

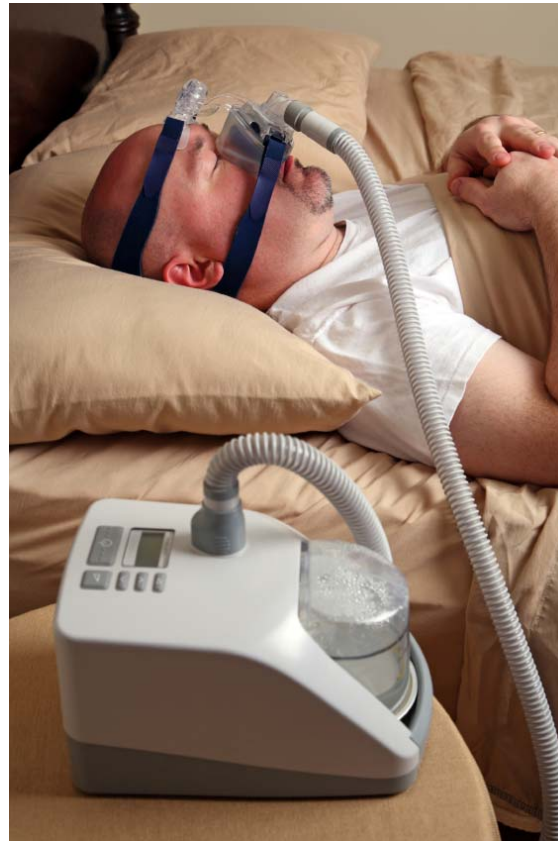


"WHY DON'T YOU USE A LEAFBLOWER? IT ANNOYS THE HELL OUT OF PEOPLE."

Orinda, Ca



Asthma, Apnea, and Allergies



Quiet Orinda Video, 2009



Quiet Orinda

by Quiet Orinda

1 year ago



2009: the QuietOrinda.com Website

QUIET ORINDA

A Forum for residents against noise and air pollution from Leaf Blowers.

Home | News | Forums | Resources | About | Contact Register | Login | FAQ | Search | Terms of Use

CBS Sunday Morning Nov. 6: We're On! - 11/05/11
The "CBS Sunday Morning with Charles Osgood" show's segment about Quiet Orinda, its founders, and the broader debris blower debate should air Sunday morning, November 6 on your local CBS station. Note: We are finishing our new quietorinda.com website. - [more info](#)

Quiet Orinda
from Quiet Orinda

QUIET ORINDA

04:07 HD :: vimeo

Join our Forum!

- Post Comments
- Important Announcements
- How You Can Help

GO

Recent Resources

- CBS Sunday Morning Nov. 6: We're On!
- New! Hear QO's Peter Kendall and GreenwichCALM.org's Founder on Sea Change Radiot
- The New Yorker's 5- page article about Quiet Orinda is here!
- More about Wendy Morton, Canadian Poet who Wrote "Anger" for Quiet Orinda
- Famous Canadian Poet, Wendy Morton, Writes a Poem for Quiet Orinda
- Report to Orinda City Council, Oct. 5, 2010 (20+ pages)
- Downtown Orinda Quietly Cleaned by Haaga Sweeper
- How Quiet is the New Stihl BR-500 Backpack Debris Blower?
- How Quiet is an Electric Leaf Blower?
- Orinda Council Member Sue Severson



Published by Quiet Orinda P.O. Box 804, Orinda, CA 94563 quietorinda@gmail.com www.quietorinda.com



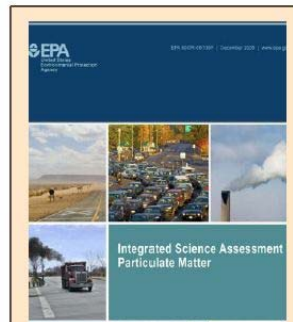
Leaf Blowers are Polluting Orinda!

