips for reducing leaf blower noise, it becomes evident that individual choices and actions can play a pivotal role in mitigating the impact of these tools on the acoustic environment. From selecting quieter models to employing mindful usage practices and exploring noise-reducing attachments, there are actionable steps that users can take to minimize the noise generated during outdoor maintenance activities.

In conclusion, the discourse on leaf blower noise prompts us to consider the broader ethos of responsible and considerate landscaping practices. By integrating acoustic considerations into our decisions and behaviors, we can collectively contribute to creating outdoor spaces that are not only well-maintained but also conducive to tranquility and environmental harmony.

Ultimately, the pursuit of quieter and more mindful approaches to outdoor maintenance aligns with the aspiration for sustainable and respectful coexistence with nature and our communities. By valuing the importance of soundscapes and the impact of noise on our surroundings, we can foster environments that resonate with tranquility, consideration, and well-being.

## Frequently Asked Questions about How Loud Is A Leaf Blower In Decibels

**Q** What are the different types of leaf blowers available in the market?

**A** There are three main types of leaf blowers: handheld, backpack, and walk-behind. Handheld leaf blowers are lightweight and easy to maneuver, while backpack leaf blowers are more powerful and designed for larger areas. Walk-behind leaf blowers are the most powerful and are ideal for commercial use.

**Q** Can I use a leaf blower to clean up wet leaves and debris?

**A** While some leaf blowers are designed to handle wet leaves and debris, it's important to check the manufacturer's specifications to ensure that the leaf blower you choose is suitable for wet conditions. Using a leaf blower that is not designed for wet debris can cause damage to the machine.

**Q** What safety precautions should I take when using a leaf blower?

**A** When using a leaf blower, it's important to wear ear protection, as leaf blowers can be quite loud. Additionally, wearing eye protection and a dust mask can help protect you from flying debris and dust. It's also important to be mindful of your surroundings and avoid pointing the leaf blower at people or animals.

**Q** How do I maintain my leaf blower to ensure it operates efficiently?

**A** Regular maintenance is key to keeping your leaf blower in top condition. This includes cleaning or replacing the air filter, checking and replacing the spark plug, and ensuring that the fuel mixture is correct. It's also important to inspect the blower tube and nozzle for any blockages or damage.

**Q** Can I use a leaf blower to clean up my garden or yard all year round?

**A** Leaf blowers can be used for more than just clearing leaves in the fall. They can also be used to clear grass clippings, debris, and snow during the winter months. However, it's important to be mindful of the weather conditions and ensure that the leaf blower is suitable for the task at hand.



# How Much Pollution Do Leaf Blowers Produce? Here's What You Need To Know



What do [leaf blowers](#) have to do with pollution? As it turns out, a lot.

Leaf blowers, both gas and electric, can produce a significant amount of air pollution that is harmful to both our health and the environment.

So, how much pollution do leaf blowers produce? In this article, you will learn about the types of leaf blowers, the pollutants they produce, their health and environmental impact, as well as local regulations and tips for reducing leaf blower pollution.

Finally, we will discuss alternatives to leaf blowers that can help reduce air pollution.

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Alternatives to Leaf Blowers

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## Short Answer

Leaf blowers typically produce a lot of air pollution.

They typically emit high levels of air pollutants, such as nitrogen oxides and volatile organic compounds, as well as particulate matter.

In some cases, the emissions from a [leaf blower](#) can be similar to that of a small car.

Leaf blowers also produce noise pollution, which can be a source of annoyance for neighbors.

## Types of Leaf Blowers

Leaf blowers come in a variety of types, each with different levels of pollution.

Gas-powered leaf blowers are the most commonly used type and are generally the most polluting.

These models produce large amounts of hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, and volatile organic compounds, all of which can have a significant environmental impact.

Electric and battery-powered leaf blowers are a much better option, as they produce fewer emissions.

These models are also typically quieter than gas-powered models, making them a better option for noise-sensitive areas.

Hybrid models, which use both gas and electric power, offer a compromise between the two types.

These models are less polluting than gas-powered leaf blowers, but more polluting than electric and battery-powered models.

## **Pollutants Produced by Leaf Blowers**



Leaf blowers are one of the most commonly used tools for landscaping and gardening tasks, but they also produce a significant amount of pollution.

Leaf blowers emit more than 60 times the hydrocarbons of a car, as well as large amounts of carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, and volatile organic compounds (VOCs).

These pollutants are all hazardous to human health and to the environment, as they can cause respiratory problems, irritate the eyes and throat, and contribute to smog.

Carbon monoxide is an odorless and colorless gas that can be fatal when inhaled in high concentrations.

It is produced when fuel is burned inefficiently, and it is a major pollutant produced by leaf blowers.

Nitrogen oxides are a family of compounds that can be dangerous to humans and to the environment.

They are produced by the burning of fuel, and they can contribute to acid rain and smog.

VOCs are a group of chemicals that can be found in most fuels, and they can be harmful to humans when inhaled in high concentrations.

In addition to these pollutants, leaf blowers can also be a major source of noise pollution.

The noise from leaf blowers can be disruptive to the peace and quiet of neighborhoods, and it can even cause hearing damage if the noise is too loud.

Fortunately, there are measures that can be taken to reduce the amount of pollution produced by leaf blowers.

Electric and battery-powered leaf blowers produce fewer emissions than gas-powered models, so they should be used whenever possible.

Additionally, it is important to follow local regulations on the use of these tools, as they can be a major source of noise pollution.

By taking these steps, it is possible to reduce the environmental impact of leaf blowers and make our neighborhoods more pleasant.

## **Health and Environmental Impact of Leaf Blower Pollution**

Leaf blowers are a convenient tool for many landscaping and gardening tasks, but they also have a downside: they produce a significant amount of pollution. Leaf blowers create a variety of air pollutants, including hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, and volatile organic compounds. These pollutants can have a negative impact on human health and the environment.

The hydrocarbons emitted by leaf blowers are particularly harmful.

