

## EDGARTOWN NOISE CODE

### 131-3. Leaf Blowers.

#### A. Findings and purpose.

Both gas-powered and electric leaf blowers are used extensively throughout Edgartown. Gas-powered leaf blowers generate excessive sound and pose a serious hazard to public health and quality of life. Electric leaf blowers are quieter, emit far less objectionable low-frequency noise, and do not present the same level of risk.

#### B. Permitted Activity.

1. Starting October 15, 2025, gas-powered and electric leaf blowers shall only be used as follows:
  - a. Between the hours of 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM, 7 days a week;
  - b. No use by professional landscapers or businesses on Sundays;
  - c. No use permitted on Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, or Christmas;
  - d. No more than two leaf blowers simultaneously on the same property.
2. Starting October 15, 2025, gas-powered leaf blowers shall only be operated from October 15 through January 15 and from March 15 through May 31.

Electric-powered leaf blowers may be operated year-round.
3. Starting on May 31, 2028, gas-powered leaf blowers shall not be used at any property in the Town.
4. Starting on May 31, 2028, electric leaf blowers shall continue to be used as set forth in Section B.1 above, provided that the manufacturer's decibel rating is not more than 65 db.

C. Definition. Leaf blower means any device that uses air to move leaves, grass, and other debris.

#### D. Responsible Parties.

The following parties are responsible for any violation of this bylaw:

1. the party who employs the person operating the leaf blower; and
2. the party who owns the property where the violation occurs.

#### E. Administration and Enforcement.

1. The Town shall create and maintain an online application form for service providers to affirm their commitment to comply with the provisions of this Section 131-3. A list of service providers who have so affirmed shall be made available to the public on the Town's website.
2. The provisions of Section 131-2 concerning violations and penalties shall be applicable to violations of this Section 131-3.

Violations under this bylaw shall be enforced by the Police Department. Such acts shall constitute prima facie evidence of a violation of this chapter.

Penalties shall include: 1st offense: \$100.00, 2nd offense: \$200.00, 3rd offense: \$300.00 and any offense thereafter.

#### F. Exemptions.

The Town shall not be subject to any restrictions in this Section 131-3 to remediate the impacts of a severe weather event or accident.

#### G. Severability.

In the event that any provision of this Section 131-3 shall be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remaining provisions shall continue in full force and effect.

Adopted April 10, 2025 Annual Town Meeting