In the past five years or so, the semi-rural charm, tranquility, and environment of the city of Orinda have been seriously degraded by the widespread and chronic use of leaf blowers. There's no escaping the high-pitched, whining drone of the leaf blower- the noise carries up to a mile, penetrates walls and closed windows, and distracts and annoys entire neighborhoods. What's worse, leaf blowers are gross polluters! Their smoky two-stroke engines burn a dirty oil-gas mixture, emitting far more ozone-forming vapors (CO, NO_x, hydrocarbons) than automobiles (see the section on air pollution). The airjet generated by blowers reaches up to 220 miles per hour; it easily kicks up dusty clouds of hazardous Particulate Matter (PM) that spread through the area.

Did You Know?

- One Hour of Leaf Blower Operation pollutes as much as driving a car 350 miles!
- Blowers create 2.6 pounds of fine particulates per hour; the ultrafine particles remain suspended in the air for days
- Small Children are especially at risk of developing respiratory disease like asthma

We know that PM contains dried animal fecal matter, pollens, molds, fungi, pesticides, herbicides, diesel soot, brake dust, rubber tire particles, and many more dangerous ingredients. Smoke and dust particles created when using leaf blowers are not simply a nuisance, they are harmful to our health. Fine particles suspended in the air are inhaled and deposited in the airways, reaching deep into the lungs where they may accumulate or be absorbed into the underlying tissues. Young children, pregnant women, the elderly, those physically active, and anyone with pulmonary or cardiovascular disease are at much greater risk when breathing leaf blower-caused particulate



The EPA Says:

Short-term exposure to 2.5-micron particulates (PM_{2.5}) can *cause* cardiovascular effects like congestive heart failure and mortality- the EPA's use of the term "causal" is its strongest possible descrip-

Local TV

WEATHER ALERT Track the rain with LIVE Doppler 7 maps | send pics to us

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KGO-TV SAN FRANCISCO, CA

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ACCUWEATHER

55° RAIN

WEATHER HOME

7-DAY FORECAST

LIVE DOPPLER 7 MAPS

LIVE DOPPLER 7 VIDEO

STREET-LEVEL WEATHER

East Bay News 

East Bay town fights to outlaw leaf blowers

Wednesday, May 26, 2010



01:02 / 02:00

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TAGS: orinda, youtube, east bay news, laura anthony

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 **Laura Anthony**
More: Bio, E-mail, Twitter, News Team

ORINDA, CA (KGO) -- Some residents in the East Bay hope to follow the lead of other Bay Area cities by banning leaf blowers. They've even produced their own video that's making the rounds on YouTube to prove their point.

Orinda's Peter Kendall has heard enough of what he considers noise pollution in his own backyard.

"Where we live, we can see and hear leaf blower activity up to a quarter mile away. Basically six days a week, throughout the day, we are able to listen to the symphony of leaf blower noise," he said.

Peter and his wife Susan have launched a web campaign called "Quiet Orinda." It is a petition drive designed to persuade the city council here to ban or seriously restrict the use of gas-powered leaf blowers.



KGO-TV SAN FRANCISCO, CA

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ACCUWEATHER

55° RAIN

WEATHER HOME

7-DAY FORECAST

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Presented By: **FedEx** **CBSNEWS**

VIDEO U.S. WORLD POLITICS ENTERTAINMENT HEALTHWATCH MONEYWATCH TECH SPORTS PHOTOS LOCAL MORE

Blogs: Political Hotsheet Crimsider Investigates HealthPop Celebrity Circuit Tech Talk More Shows: 60 Overtime Hotsheet Live

VIDEO Did Romney create jobs at Bain? 1 of 9

VIDEO Did Mitt Romney have a good birthday? 2 of 9

VIDEO Rescue: Sealion found in parking

Battling loud leaf blowers
November 6, 2011 9:15 AM
The battle over leaf blowers all across the country is being led by a couple in Orinda, California who are just fed up with the noise. John Blackstone reports.