These compounds are precursors to the formation of ground-level ozone, which can lead to a variety of respiratory problems, including asthma, bronchitis, and other respiratory illnesses.

Leaf blowers also emit carbon monoxide, a colorless, odorless gas that can lead to headaches, fatigue, and other short-term health effects.

Long-term exposure to carbon monoxide can lead to cardiovascular problems.

Nitrogen oxides, another pollutant emitted by leaf blowers, can lead to smog, acid rain, and other environmental problems.

Finally, volatile organic compounds emitted by leaf blowers can contribute to air pollution, water pollution, and soil contamination.

To reduce the environmental impact of these tools, it is important to use electric or battery-powered leaf blowers, which produce fewer emissions than gas-powered models.

Additionally, it is important to follow local regulations on the use of these tools, as they can be a major source of noise pollution.

Noise pollution can cause hearing loss, stress, and other health problems, so it is important to use leaf blowers responsibly.

## **Electric and Battery-Powered Leaf Blowers**



Leaf blowers are a useful tool for quickly clearing away leaves, debris, and other lawn and garden materials, but their convenience comes with a price.

Gas-powered leaf blowers produce copious amounts of pollution, including hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, and volatile organic compounds.

Thankfully, there are now electric and battery-powered leaf blowers available that produce far fewer emissions than their gas-powered counterparts.

Electric leaf blowers are powered by a cord that you plug into an outlet, so they don't produce any emissions at all.

They are also generally quieter than gas-powered models and are more affordable.

However, electric leaf blowers are limited in terms of their range and power, so they may not be suitable for larger tasks.

Battery-powered leaf blowers are the most versatile option.

They are powered by a rechargeable battery, so they don't emit any emissions while in use.

Battery-powered leaf blowers are more powerful than electric models, and they offer greater mobility and range.

While they are more expensive than electric models, they are more affordable than gas-powered leaf blowers.

Ultimately, electric and battery-powered leaf blowers are the best option for reducing the environmental impact of these tools.

While they may not be suitable for larger tasks, they are quieter and they produce far fewer emissions than gas-powered leaf blowers.

## **Local Regulations on Leaf Blower Use**

Leaf blowers are a convenient way to clean up outdoor spaces, but they can also be a source of air and noise pollution.

As such, many local governments have enacted regulations on the use of leaf blowers in order to reduce the environmental impact of these tools.

In most areas, local regulations focus on the type of leaf blower being used.

Gas-powered models are often prohibited or restricted due to their high emissions of hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, and volatile organic compounds.

Electric and battery-powered leaf blowers are typically allowed, as they emit fewer pollutants.

In addition to regulations on the type of leaf blowers used, many local governments also impose restrictions on when leaf blowers can be used.

In some areas, leaf blowers are prohibited at certain times of the day, while in other areas they are outright banned.

Finally, some local governments have implemented regulations on noise pollution caused by leaf blowers.

These regulations might limit the number of hours that leaf blowers can be used, or they might limit the noise level of the leaf blower.

By following local regulations on the use of leaf blowers, homeowners and landscaping professionals can help reduce the environmental impact of these tools.

It is important to research the laws in your area to ensure that you are following all applicable regulations.

## **Tips for Reducing Leaf Blower Pollution**



One of the best ways to reduce the amount of pollution produced by leaf blowers is to switch to an electric or battery-powered model.

These tools produce significantly fewer emissions than gas-powered models, so opting for an electric or battery-powered leaf blower is an easy way to make a difference.

Additionally, electric and battery-powered models are often quieter than their gas-powered counterparts, making them less of a nuisance for your neighbors.

Another way to reduce pollution from leaf blowers is to keep them properly maintained.

Regularly replacing or cleaning the [air filter](#), spark plug, and other parts will help ensure that your leaf blower is running efficiently and producing fewer emissions.

Additionally, it's important to use the right fuel and oil, as these can have a significant impact on the amount of pollution produced.

Finally, it's important to follow local regulations on the use of leaf blowers.

Many cities have laws that specify when and where leaf blowers can be used, as well as noise limits and other restrictions.

Following these regulations will help ensure that your leaf blower is not a major source of pollution or noise in your neighborhood.

## **Alternatives to Leaf Blowers**

It is important to consider alternatives to leaf blowers when it comes to keeping your lawn or garden tidy.

Manual raking and sweeping are great ways to get the job done without the use of gas-powered or electric leaf blowers.

Rakes and brooms can help clear leaves and debris without producing any emissions.

Additionally, mulching mowers can help reduce the amount of debris in your yard, as they chop the grass and leaves into tiny pieces.

This reduces the need to rake and helps you produce nutrient-rich fertilizer for your plants.

If you have a large area of lawn to maintain, consider using a battery-powered or electric leaf blower.

These tools produce fewer emissions than gas-powered models and are usually quieter as well.

It is important to follow local noise regulations when using leaf blowers, as they can be a source of noise pollution.

Finally, consider using a leaf blower vacuum, which can collect debris and leaves while producing fewer emissions than a standard leaf blower.

## **Final Thoughts**

Leaf blowers can be a convenient tool for landscaping and gardening, but they come with a significant environmental cost.

Gas-powered leaf blowers produce large amounts of pollution, including hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, and volatile organic compounds.

To reduce the environmental impact of these tools, it is important to use electric or battery-powered leaf blowers and follow local regulations on the use of these tools.

Additionally, it is important to be mindful of other alternatives to leaf blowers that can reduce pollution and noise.

By following these steps, you can help make a positive impact on the environment.

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### **James Lopez**

James Lopez is a lifestyle journalist. In addition to working as a journalist, he also takes courses in landscape design. He is pretty focused on the outdoor space, especially the backyard.

