

**Petition for Town Meeting to Vote on Ordinance (Sec. 7-9)**

*to amend the Town of Ridgefield, Connecticut's Noise Ordinance Provisions  
to restrict the use of gas-powered leaf blowers*

Received

We, the undersigned, do hereby petition for the following PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO the Ridgefield Code of Ordinances Chapter 250 NOISE

2023 NOV -8 PM 12: 59

Wandy Gannon Lionelli  
Ridgefield CT Town Clerk

**Amend § 250-2. to add the following terms and definitions:**

**CLEAN-UP SEASONS** – In calendar year 2025, and thereafter: the periods of time from April 1st to May 14th; and from October 15th to November 30th.

**INTERNAL COMBUSTION LEAF BLOWER** — Any device powered by an internal combustion engine/motor which is used or designed to move leaves, grass clippings, dust, dirt, or other matter by blowing them with air emitted by such device.

**Amend § 250-4. F Exceptions to insert the text shown below in bold and underlined:**

F. **Except for Internal Combustion Leaf Blowers, noise** generated by engine-powered or motor-driven lawn care or maintenance equipment shall be exempted between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m., provided that noise discharged from exhausts is adequately muffled to prevent loud and/or explosive noises therefrom.

**Retitle § 250-7. To insert the text shown below in bold and underlined:**

§ 250-7. Motor vehicles **and Internal Combustion Leaf Blowers.**

**Amend § 250-7. to add the following provisions:**

C. Internal Combustion Leaf Blowers. Effective January 1, 2025, it shall be unlawful for any person to use, operate, or allow the use or operation of any Internal Combustion Leaf Blower, except as follows:

- Clean Up Seasons during the hours of 8 am to 7 pm Monday through Sunday. This exception does not include State or Federal holidays;
- Actions during and necessitated by an emergency;
- For agricultural operations on premises in excess of 5 acres.
- On State owned properties;
- Use by public utilities; or
- On Town-owned properties. This exception for Town-owned properties does not include those areas of the Ridgefield Golf Course which are within 500 feet of a residence.

**Amend § 250-8. to add the following provisions:**

C. For violations of this chapter related to an Internal Combustion Leaf Blower,

- (1) Violators may be served with a warning notice for the first offense. Fines for a second offense shall be in the amount of \$250. Each subsequent offense shall be \$250 or the maximum fine allowable under State statute, whichever is greater.
- (2) The person who owns the leaf blower, the person who employed the person operating the leaf blower at the time of the violation, and the person who owns the property (or for a single-family residential property the person who legally occupies the property) may be separately liable for a violation of this chapter.