29 Comments Share this Video: [Tweet](#) [5](#)

RECOMMENDED

Nature: Snowy C Montana
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Dr. Sanjay Gupta
Learning from mistakes may sa
lives
2:41 | March 11, 2012

TRowell
WISSET WITH
over 75% OF OUR I
BEAT THEIR 10-YEAR LIPPER AVI
AS OF 12/31/11
OPEN AN IRA TODAY

Results will vary for other periods.
Past performance cannot guarantee future

2.5 Million Viewers

Over 4 Million Readers:

Lamorinda Patch, June 2010

The New Yorker, Oct. 2010

LETTER FROM CALIFORNIA

BLOWBACK

The great suburban leaf war.

BY TAD FRIEND

Peter and Susan Kendall's house, in Orinda, California, is off a hilltop lane called Via Hermosa, or "Beautiful Way." Nearby streets reinforce the Arcadian theme: Dias Dorados ("Golden Days"), Linda Vista ("Beautiful View"), and El Sereno ("The Serene"). Orinda, a bedroom community of nineteen thousand people eight miles northeast

To them, Orinda's pastoral glories—its pristine gardens, best admired over a glass of Cava—are achieved at a Faustian price. That price is health, happiness, and the ability to hear yourself think. The Devil's instrument is the leaf blower: almost every homeowner employs a rackety blower to manure his yard and "hardscapes" (driveway, patio,

into the trees—aural kudzu, advancing everywhere. Kendall has a decibel meter and a laser range finder, and can pinpoint a blower a thousand feet away. "Our topography permits one blower to trespass into hundreds of homes, and Fridays and Saturdays here are a non-stop leaf-blower symphony," he said. "You can't tune it out!" A lawnmower can be just as loud, but its frequency—the wavelength that distinguishes a squeak from a rumble—remains fairly constant, and soon becomes background noise. Because a blower's pitch oscillates constantly, the machines, as one manufacturer's manual admits, "can be as difficult to ignore as a crying baby."

"My blood pressure is up just listening," Susan Kendall said. The family's dachshunds, Freddie and Fritzzy, barked mournfully.

Peter continued, "And then we try to enjoy a salad from our organic garden, and it's covered with a fine dust thrown up by these two-hundred-plus-mile-an-hour bazookas—a biohazard buffet of diesel soot, brake-lining particles, fungi, mold, spores, and animal fecal matter."

The Kendalls, who are both fifty-three, have lived in Orinda since 1994, and they brought up two children here. Peter has sleep apnea, which made him so groggy that, in 2006, he retired from his job as a bond trader. At home, he began to notice how noisy the neighborhood had become, and how his asthma flared whenever he biked through blower-created dust clouds. (Susan, who works part time as a registered nurse, also suffers from asthma attacks.)

Last fall, Peter and Susan published a letter in three local papers suggesting that the city ban blowers and that everyone return to using rakes and brooms. Energized by the support they got, the couple spent four thousand



Depending on whom you ask, leaf blowers are vital garden equipment or a noisy menace.

[Government](#)

Orinda "No Blow" Summit Attracts National Attention

Is Orinda witnessing the birth of a national movement or another example of the Nanny State mentality? Time will tell, but something is happening in our backyard...

By J.D. O'Connor | [Email the author](#) | June 30, 2010

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New QuietOrinda.com 2012

The screenshot shows the homepage of QuietOrinda.com. At the top is a green header with the site logo and navigation links. Below the header is a dark navigation bar with links for HOME, NEWS, RESOURCES, VIDEOS, CONTACT, and FORUM. The main content area features a large background image of a lake with a building. A prominent yellow banner for 'SUNDAY MORNING' is displayed, followed by a news article titled 'CBS Sunday Morning Nov. 6: We're On!'. To the right, there are two call-to-action buttons: 'Sign our online petition' and 'The No Blowers Network'. Below the main article, there are two smaller articles: 'Terra Nova: USA's Greenest Landscaper!' and 'Air Quality Agency to Host Lawn Care Conference: We'll be There!'. On the right side, there is a video player for 'Quiet Orinda' and a 'RESOURCES' section with a link to 'Quiet Orinda Small Brochure'.