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## Zero-Emission Cordless Leaf Blower

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### **CATEGORIES**

#### **Topics**

Lawn, Garden & Landscape Equipment

#### **Programs**

Zero-Emission Landscaping Equipment

#### **Type**

Information

### Commercial Equipment

#### Brand

- DeWalt
- DR Power
- Echo
- EGO
- Greenworks Commercial
- Husqvarna
- Oregon Professional Series\*
- Pellenc
- Stihl
- Snapper

### Residential Equipment

#### Brand

- Aleko Products
- Black and Decker
- Craftsman
- Dewalt
- Earthwise
- Echo
- EGO
- Greenworks
- Greenworks pro
- Hart
- Husqvarna
- Kobalt
- Lawnmaster
- Lynxx
- Makita
- Milwaukee
- Oregon
- Portland
- Poulan Pro
- PowerSmart
- Redback
- Remington
- Rigid
- Ryobi
- Scotts
- Snapper
- Stihl
- Sun Joe
- Toro
- Troy-Bilt
- Weed Eater
- WEN
- Worth Garden
- Worx
- Yard Force
- Zombi

\*Received CARB Zero-Emission Equipment Credits Certification

Home & Garden / Tools & Power Equipment / Leaf Blowers / Gas Vs. Electric Leaf Blower: Which Is Better?

## Gas vs. Electric Leaf Blower: Which Is Better?

Our rigorous battery of tests settles the question

By Paul Hope

May 16, 2023

When you shop through [affiliate](#) links on our site, we may earn affiliate commissions. 100% of the fees we collect are used to support our nonprofit mission. [Learn more.](#)



Gas (left) and electric (right) leaf blowers have their pros and cons, but only one category is the smarter choice, generally speaking.

Graphic: Consumer Reports, Stihl, Ego

When you upgrade from a rake to a leaf blower, there's no going back. Moving lots of leaves—and blowing other types of debris, such as beach sand from a deck—is simply so much easier, faster, and less labor-intensive with a leaf blower.

For a long time, this has been especially true with gas leaf blowers. But over the past decade of testing, the experts at Consumer Reports have noticed significant improvements in electric models, making the decision between buying a gas or [electric leaf blower](#) a tougher one.

“Every year, there are fewer and fewer reasons to tell people to choose gas models,” says Misha Kollontai, CR’s engineer in charge of leaf-blower testing. “That’s even more true with the advancement of larger batteries and the introduction of battery backpack leaf blowers, which are built for larger yards.”

## CR’s Guide to Sustainable Living

**Find eco-friendly products and smart strategies for a green home.**

If you’re just starting to shop, look to our [leaf-blower buying guide](#) for advice about types and features. You can also jump right to our [ratings](#) of dozens of models if you’re ready to browse, or see which models CR has deemed to be the [best overall](#). But if you want to see how gas and electric leaf blowers perform head-to-head in our tests, read on.

## How Consumer Reports Tests Leaf Blowers

CR’s test engineers rope off a standardized swath of grass and dump bags of leaves inside the boundary, making sure we use the same quantity of leaves for each test.

**GAS VS. ELECTRIC TOOLS:  
HOW TO CHOOSE**

**Is Now the Time to Switch  
to Electric Tools?**

**Gas vs. Electric Lawn  
Mower: Which Is Better?**

**Gas vs. Electric String  
Trimmer: Which Is Better?**

**Consumer Reports Guide  
to Sustainable Living**

We time how long each blower takes to clear the pile, and whether the tool moves every last leaf. Some models struggle at the bottom of the pile, where leaves can become embedded in the grass. Only certain technicians, who use similar techniques with each model, do this test.

We also note how hard it is to maneuver each leaf blower, how heavy it feels, and how intuitive the controls are to use.

Some years, we go through 2,500 pounds of leaves in the process. And because we can’t rely on that quantity

to fall on our Yonkers, N.Y., campus each autumn, we often start collecting and storing fallen foliage a year in advance.

## How We Compare Gas and Electric Leaf Blowers

Our engineers took years' worth of leaf-blower testing data to build a tool that allows us to compare scores from dozens of models, including gas and electric. We compare average scores for both types of leaf blowers in the following tests: sweeping, loosening, vacuuming, handling, noise at the ear, and noise at 50 feet. We also look at run times for every electric model and across electric models in general. (There's no real limit on run time for gas models because you can quickly top off the tank and keep working.)

One thing to note: Averages can be misleading because the scores can be diluted by outliers that are either exceptionally good or exceptionally bad. A bell curve shows where a majority of models of each type fall in terms of performance; our results are below. Keep in mind that we devised this head-to-head to compare models across categories. But in your own yard, the only thing that matters is the performance of the specific leaf blower you choose.

### **Sweeping**

The ability to sweep leaves into a tidy pile is a leaf blower's most important attribute. Airflow, power, and design all influence how effectively a model accomplishes this task.

Which is best? Gas—by a tiny margin. On average, gas models earn a 4.6 on a scale of 0 to 5.5 in this test, while electrics earn a 4.4. But plenty of electric leaf blowers individually earn near-perfect scores in our sweeping tests, just like the best gas models. And, in fact, the best electric models earn a sweeping score of 5.2, identical to what we've found from the best gas models. What throws the scales here is that some of the electric leaf blowers in our ratings are really crummy, and not viable contenders. The worst earn a score of just 0.5 for sweeping. (Even the worst gas model we tested still musters a sweeping score of 3.7.)

### **Loosening**

It's one thing to blow dry leaves off a firm surface, like concrete or short grass. But loosening leaves that are embedded in taller grass poses a challenge, even for powerful leaf blowers, unless they're designed to funnel airflow into a tight stream.

Which is best? Gas blowers, as a group, get the edge here, but the best electric actually outperform them. On the whole, gas blowers earn an average score of 4.1 for loosening, compared with an average score of 3.5 for electric. But even the very best gas model maxes out with a score of 4.8 in this test, while the best electric earns an impressive 5.5, our highest score. What's the takeaway? Gas wins as a group, but choosing the right electric leaf blower ensures performance that even gas can't match.

