



## GAS LEAF BLOWERS: GREENWICH AIR QUALITY, HEALTH & CLIMATE

### 67.8% of Greenwich Residents are Very Concerned about Gas Blower Health and Climate Impacts

When asked about the respiratory or climate impacts of GLB's, 67.8% of the 660 responses said they are "extremely" or "very concerned" about the human health effects, and 75.3 % said they are extremely or very concerned about the climate and air quality impacts.

### Gas Leaf Blowers Emit 3 of the Top 4 Cancer-Causing Compounds and Ozone

GLB emissions include three of the top 4 cancer-causing compounds known in the US: benzene, butadiene, and formaldehyde. Gas blowers are large emitters of ground level ozone and fine particulates which cause or contribute to early death, cancer, heart attack, stroke, congestive heart failure, asthma, and chronic pulmonary disease. Evidence suggests these pollutants contribute to developmental and neurological disorders including autism. Children, seniors, and people with chronic illnesses are particularly vulnerable, however, even routine exposure in residential neighborhoods, schools, parks may be exposing the public to unnecessary and preventable health risks.

- In 2020, CA found 2 and 4-stroke engines produced more ozone than all of CA's millions of cars and trucks combined.

### Fairfield County: Most Polluted County in NYC Metro Area & Highest Ozone Readings in the Eastern U.S.

The American Lung Association's 2020 "State of the Air" report found that every county in CT continued to earn failing grades for ozone pollution. The report found Fairfield County the most polluted county in the NYC metro area with the highest ozone reading in the eastern U.S. According to Jane Reardon, MSN, of the American Lung Association, "Ozone pollution can harm even healthy people, and is particularly dangerous for children, older adults, and people with lung diseases like COPD or asthma." Ozone can shorten people's lives.

- A study by auto research group "Edmunds" found that using a gas blower for 30 minutes is the equivalent hydro-carbons of driving a 6,200lb Ford Raptor truck for 3,900 miles, the distance from Texas to Alaska.

### Mt Sinai Hospital Pediatric Environmental Health Center Alert Us to Multiple Health Hazards for Children

In a joint letter to the Town of Eastchester NY regarding gas leaf blower restrictions, the doctors at Mt Sinai's Hospital Pediatric Environmental Health Center wrote, "Internal combustion power tools and leaf blowers pose multiple hazards to human health. Children are the most susceptible members...because they breathe more air per pound of body weight. Children's vulnerability to the health effects... are further magnified as they are in the stages of early development." GLB utilize obsolete technology that combines gas and oil but releases up to 30% of unburned fuel which aerosolizes these toxins and greenhouse gasses into the air we breathe that can hang in the air for up to two weeks. Later these particles including carcinogens fall and coat the grass that our children and pets play on.