QUIETORINDA

Welcome to Quiet Orinda's New Website
Link To the CBS Sunday Morning Segment
To Viewers of the CBS Sunday Morning
From our forum Please [login](#) or [register](#) to post

HOME NEWS RESOURCES VIDEOS CONTACT FORUM

SUNDAY MORNING

CBS Sunday Morning Nov. 6: We're On!

The "CBS Sunday Morning with Charles Osgood" show's segment about Quiet Orinda, its founders, and the broader debris blower debate aired Sunday morning, November 6 on your local CBS station. You can watch the complete segment on our Videos page.

11.05.11 by Quiet Orinda [Continue](#)

WHO WE ARE

Quiet Orinda is dedicated to promoting cleaner air and quieter soundscapes for all residents of Orinda, through the promotion of green gardening, community education, and sensible legislation.

[Sign our online petition](#)
Make your voice heard

[The No Blowers Network](#)
View our partner communities

Terra Nova: USA's Greenest Landscaper!

In Santa Cruz, California Ken Foster, owner of Terra Nova Ecological Landscaping runs a green lawn care and landscaping business. But what's really special about Terra Nova is its website and blog, where Terra Nova explains everything about eco-friendly landscaping.

Air Quality Agency to Host Lawn Care Conference: We'll be There!

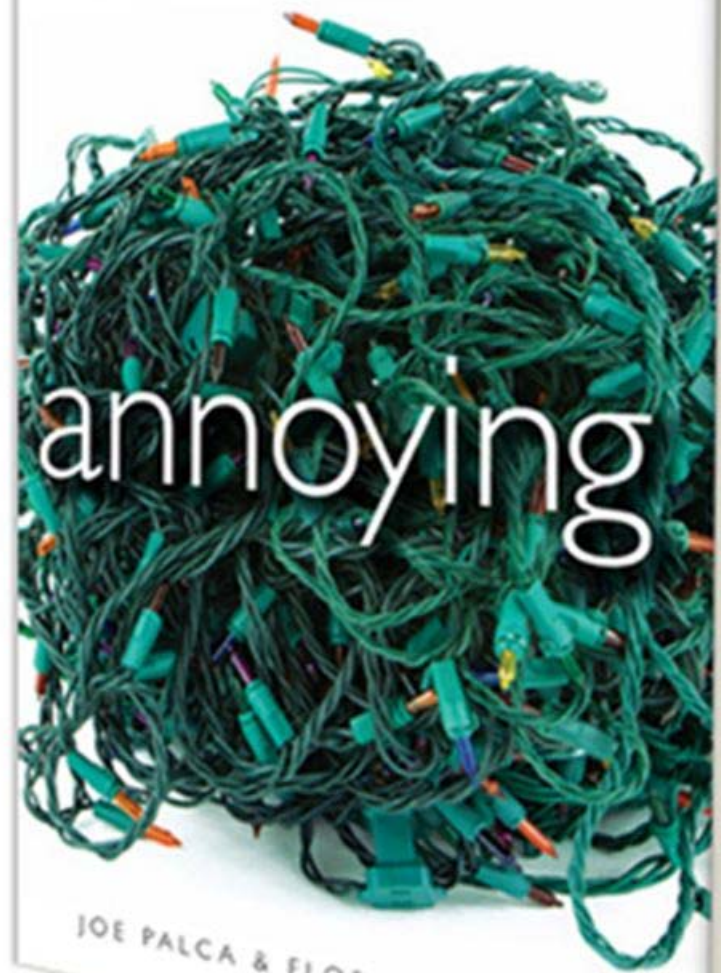
Fresno, California: On March 21, 2012, the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District will host its Lawn Care Conference. Bringing together pollution experts, scientists, the Calif. Lawn Care Association, green landscapers, community groups, and industry reps, the conference will showcase the "best practices" for clean gardening. The latest

Quiet Orinda

RESOURCES **VIDEOS**

Quiet Orinda Small Brochure
[READ MORE AND DOWNLOAD...](#)
tags community orinda

THE SCIENCE OF WHAT BUGS US



annoying

JOE PALCA & FLORA LICHTMAN

Blowers Cause Extreme Noise Pollution

“A Propeller Mated to a Chainsaw Engine Producing EF-5 Tornado Windspeeds”

Decibels Only Explain Part of the Problem!