### **Vacuuming**

If you have a smaller yard, a leaf blower with a vacuum function is a great option. The vacuum mode sucks up leaves and shreds them before discharging them into an attached bag. While only a handful of models have this feature, we do see differences in performance.

Which is best? Electric, but leaf blowers with a vacuum function are few and far between. Only a single battery model we've tested has this feature, but it handled the task masterfully. Four gas models in our ratings have a vacuum function, two of which excel at the task. We'd argue that vacuuming is far from the most important consideration and shouldn't sway your choice between gas and electric leaf blowers.

### **Handling**

This test reflects how evenly balanced and responsive a leaf blower is. Gas models need to account for a heavier engine and gas tank, but electric need to balance the weight of lithium-ion batteries, which can be heavy.

Which is best? As a group, electric leaf blowers earn a score of 4.4 on this test, while gas models earn an average score of 3.6. But if you only look at the very best models of both types, it's a tie, with a score of 4.9 for each. This test was done with the smaller batteries electric are sold with. So keep in mind that if you choose to use a beefier battery at home because, for instance, you already have a lawn mower from the same

brand and want to use its battery with your blower to cut down on cost.

### Noise

We measure noise both at the ear of the user and at 50 feet to simulate what the experience might be like for your neighbors.

Which is best? Electric. It's probably no surprise that electric leaf blowers are quieter—after all, it's one of their big selling points. Of those in our ratings, electrics earn an average score of 2.9 for noise at the ear, while gas models average out to a score of 1.7. (The lower the score, the worse the noise.) Even the worst electric model scores twice as high as the worst gas. The disparity grows at a distance. When measured at 50 feet, the electric leaf blowers in our ratings earn an average score of 4.8 compared with an average score of 2.5 for gas.

## Which Leaf Blower Performs Better: Gas or Electric?

At first glance, it might look like a draw, with electrics outperforming gas in many tasks, but gas acing it in key areas, like sweeping and loosening. But when you look more closely, electric is the clear winner. That's because while gas models as a group do well in a few important tests, on average, there are in each instance also at least a few electric leaf blowers that match or beat that performance. In contrast, no gas models are quiet by any stretch, and the best electric leaf blowers we've tested match or beat the best gas models in every single test we conduct. The only case to be made here for gas relates to charge times and run times for batteries. If you have a yard with dozens of deciduous trees shedding leaves, gas could make sense. But keep in mind that the batteries for the leaf blowers we've tested charge in 5 to 48 minutes and work for an average of nearly 94 minutes.

That's a pretty strong case for electrics. What's more, they're also better for the planet, better for your ears, and over time, they're probably better for your wallet, too, when you factor in a gas model's lifetime cost of gas and (in some cases) oil.

Electric leaf blowers also have an advantage: the interchangeability of electric batteries. Brands that make electric leaf blowers know you'll likely want to use that same battery in, say, a lawn mower, string trimmer, hedge trimmer, chain saw, or even a snow blower.

And in most cases, you can. If you buy an electric outdoor tool, make sure to buy into the platform, not just that one tool. You can do that by confirming that the brand you buy also offers other outdoor tools with high scores in our ratings. The advantage here is twofold. If you amass enough tools from the same brand over time, you can buy some of them without batteries, saving you about a third of the cost of the tool. Then you can simply use the batteries among multiple tools and keep one charging at all times. With a charged battery on hand, you'll never run out of juice.

All that said, a gas leaf blower might make sense if you're not ready to buy into a battery platform and you have a big yard filled with leafy deciduous trees. That's why we've also included a couple of great gas models, along with three excellent electric options, in our roundup of high-performing leaf blowers, below.

## Best Electric Leaf Blowers

**CR TOP PICKS**

**1** ● RECOMMENDED OVERALL SCORE

- SWEEPING
- LOOSENING
- HANDLING AND EASE OF USE



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# Best Gas Leaf Blowers

## CR TOP PICKS

1

RECOMMENDED

OVERALL SCORE

- SWEEPING
- LOOSENING
- HANDLING AND EASE OF USE



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**Paul Hope**

Paul Hope is a senior multimedia content creator at Consumer Reports and a trained chef. He covers ranges, cooktops, and wall ovens, as well as grills, drills, outdoor power tools, decking, and wood stains. Before joining CR in 2016, he tested kitchen products at Good Housekeeping and covered tools and remodeling for This Old House magazine. You'll typically find him in his old fixer-upper, engrossed in a DIY project or trying out a new recipe.



# 85

Leaf Blowers Rated

Access Ratings

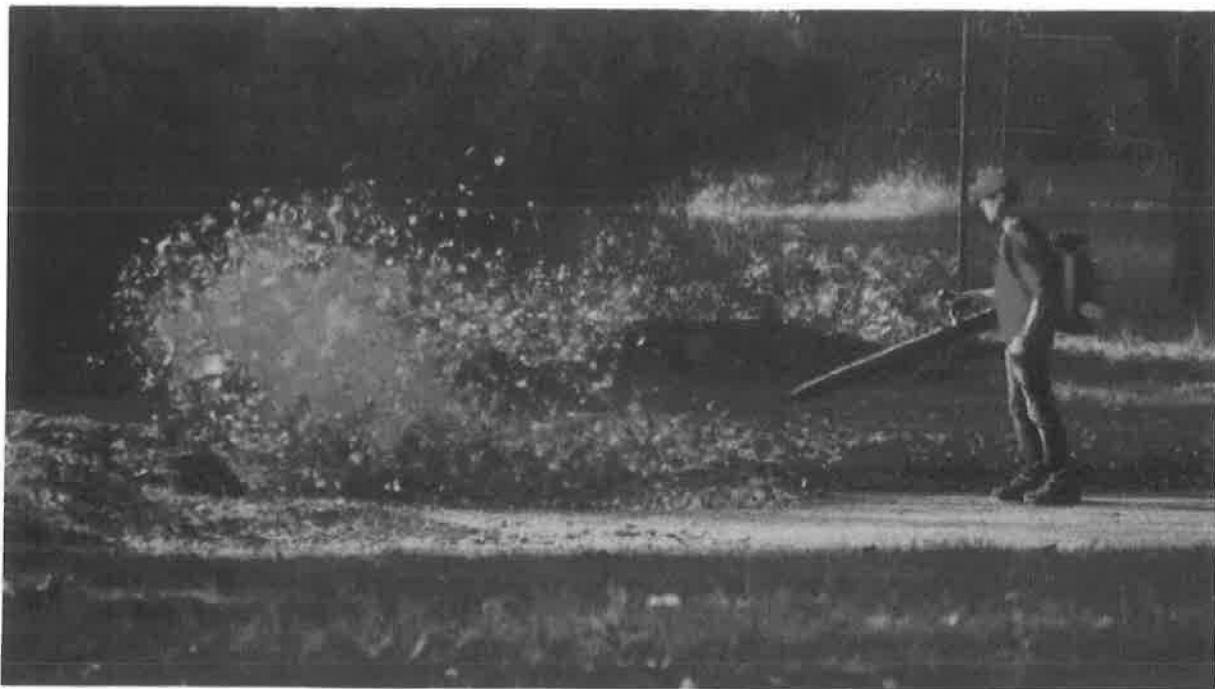
Home > Editorial > The Environmental and Health Impact of Leaf Blowers: A Call for Change

