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To: [HEE Exhibits](#)
Cc: [Sen Frederick](#); [Rep Sanchez](#); [Laine Barbanell Schipper](#)
Subject: In support of banning two-cycle gas leaf blowers; HB 3350
Date: Sunday, June 16, 2019 1:11:07 PM

Hello Oregon Legislature,

As a homeowner in Northeast Portland, I know we are subjected nearly every day to the horrible noise, and pollution, of two-cycle gasoline powered leaf blowers. We do not allow them on our property, and use a rechargeable ion battery unit ourselves, and mostly use it on low power except when we really need to blast leaves out of plant.

We understand that time-is-money for the lawn care folks, but there are alternatives — see below. And besides, these use pricey fuel, cause noise and toxic engine exhaust emissions, have already been banned in some California cities (see list where of who has [banned these blowers](#)). When our immediately adjacent neighbor to the rear, or the one across the street, has their lawn care done, the noise comes right in through closed windows and doors. And, the way they are used, it's clear that they stir up lots of dust and likely allergens as well. In short, these blowers can sicken people and our environment, and damage our quality of life and our peace of mind.

Here are some alternatives from Popular Mechanics (<https://www.popularmechanics.com/home/outdoor-projects/how-to/a9538/3-alternatives-to-a-gas-powered-leaf-blower-16001883/>).

Electric Leaf Suckers

An electric leaf blower is a good place to start. The [Black & Decker LeafHog](#), for example, offers as much or more power than most gas-powered leaf blowers without the fumes and ear-blasting noise.

Electric blowers also come equipped with a vacuum feature designed to reduce the dust and other particulates stirred up during outdoor cleanup. Vacuuming is also significantly more efficient than blowing, because it prevents debris from being blown back onto your lawn or into your neighbor's yard.

Also, many lawnmowers, including new electric models like the rechargeable [Black & Decker SPCM1936](#), offer the capability to vacuum and collect leaves.

Push Power

A more basic alternative is a [leaf collector](#). Lightweight and human-powered, leaf collectors look like lawnmowers and are used in roughly the same way. With a pass over the yard, the collector's combs scoop up the leaves and deposit them in the machine's attached bag. The whole process is quiet and fume-free. The best part: They allow you to gather leaves up to 10 times faster than with a rake.

Raking —

But then, time is money for the lawn care folks, and we're not proposing to hurt their

incomes.

In fact, since there will be an economic impact involved in getting rid of the 2-cycle blowers, it seems only fair the the State pay some compensation, perhaps a bounty fee, for each 2-cycle blower turned in with a certified replacement of one of the choices above. I'm willing to pay an assessment or tax to get that done!

Thank you for listening.

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