74 db generates 79 times more acoustic energy than 65 db (like Richter scale)

USA tests in an open field from 50 feet away; Europe...?

Used Blowers are louder, and terrain amplifies the noise

3 “U’s” Unpleasant, Unpredictable, Uncertain when it ends = “Annoying!”

135 Homes Hear One Blower, Over ¼ Mile Away



Only 2 of 7 Echo Backpack Blowers are 65 db

SPECIFICATIONS

BACKPACK BLOWERS

Model	Blower Type	Engine Displacement (cc)	Carburetor (w/Purge Pump)	Starting System	Fuel Capacity (fl. oz.)	See-through Fuel Tank	Helper Handle	Average Air Volume (cfm-pipe) Round/Flared	Maximum Air Speed (mph-pipe) Round/Flared	dB(A)*	Dry Weight (lb)**
PB-265L	Backpack	25.4	Rotary	i-30™	21	Standard	Standard	355	135	65	13.3
PB-410	Backpack	39.7	Diaphragm†	Standard	47.3	Standard	Standard	380	175	72	24.2
PB-460LN	Backpack	44	Diaphragm	Standard	64	Standard	Standard	380	175	65	26.4
PB-500H/T	Backpack	50.8	Diaphragm	Standard	61.2	Standard	Standard	450	162	70	22.9/21.8
PB-620H	Backpack	58.2	Diaphragm	Standard	56	Standard	Standard	530	185	72	20.9
PB-620ST	Backpack	58.2	Diaphragm	Standard	56	Standard	Standard	530	185	72	22
PB-770H/T	Backpack	63.3	Diaphragm	Standard	68.3	Standard	Standard	765	204	74	24.3/23.8

* per ANSI B175.2-2002. **With standard pipes. †Without purge pump.

HANDHELD BLOWERS

Model	Blower Type	Engine Displacement (cc)	Carburetor (w/Purge Pump)	Pro-Fire® Electronic Ignition	Fuel Capacity (fl. oz.)	See-through Fuel Tank	Helper Handle	Average Air Volume (cfm-pipe)	Maximum Air Speed (mph-pipe)	dB(A)*	Dry Weight (lb)**
PB-250	Handheld	25.4	Rotary	Standard	16.9	Standard	N.A.	390	135	68	9.9
PB-255	Handheld	25.4	Diaphragm	Standard	16.9	Standard	N.A.	345	160	65	10.4

* per ANSI B175.2-2002. **With standard pipes.

\$490 Retail
380 cfm,
175 mph airjet
26.4 pounds

PB-460LN
44cc Backpack Blower
The Quiet 1™, with only 65 dB(A) at wide open throttle, features patented sound attenuation technology 
MSRP: \$489.99 *

[LOCATE A STORE](#) [BUY NOW](#)



PB-500H
50.8 cc Backpack Blower with Hip-Mounted Throttle
Combines dependability and comfort with economical performance 
MSRP: \$329.99 *

[LOCATE A STORE](#) [BUY NOW](#)



PB-500T
50.8 cc Backpack Blower with Tube-Mounted Throttle
Combines dependability and comfort with economical performance 
MSRP: \$329.99 *

[LOCATE A STORE](#) [BUY NOW](#)



PB-755SH
63.3 cc Backpack Blower with Hip-mounted Throttle
Combines dependability and comfort with economical performance
MSRP: \$439.99 *

[LOCATE A STORE](#) [BUY NOW](#)