# The Environmental and Health Impact of Leaf Blowers: A Call for Change

📅 November 29, 2023    💬 1 comment    👤 Reagan Key

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Explore the impact of leaf blowers on natural ecosystems and public health. Understand how these modern tools disrupt the age-old cycle of leaf shedding and soil enrichment, and the ensuing environmental and health concerns.



For centuries, the natural process of trees shedding leaves has played a vital role in ecosystems, providing shelter for wildlife and enriching the soil. This annual cycle, a hallmark of

times has significantly disrupted this natural cycle. While these tools offer efficiency in garden maintenance, their widespread use raises substantial environmental and health concerns. The impact of leaf blowers extends beyond mere convenience, posing a challenge to the delicate balance of our ecosystems and the well-being of our communities.

## The Pervasive Use of Leaf Blowers

Every year, the United States witnesses the extensive use of approximately 11 million leaf blowers, each capable of unleashing winds up to 200 miles per hour. While these devices excel at their primary task of clearing leaves, their broader implications are far-reaching and multifaceted. The operation of leaf blowers significantly disrupts natural ecosystems. This disruption is not limited to the mere physical displacement of leaves; it extends to impacting the myriad of small creatures that depend on leaf litter for survival. This natural debris serves as a crucial habitat and food source for various insects and microorganisms, playing a vital role in the biodiversity of our ecosystems.



Credits to: **CBC**

Moreover, the widespread use of leaf blowers has escalated noise pollution, an environmental concern that often doesn't receive the attention it deserves. The persistent, high-decibel noise

In response to these concerns, several U.S. regions, including Washington, D.C., Miami Beach, Florida, and Evanston, Illinois, have taken decisive steps. These areas have implemented bans or stringent restrictions on the use of gas-powered leaf blowers. Such regulatory measures are a testament to a growing recognition of the need to balance technological convenience with environmental and public health. These actions also reflect a shift in societal values, where the health of the environment and the well-being of communities are being prioritized.

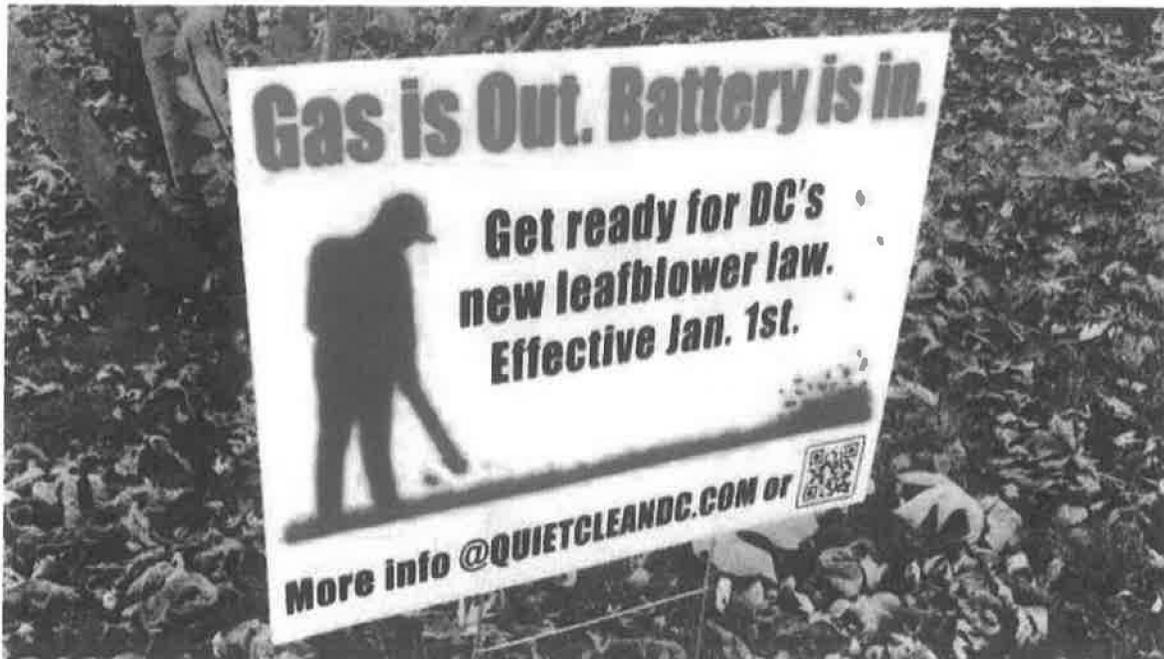


Furthermore, these changes have sparked a broader conversation about sustainable practices in lawn care and garden maintenance. They encourage individuals and professionals alike to explore alternative methods that are more in harmony with the environment. Options such as electric leaf blowers, manual raking, or even leaving the leaves to naturally decompose and enrich the soil are considered viable and eco-friendly alternatives.

