

# TOWNSHIP OF MAPLEWOOD



## ORDINANCE

# 2854-17

**AN ORDINANCE  
LIMITING USE OF  
GAS POWERED LEAF BLOWERS  
WITHIN THE  
TOWNSHIP OF MAPLEWOOD**

"Interpretive Statement"

This Ordinance will regulate the use of gas powered leaf blowers within the Township of Maplewood.

**WHEREAS**, the use of gas powered leaf blowers create a health hazard and annoyance to area residents; and

**WHEREAS**, the Maplewood Township Committee has held several hearings concerning the regulation of gas powered leaf blowers in the Township of Maplewood ("Township"); and

**WHEREAS**, the Township wishes to implement regulations regarding the use of gas powered leaf blowers within Township.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Township Committee of the Township of Maplewood, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

**FIRST:**

- (1) a. The use of gas powered (non-electric) leaf blowers is prohibited within the Township of Maplewood from May 15th through September 30th of each year by all commercial entities.
- b. A commercial entity shall include but not be limited to lawn maintenance businesses, tree removal or maintenance businesses, paving companies, gutter cleaning companies and shall include any person or entity charging a fee for services.
- c. Any commercial entity violating the provisions of this section shall be fined as follows:
  - (a) First Offense \$ 500.00
  - (b) Second Offense \$ 1,000.00
  - (c) For a third or subsequent offense \$ 1,500.00  
and the violator will be subject to a loss of license to perform work within the Township of Maplewood.

(2) All commercial entity workers using gas powered leaf blowers must be provided with and must wear safety equipment for hearing and breathing. Any commercial entity failing to provide and/or failing to require its workers to wear the aforementioned safety equipment, shall be subject to a fine as follows:

- |     |                                   |           |
|-----|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| (a) | First Offense                     | \$ 50.00  |
| (b) | Second Offense                    | \$ 100.00 |
| (c) | For a third or subsequent offense | \$ 150.00 |

Each day a violation continues shall be deemed a separate offense.

(3) No person or entity may deposit leaves into any street more than seven (7) days before a regularly scheduled Department of Public Works pick-up.

Anyone violating this Section shall be subject to a fine as follows:

- |     |                                   |           |
|-----|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| (a) | First Offense                     | \$ 100.00 |
| (b) | Second Offense                    | \$ 200.00 |
| (c) | For a third or subsequent offense | \$ 500.00 |

(4) The use of gas powered leaf blowers by any person or entity is permitted only as follows:

|                       |                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Monday through Friday | 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  |
| Saturdays             | 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. |

Commercial entities are not permitted to use gas powered leaf blowers on Sundays.

Residents of the Township of Maplewood may use gas powered leaf blowers on Sundays between 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

(5) In the event of a weather emergency or other emergent circumstances, the Township Emergency Management Coordinator shall be permitted to modify the restrictions of this Ordinance.

**SECOND: Severability**

If any section, paragraph, subparagraph, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to the specific section, paragraph, subparagraph, clause or provision so adjudged and the remainder of the Ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

**THIRD: Repeal of Prior Ordinances**

Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance be and the same are hereby repealed to the extent of any such inconsistencies.

**FOURTH: Effective Date**

This Ordinance shall take effect after final passage and publication and as provided by law.

**PUBLIC NOTICE** is hereby given that the foregoing proposed Ordinance was introduced and read by title at a meeting of the Township Committee of the Township of Maplewood, held on March 21, 2017, and that the Township Committee met again on April 4, 2017, at the Municipal Building, 574 Valley Street, Maplewood, New Jersey, at which time and place the Township Committee held a hearing and proceeded to consider the said Ordinance on final reading and final passage.

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**ELIZABETH J. FRITZEN, R.M.C.**  
Township Clerk