

ZERO AIR POLLUTION

[www.zapla.org](http://www.zapla.org)

# Blower Use At One Residence Impacts 8 to 14 Neighbor Properties



# THE PROBLEM

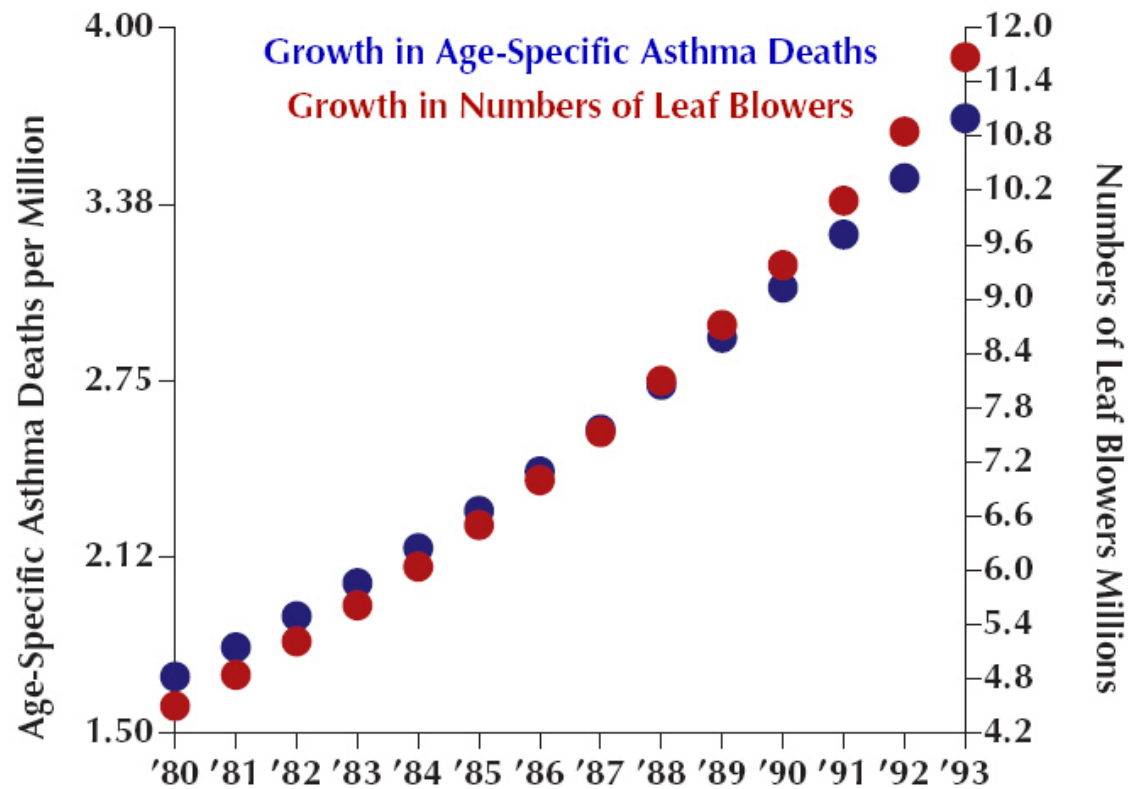
## INCREASE IN BLOWER USE

### DUST, NOISE and GAS FUMES



# WHAT MADE ME GET INVOLVED

## INCREASE IN BLOWER USE



WHAT I DID ABOUT IT  
JOINED A START-UP GRASSROOTS GROUP



[www.zapla.org](http://www.zapla.org)

**L.A.M.C§112.04 prohibits gas blowers  
within 500 feet of a residence.**

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# THE LOS ANGELES BAN

- NO GAS BLOWERS WITHIN 500 FEET OF A RESIDENCE
- “GAS” INCLUDES GASOLINE, METHANOL, PROPANE



# THE LOS ANGELES BAN

## HOW IT IS WORKING

- Makes it easier for people to talk to their neighbors, or report violations.
- Complaints are made by phone or online to Police or Street Services Hot Line.
- Where it is enforced the most, There is compliance.
- Neighborhoods are more peaceful.