The movement against the indiscriminate use of leaf blowers is not just about reducing noise or protecting the environment; it's part of a larger narrative about rethinking our relationship with nature. It calls for a deeper understanding and respect for the intricate web of life that thrives in our backyards and urban green spaces. As this awareness grows, it paves the way for more responsible choices and practices that align with the principles of sustainability and ecological balance.

### **Increased Awareness and Regulatory Actions**

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, and the subsequent lockdowns, unexpectedly played a pivotal role in altering public perception regarding the tranquility of natural environments and the intrusive nature of leaf blowers. As people found themselves confined to their homes, many began to appreciate the serenity and calm of their immediate natural surroundings. This newfound appreciation, however, was often marred by the disruptive noise



This shift in public consciousness has been instrumental in driving regulatory changes across the United States. As a result, over 200 towns have now implemented various restrictions on the use of leaf blowers. These legislative actions have been significantly influenced by the efforts of advocacy groups such as Quiet Communities, which have been at the forefront of raising awareness about the adverse effects of noise pollution and championing the need for more environmentally friendly practices in lawn and garden maintenance. These developments mark a significant step towards reconciling the need for efficient lawn care with the imperative to preserve the tranquility and health of our natural and living environments.

### **Environmental and Health Impacts**

The environmental and health impacts of gas-powered leaf blowers are far more significant than often realized. In just one hour of operation, these machines emit pollutants equivalent to what a car would produce on a journey from Los Angeles to Denver. This startling comparison highlights the substantial contribution of leaf blowers to air pollution. The emissions from these devices include a range of harmful pollutants such as benzene, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and nitrogen oxides, all of which are known to have detrimental effects on air quality and public health.

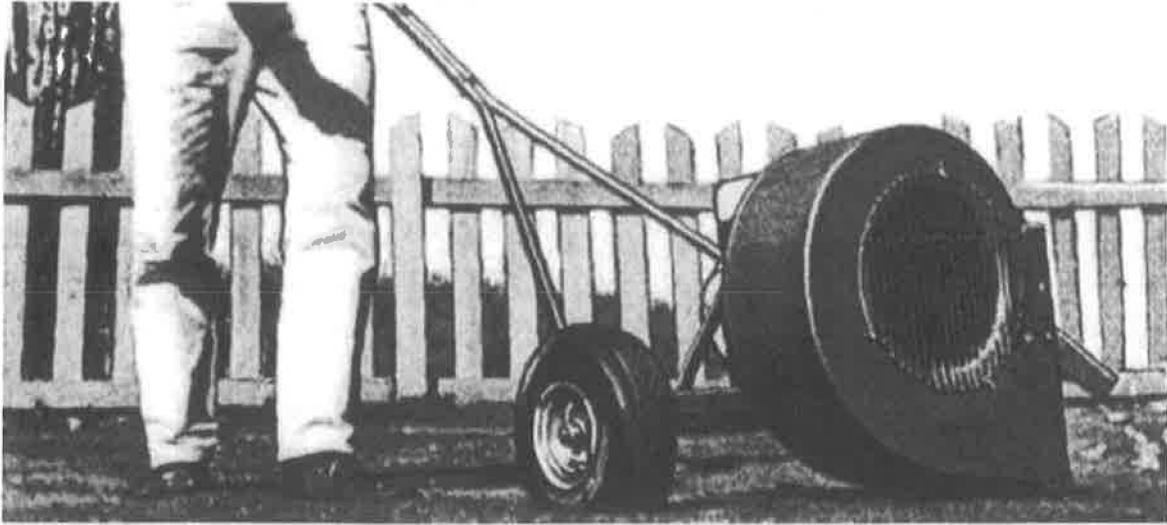


Apart from the air pollution, the operation of gas-powered leaf blowers also generates low-frequency noise, which is more than just a mere annoyance. This type of noise, often pervasive and penetrating, has been linked to serious health issues. Studies have shown that continuous exposure to low-frequency noise from leaf blowers can lead to increased risks of heart attacks and strokes. This is due to the stress and disturbance caused by the noise, which can have a profound impact on cardiovascular health. Therefore, the use of gas-powered leaf blowers presents a dual threat: they not only pollute the air we breathe but also potentially endanger heart health through their disruptive noise emissions.

## Historical Context and Current Debate

The history of leaf blowers dates back to the 1940s, with their initial design intended for agricultural purposes. However, it was in the post-World War II era that these machines found a new role in suburban lawn care. As residential areas expanded and the desire for well-maintained lawns grew, leaf blowers became increasingly popular as a tool for efficient yard maintenance. This shift from agriculture to residential use marked the beginning of the widespread adoption of leaf blowers, particularly in the United States.

Today, the use of leaf blowers is at the center of a significant debate that encompasses both environmental and economic dimensions. On one hand, environmental concerns are at the forefront, with issues such as air and noise pollution being major points of contention. The environmental impact of leaf blowers, especially those powered by gas, has led to increased scrutiny and calls for regulation or outright bans in various regions.



On the other hand, the debate also considers the economic implications for landscaping professionals. Leaf blowers, known for their efficiency in clearing leaves and debris, are a staple in the landscaping industry. Restrictions or bans on these tools could have a substantial impact on the operations and financial viability of landscaping businesses. This aspect of the debate highlights the need for a balanced approach that addresses environmental concerns while also considering the economic realities faced by those in the lawn care and landscaping sectors.

Thus, the discussion around leaf blowers is not just about their environmental footprint but also about finding sustainable solutions that can support both ecological health and economic livelihoods.

## Challenges in Transitioning to Electric Blowers

The transition from gas-powered to electric leaf blowers, while environmentally beneficial, presents several financial and practical challenges for landscapers. This shift is not as straightforward as it may seem, primarily due to the differences in the operational capabilities and costs associated with electric blowers.



