

AN ORDINANCE

NO. 4337

AN ORDINANCE To Amend The Code Of The Township Of Lower Merion, Chapter 92, Entitled Property Maintenance, Article III Thereof, Gas Powered Leaf Blowers, To Revise The Definitions Of Gas Powered Leaf Blower, Electric Powered Leaf Blower And Leaf Blower; To Specifically Exempt Leaf Removal Equipment Manufactured With The Engine And Blower Housing Permanently Integrated Into A Wheeled Chassis, Including Walk-Behind, Stand-On, Riding, And Tow-Behind Leaf Blowers; And To Otherwise Reformat Portions Of Article III.

Section 1. The Code of the Township of Lower Merion, Chapter 92, Property Maintenance, Article III, Gas Powered Leaf Blowers, § 92-5, Definitions, the definition of Gas Powered Leaf Blower, Electric Powered Leaf Blower, and Leaf Blower, shall be amended to provide as follows:

Chapter 92. Property Maintenance.

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Article III Gas Powered Leaf Blowers

§92-5 Definitions.

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Gas Powered Leaf Blower

Any device fitting the definition of leaf blower below, which is directly powered by an internal combustion or rotary engine using gasoline or other hydrocarbon fuel.

Electric-Powered Leaf Blower

Any device fitting the definition of leaf blower below, which is powered only by electric means, including but not limited to battery-powered leaf blowers, and corded leaf blowers.

Leaf Blower

A device that is commonly or primarily used, designed or operated to produce a current of air for the purpose of moving, pushing, propelling, dispersing, redistributing or blowing leaves, dust, dirt, gardening or grass clippings and cuttings, trimmings from trees and shrubs, refuse, debris, or other similar material other than snow or water, whether portable and carried, or other similar machine.

Section 2. The Code of the Township of Lower Merion, Chapter 92, Property Maintenance, Article III, Gas Powered Leaf Blowers, § 92-6, Gas Powered Leaf Blowers - Prohibitions, shall be amended by the removal of sub-section E thereof, to provide as follows:

Chapter 92. Property Maintenance.

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Article III Gas Powered Leaf Blowers

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§92-6 Gas Powered Leaf Blowers - Prohibitions.

- A. Beginning June 1, 2026 and for every year thereafter, the use of gas powered leaf blowers shall be prohibited from June 1 to October 1 (“Summer”) and from January 1 to April 1 (“Winter”) each year. This seasonal restriction shall apply to all persons and entities, including residents, commercial landscapers, contractors, and property maintenance personnel, on all properties within the Township.
- B. Beginning January 1, 2028 and for every year thereafter, the use of gas powered leaf blowers shall be prohibited from January 1 to October 1 each year.
- C. Beginning January 1, 2029 and for every year thereafter, the use of gas powered leaf blowers shall be prohibited for the entire year.
- D. The use of electric-powered leaf blowers shall be permitted all year.

Section 3. The Code of the Township of Lower Merion, Chapter 92, Property Maintenance, Article III, Gas Powered Leaf Blowers, § 92-6, Gas Powered Leaf Blowers, shall be amended by the addition of §92-7. Exemptions, to provide as follows:

Chapter 92. Property Maintenance.

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Article III Gas Powered Leaf Blowers

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§92-7 Exemptions. The following are exempt from the restrictions set forth in §92-6 above:

- A. The use of gas powered leaf blowers during snowfall and within 24 hours after snow has ceased to fall.

- B. The use of leaf removal equipment that is originally manufactured with the engine and blower housing permanently integrated into a wheeled chassis, including walk-behind, stand-on, riding, and tow-behind leaf blowers.
- C. The use of chemical sprayers, including equipment used for mosquito control and pesticide application, where the purpose of the equipment is the dispersal of chemical agents rather than the movement of air, leaves or debris.
- D. The use of mounted and/or towed leaf vacuums utilized to pull leaves into a truck.

Section 4. The Code of the Township of Lower Merion, Chapter 92, Property Maintenance, Article III, Gas Powered Leaf Blowers, §92-7, Portable Generators, §92-8, Emergency Suspensions, §92-9, Notice of Provisions and §92-10, Enforcement, shall be renumbered as follows: §92-8, Portable Generators, §92-9, Emergency Suspensions, §92-10, Notice of Provisions and §92-11, Enforcement.

Section 5. Nothing in this Ordinance or in Chapter 92 of the Code of the Township of Lower Merion, as hereby amended, shall be construed to affect any suit or proceedings in any Court, any rights acquired or liability incurred, any permit issued, or any cause or causes of action existing under the said Chapter 92 prior to the adoption of this amendment.

Section 6. The provisions of this Ordinance are severable, and if any section, sentence, clause, part, or provision thereof shall be held illegal, invalid, or unconstitutional by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such decision of this court shall not affect or impair the remaining sections, sentences, clauses, parts or provisions of this Ordinance. It is hereby declared to be the intent of the Board that this ordinance would have been adopted if such illegal, invalid or unconstitutional section, sentence, clause, part or provision had not been included herein.

Section 7. This Ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its approval as required by law.

Approved by the Board of Commissioners of the Township of Lower Merion this 17th day of June, 2026.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF LOWER MERION

Todd M. Sinai, President

ATTEST:

Jody L. Kelley, Secretary