### **Call Officer Moore**

Enough with the hand wringing over what to do about illegal leaf blowers! LAPD's Lead Officer for the Palisades, Michael Moore, has requested citizens to contact him about any illegal activity here in the Palisades. Since the LAPD tracks reported crime statistics to judge their own performance, a few hundred calls a month should get some action. His number is (310) 444-0737. I initially called

# WHAT DOES “SUCCESSFUL” MEAN?

- Improved public awareness
- More concern for blower operators
- Acceptance of responsibility
- Realization it is fair to report violations
- “Less” use of blowers

# OUR NEIGHBORS

- Beverly Hills repeat offenses:  
Fines increase to misdemeanor
- Santa Monica bans all blowers
- Less dependent on violation reports
- They can fine everyone involved:
  - Blower user, homeowner, business owner, apartment management company



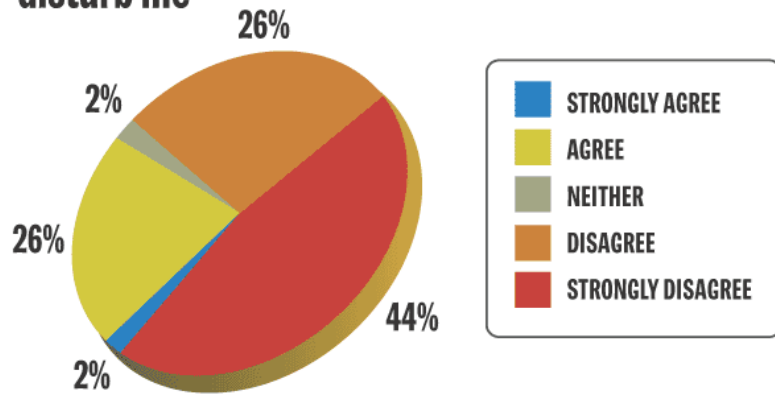
# WHAT KEPT ZAP INVOLVED

Protected our ban from opponents' propositions at state level

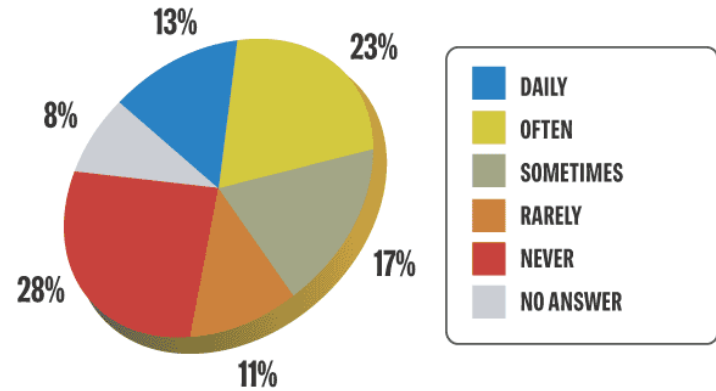
- Created a Video
- Created a Random Public Opinion Survey<sup>99</sup>