One of the primary challenges is the initial investment required for electric blowers. These devices, although increasingly efficient and eco-friendly, can be significantly more expensive upfront compared to their gas counterparts. This cost factor poses a substantial hurdle for many landscaping businesses, especially small-scale operators who may not have the financial flexibility to invest in new equipment.

Additionally, the practicality of using electric blowers in a professional setting raises concerns. Electric blowers, depending on their design and battery life, may not always match the power and endurance of gas blowers. This can affect the efficiency and productivity of landscaping work, as electric blowers might need frequent recharging or battery replacements throughout the day. Such operational constraints could potentially increase the time and labor required to complete landscaping tasks.

## IT'S TIME TO GO ELECTRIC



Follow the lead of 50 other California cities and mandate a switch to **zero emissions** electric blowers that are cleaner, cheaper and quieter

Recognizing these challenges, some states, like California, are taking proactive steps to ease this transition. Financial assistance programs have been introduced to help landscaping businesses offset the costs of adopting electric blowers. These initiatives not only support landscapers in making environmentally friendly choices but also play a crucial role in reducing the overall carbon footprint of lawn maintenance practices.

Despite these challenges, the move towards electric blowers is a positive step towards sustainability. It aligns with broader environmental goals, such as reducing air pollution and noise levels, and represents a significant shift in how landscaping is approached in terms of environmental responsibility. As technology advances and more support becomes available, it is likely that the transition to electric blowers will become increasingly feasible for landscaping professionals.

### Conclusion

Leaf blowers, though convenient for lawn maintenance, pose serious environmental and health risks. The growing trend of imposing restrictions and bans on these devices is a step towards addressing these issues. However, a balanced approach is necessary, considering the economic impact on landscaping professionals. As we move towards more sustainable lawn care practices, it's crucial to evaluate the benefits of technology against the need to preserve our natural environment and community health.

### FAQs

They also disrupt natural ecosystems by forcefully removing leaves that are crucial for soil health and wildlife habitats.

**2. How do leaf blowers impact human health?**

The pollutants emitted by gas-powered leaf blowers can contribute to respiratory problems, heart disease, and other health issues. Additionally, the noise generated by these devices is linked to increased stress, hearing loss, and cardiovascular risks.

**3. What are the benefits of switching to electric leaf blowers?**

Electric leaf blowers produce significantly less noise and air pollution compared to gas-powered models, making them a more environmentally friendly and health-conscious choice.

**4. Are there any laws regulating the use of leaf blowers?**

Yes, several cities and states have implemented regulations or bans on gas-powered leaf blowers due to their environmental and health impacts. These regulations vary by location, with some areas imposing time-of-day restrictions, while others have outright bans.

**5. How can I minimize the impact of leaf blowers while maintaining my yard?**

Consider using electric leaf blowers, which are less harmful, or alternative methods like raking or manual sweeping. Composting leaves instead of blowing them away can also contribute positively to your garden's ecosystem.

**6. What are some alternatives to using leaf blowers for yard maintenance?**

Alternatives include raking, using a broom for smaller areas, or mulching leaves directly on the lawn, which can provide nutrients to the soil.

**7. Can leaf blowers affect wildlife?**

Yes, the noise and disturbance caused by leaf blowers can disrupt local wildlife, particularly small creatures that rely on leaf litter for habitat and food sources.

**8. How significant is the noise pollution from leaf blowers?**

Leaf blowers can generate noise levels that exceed safe hearing thresholds, contributing to noise pollution in residential areas. This can affect the quality of life for residents and disrupt local wildlife.

**9. Are there any health risks for landscaping professionals using leaf blowers?**

Landscaping professionals are at risk of hearing damage due to prolonged exposure to the loud noise of leaf blowers. They are also exposed to the harmful pollutants these machines emit.

**10. Is there a movement or advocacy for the reduction of leaf blower usage?**

Yes, organizations like Quiet Communities and local environmental groups are advocating for reduced leaf blower usage and promoting awareness about their environmental and



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## What Are the Pros and Cons of an Electric Leaf Blower?

Electric leaf blowers offer a quieter, eco-friendly alternative to gas-powered models, with no fumes and less maintenance. However, they may lack the power of gas blowers and tether you to a battery life or cord length. Considering the balance between environmental impact and performance, which factors weigh more for your yard care needs? Explore further to find your perfect match.

Jeremy Laukkonen

Last Modified Date: January 04, 2024

Electric leaf blowers have a number of pros and cons in comparison to both gasoline leaf blowers and raking leaves manually. Some of the most common benefits of an electric leaf blower over a gas leaf blower are weight, noise output, and exhaust fumes. Electric units are typically lighter and make a lot less noise than gasoline units, though they are often less powerful as well. The primary reason to use an electric leaf blower instead of raking leaves manually is to save time, though there are also legitimate reasons to use a rake instead. Unless the electricity used to power a leaf blower comes entirely from renewable energy, using a rake is better for the environment.

The main benefit of using an electric leaf blower instead of a gasoline unit is exhaust emissions. Fumes from gasoline powered blowers can be irritating or even unhealthy, and emissions from lawn care equipment often contribute to local smog. Since electric leaf blowers use either extension cords or battery power, they generate none of the fumes or emissions associated with gasoline units. It is even more environmentally sound to simply use a rake however, especially if the electricity used to power an electric leaf blower does not come from renewable resources.

Is Amazon actually giving you a competitive price? This little known plugin reveals the answer.

Reduced weight and noise output are some other common benefits associated with electric leaf blowers. Powerful batteries can add a lot of weight, but even the heaviest electric blowers often weigh less than the lightest gasoline units. They are typically quieter as well, since the only source of sound is the blower. Gas powered units generate sound



An electric cordless leaf blower is lighter and less expensive than gasoline powered units.

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from both the blower and gasoline motor, so they tend to be substantially louder.