PB-755ST
63.3 cc Backpack Blower with Tube-mounted Throttle
Combines dependability and comfort with economical performance
MSRP: \$439.99 *

[LOCATE A STORE](#) [BUY NOW](#)



PB-770H
63.3 cc Backpack Blower with Hip-Mounted Throttle
ECHO's most powerful blower featuring hip-mounted throttle control 
MSRP: \$499.99 *

[LOCATE A STORE](#) [BUY NOW](#)



Only \$10 More:
765 cfm
204 mph airjet
23.8 pounds
74bb = 79 times
more sound
pressure

Bay Area Air Quality Management District, Feb. 2010:



BAY AREA
AIR QUALITY
MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT
SINCE 1955

ALAMEDA COUNTY
Tom Peters

February 24, 2010

Peter G. Kendall, Founding Member
Quiet Orinda
35 Via Hermosa
Orinda, CA 94563

Dear Mr. Kendall:

Thank you for your letter of January 20, 2010 requesting general information on small particles, especially those from diesel engine exhaust, in Orinda, California, and more specific information on the role leaf blowers may play in adding to local exposure both from direct emissions and re-entrainment of particles. Please find attached responses to your questions.

The Air District recommends that leaf blowers not be used in local communities to avoid causing difficulty for people with breathing difficulties.

Now We See Just How “Clean” the Blowers Really Are!

\$273,000

Emissions Test: Car vs. Truck vs. Leaf Blower

Media Player



00:00

02:38

▶ PLAY

✉ email

🔗 get link



🔑 get code

🔧

🔊

☰ MENU

The Automotive Research Center (AAA) Test Dec., 2011 Diamond Bar, CA

	NMHC	NO_x	CO
 2011 Ford Raptor	0.005	0.005	0.276
2012 Fiat 500	0.016	0.010	0.192
Ryobi 4-stroke leaf blower	0.182	0.031	3.714
 Echo 2-stroke leaf blower	1.495	0.010	6.445

The Clean, Green Echo PB-500T is a Gross Polluter:

23 Times MORE Carbon Monoxide than the Ford 6.2L 411hp V-8 Raptor

2 Times MORE Oxides of Nitrogen

300 Times MORE Non-Methane Hydrocarbons!

In 30 minutes, the Echo emits as much HC emissions as driving 3,887 Miles!

Or, 30 Minutes of Blowing = 64.7 hours of driving – around and around your home!

The More You Use 'Em, the *Dirtier* They Get!

- Dust Clogs the Air Filter> Richer Mixture> Unburned Fuel in Exhaust
- Piston and Rings Wear, Allowing Fuel and Exhaust to Escape
- Exhaust Mufflers Rust and Break Down, Increasing Noise
- Operators Scrape Nozzle on Hardscape, Shortening Its Length
- Short Nozzles are Much Louder, and Much Harder to Aim
- Imprecise Mixing of Oil with Gasoline Causes Blue Smoke, Excess Wear

Coast to Coast, Groups Form

Greenwich, CT 2012

Greenwich CALM.org
Greenwich Citizens Against Leafblower Mania

Home Health Hazards Guestbook Members Contact Us Calendar Photo Gallery Volunteer & Support

Who are we? Links News

Health Hazards

Search... view: full / summary

Health hazards of leaf blowers

Posted by GreenwichCalm on April 1, 2011 at 4:35 PM comments (7)

Regarding the issue of the health impacts of leaf blowers, consider that:

- The World Health Organization recommends noise levels of 55 decibels or less, 45 decibels to meet sleep criteria. A leaf blower generally measures at least 70-75 decibels at 50 feet away and far higher at close range.
- The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has found that noise levels over 75 decibels can cause hearing loss and are harmful to human health.
- According to the California Air Resources Board the types of air pollutants emitted when using a gasoline-powered leaf blower for half an hour are equivalent to those emitted from 440 miles of automobile travel at 30mph average speed. Compared to an average

Categories
noise and auditory damage (0)

About

Our mission is to reduce the use of leafblowers in Greenwich. One important action we are taking is seeking the Town of Greenwich to ban leafblowers between April 15-Oct 15 within the Town.