# SURVEY99

## Blowers in my neighborhood do NOT disturb me



## Forced to change daily routine



September 28, 1999

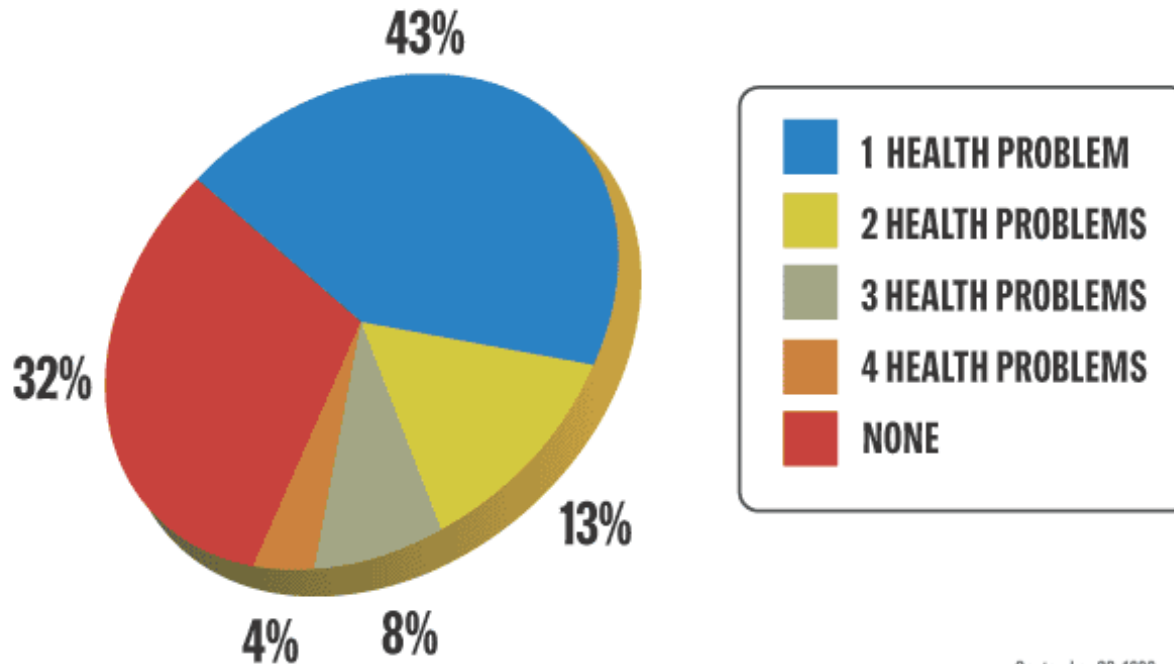
September 28, 1999

# HEALTH PROBLEMS PER HOUSEHOLD

## 95% HAVE HEALTH PROBLEMS

81% OF PARTICIPANTS WHO LISTED SPECIFIC HOUSEHOLD HEALTH PROBLEMS NOTED  
ASTHMA, EMPHYSEMA OR ENVIRONMENTAL ALLERGIES

### Health Problems Per Household



September 28, 1999

California Environmental Protection Agency



**AIR RESOURCES BOARD**

**A REPORT TO THE CALIFORNIA  
LEGISLATURE ON THE POTENTIAL  
HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL  
IMPACTS OF  
LEAF BLOWERS**

**Mobile Source Control Division**

February 2000

State of California

# WHY I AM STILL INVOLVED?

- Created zapla.org using existing knowledge and materials
  - History, Facts, Links, Advice
- Expected emails from L.A. Residents

# WHAT WE GOT . . .

## EMAILS FROM ALL OVER

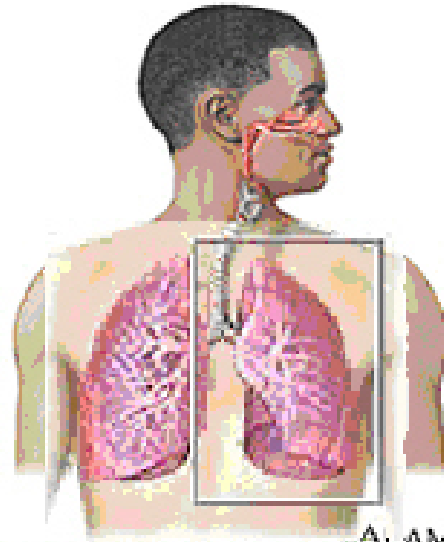
- Reporters for Newspapers, Radio, T.V.
- Grassroots groups in other towns, states, countries
- College students writing papers and planning documentaries
- Teachers planning science and health units

FROM ACROSS THE NATION,  
AND AROUND THE WORLD.



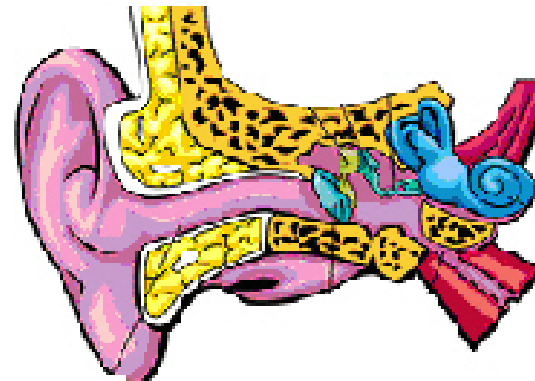
# DOUBLE JEOPARDY:

## AIR POLLUTION



[www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/asthma/children](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/asthma/children)

## AND NOISE POLLUTION







[WWW.ZAPLA.ORG](http://WWW.ZAPLA.ORG)

# THIS IS WHERE YOU COME IN!

- These people seek Green options.
- Many are willing to discuss reasonable pay increase.
- People want gardeners who will NOT use blowers when the homeowner is at work.
- They don't want to complain, tell their gardeners what to do, or look for a new gardener
- They want the landscape industry to figure out how they can be “blower free”

# LANDSCAPES DESIGNED FOR “GREEN” CLEANUP

- GREEN DESIGN AND GREEN MAINTENANCE
- WHAT IS “CLEAN ENOUGH”?
  - They don’t need every leaf removed
  - They wouldn’t mind some work being done on alternate weeks, instead of weekly
  - They are open to suggested changes that would reduce work time

# GOOGLE GIVES THE PROOF

- 107,000 results: Google Leaf Blower Pollution
- 455,000 results: Google Leaf Blower Ban
- 360,000 results: Sustainable gardening
- 56,441 hits on videos shown on just the first page results for YouTube Leaf Blower Pollution

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