A general lack of power is typically considered to be the biggest drawback associated with electric leaf blowers. Heavy duty electric leaf blowers can put out a substantial amount of air at high speeds, though gasoline units tend to offer even more power. For heavy duty commercial applications, the power offered by gas blowers is typically the only viable choice.



Using a rake to rake leaves is better for the environment than an electric leaf blower.

Cord length and battery life are also potentially drawbacks when comparing an electric leaf blower to a gas unit. Electric blowers that use cords can be difficult to manage, especially when dealing with very large lawns. Extension cords, which can require extra



Leaf blowers might be used to help remove debris from gutters.

time to set up and put away, are typically needed in those cases. Battery powered units are usually more convenient, though they can also be of limited use for big jobs. Bigger batteries can offer expanded operational time between charges, though gas powered blowers still tend to last longer.

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Crime Analysis Unit, 401 Diamond Ave., Redondo Beach, CA 90277 (310) 379-2477 ext. 2635

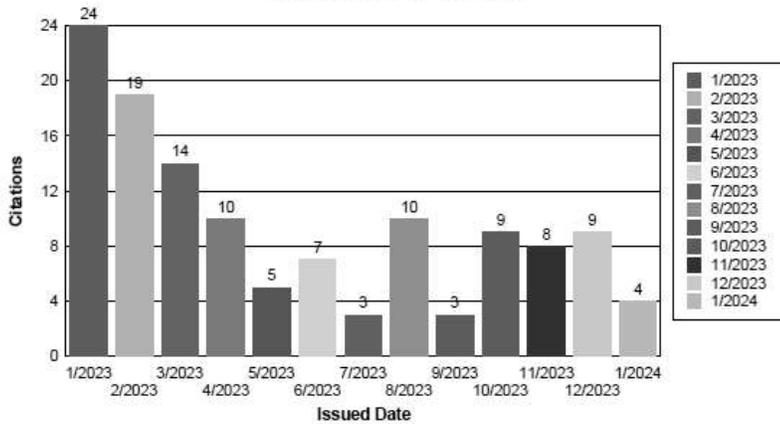
CITATION OVERVIEW ( JAN 2023– JAN 2024)

2/12/2024

## OVERVIEW by CITATIONS

- Total Citations for 2023: 121 (Average per Month: 10)
- Total Citations for 2024: 4
- Most of the citations were written between January-March. It accounted for 45% of all 2023 citations.
- Day of the week: Thursdays (34), Wednesday (26), Tuesday (22)
- Hour of Day: 0900- 1200 hrs ( Peak time: 1100hrs) Average citations written within these hours, 26 citations.
- Patrol Area: 4
- Enforcement Action: Infractions (36) / Warnings (89)
- All recipients except for 1, lives outside of Redondo Beach.

Citations by Month



1/2023	24
2/2023	19
3/2023	14
4/2023	10
5/2023	5
6/2023	7
7/2023	3
8/2023	10
9/2023	3
10/2023	9
11/2023	8
12/2023	9
1/2024	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>125</b>

Day of the Week	Total
Sunday	1
Monday	15
Tuesday	22
Wednesday	26
Thursday	34
Friday	19
Saturday	8
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>125</b>

Time of Day	Total
3	1
6	1
8	2
9	25
10	29
11	30
12	21
13	7
14	5
15	4
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>125</b>

AREA	Total
1	17
2	21
3	29
4	38
5	20
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>125</b>



# REDONDO BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT

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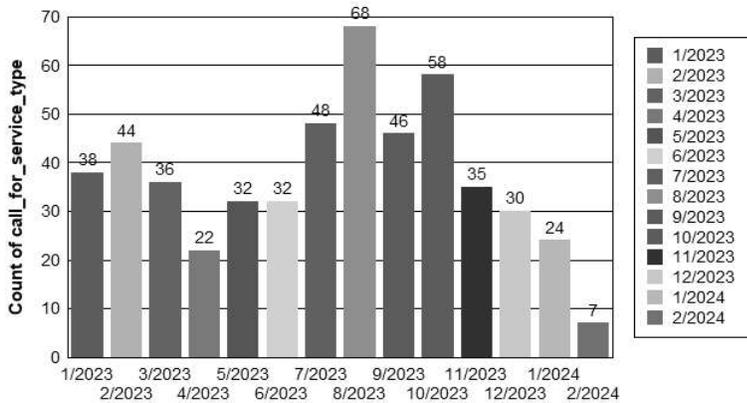
CFS OVERVIEW ( JAN 2023– JAN 2024)

2/12/2024

## OVERVIEW by CFS

- Total CFS for 2023: 489 (Average per Month: 41)
- Total CFS for 2024: 24
- Most of our CFS were between August-October. It accounted for 35% of all 2023 CFS.
- Day of the week: Thursdays (127), Friday (96), Tuesday (93)
- Hour of Day: 1000- 1200hrs ( Peak time: 1000hrs) Average CFS during this period, 77.
- Patrol Area: 4

Leaf CFS per Month



<u>1/2023</u>	<u>38</u>
<u>2/2023</u>	<u>44</u>
<u>3/2023</u>	<u>36</u>
<u>4/2023</u>	<u>22</u>
<u>5/2023</u>	<u>32</u>
<u>6/2023</u>	<u>32</u>
<u>7/2023</u>	<u>48</u>
<u>8/2023</u>	<u>68</u>
<u>9/2023</u>	<u>46</u>
<u>10/2023</u>	<u>58</u>
<u>11/2023</u>	<u>35</u>
<u>12/2023</u>	<u>30</u>
<u>1/2024</u>	<u>24</u>

Day of the Week	Total
Sunday	6
Monday	69
Tuesday	93
Wednesday	83
Thursday	127
Friday	96
Saturday	39
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>513</b>

Time of Day	Total
1	1
6	2
7	12
8	20
9	57
10	86
11	82
12	68
13	50
14	59
15	50
16	21
17	2
18	3
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>513</b>

AREA	Total
1	89
2	68
3	126
4	185
5	41
689	2
P	2
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>513</b>