We also hope citizens will individually reduce their use of these machines by choosing instead to rake or sweep and to ask hired gardeners or landscapers to do the same. Each of us can ask our school, our clubs, our work places, and any other organizations we are involved in to also reduce their use of leafblowers.

We want to reclaim the enjoyment of our backyards. We want to be able to again enjoy walks or bike rides

Los Angeles, 1990s

ZERO AIR POLLUTION
Los Angeles

Research, facts and experiences regarding the Los Angeles leaf blower ban and the California State Legislative process.

search the site SEARCH

LINKS PRESENTATION MATERIALS

OVERVIEW DEBATE HEALTH ACTION

WELCOME

NEWS FLASH

ZAP - This is a blower free zone.

What's on this page:

- [Who We Are](#)
- [About Our Intent](#)
- [About the Leaf Blower Ban and other relevant laws](#)
- [About This Site](#)

Public Opinion Survey 1999

THE LOS ANGELES LEAF BLOWER ORDINANCE VIOLATION REPORT PHONE NUMBERS APPEAR ON THE BOTTOM OF THIS AND OF EACH NEW SECTION PAGE, and in our [Reference Links](#) and Sources.

Welcome to our Award Winning site. Before you navigate to other sections, we suggest that you first read [About This Site](#) below, and [Definitions of Terms](#) used on this web site.

ZAPLA.ORG MISSION STATEMENT: To encourage compliance with leaf blower bans and restrictions by providing facts, opinions, and access to sources and to resources.

This web site is intended as a public service, and is provided by volunteers, with their own donations of time and money. It is a record of our research and our experiences, which mimic those of other towns across the nation that have sought blower bans. It is an alert to, and support for, those who contemplate bans. It may serve as warning not to compromise too much.

Los Angeles Residents, if your neighbors can't or won't control their gardeners after your polite requests, **REPORT** a blower in progress to [877-275-5273](#) and select number 1, Non-Emergency Crimes. This is a toll-free non-emergency police assistance number. It is more easily remembered as [877-ASK-LAPD](#). Please place it around your house, on telephones, for use when there is not a life-threatening emergency, but you need to speak to the Police.

Report every occurrence of ongoing VIOLATIONS TO [213-485-3711](#). The previous 800 report number was discontinued by the year 2003.

Also report to your local Neighborhood Prosecutor. This program was established about 2002 to put L.A. residents in closer touch with the City Attorney's office. Tell the Prosecutor that this is a quality of life issue for you, which includes health concerns. Invite the Prosecutor to a Community Council or other neighborhood meeting. Again, see our

Strategy for Today and Tomorrow

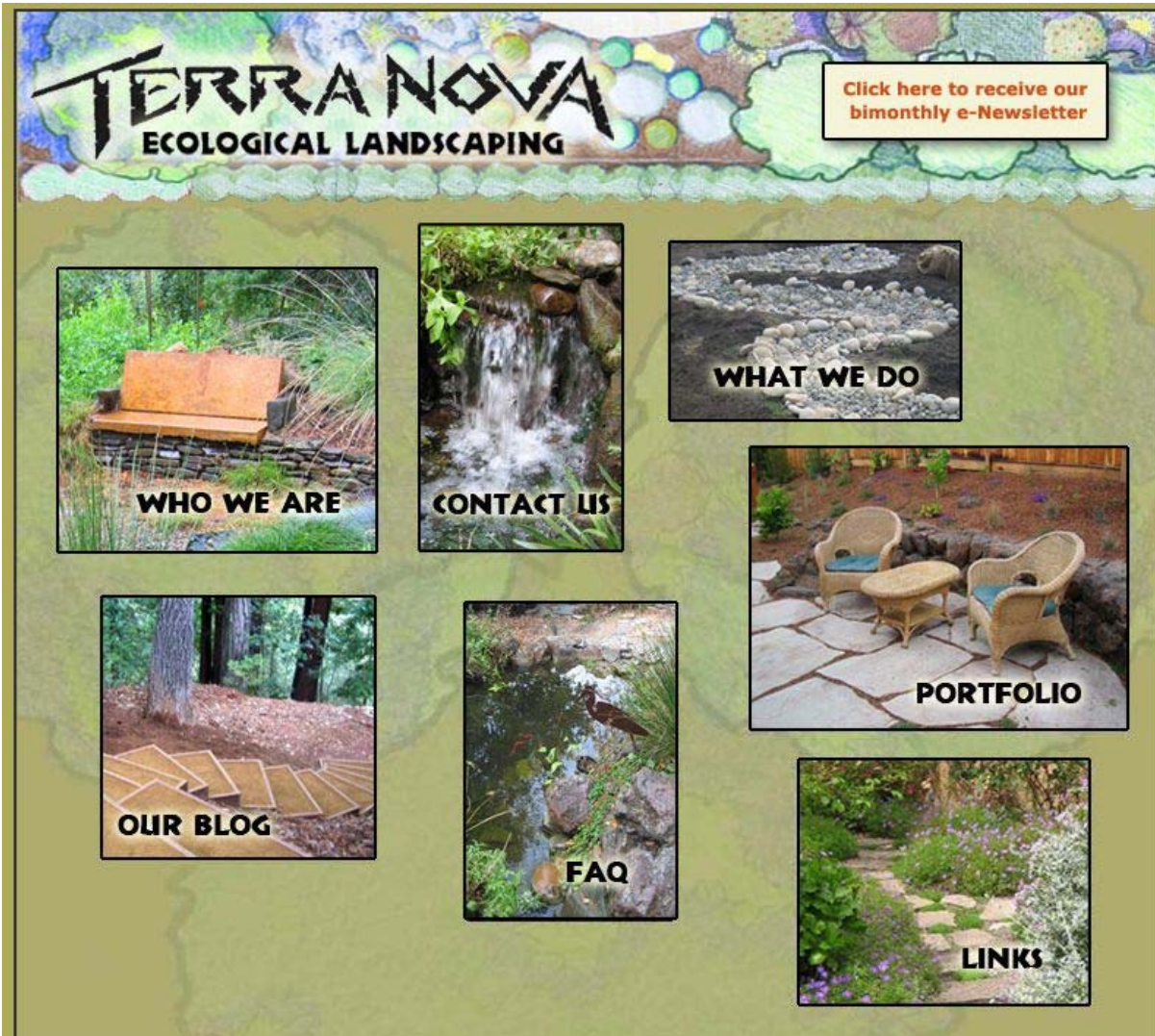
Environmental Science, and Community Groups

- Conduct Real-World Tests of PMs and Emissions at the Neighborhood Level
- Recognize Blowers as one of Top Polluters in Neighborhoods
- Promote Education and Alternatives
- Build Accessible Database of Research
- Create Linked Network of Community Websites

Landscapers, Gardeners, Yard Maintenance Firms

- Recognize the opportunity
- Offer Both Kinds of Service
- Garner Free Publicity through Patch Articles and websites/blogs
- Establish an early and substantial market share of a small, but mushrooming market
- Understand the future of lawn care will eventually be mostly “green”

Santa Cruz-based TerraNova Landscaping



Terra Nova Ecological Landscaping blog

HOME ECOLOGICAL LANDSCAPE DESIGN EVENTS AND SPEAKING EVENTS LANDSCAPE AUDITS PLANT IN FOCUS RAIN TUBE SANTA CRUZ GREEN BUSINESS NETWORK

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Permaculture
Sustainable Landscaping

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The Blow by Blow on Leaf Blower Abuse

25 JAN

I try to keep a level head and my language clean when I'm writing but when it comes to leaf blowers all bets are off, because leaf blowers blow, or that is they suck, if you know what I mean. My favorite descriptive term for these devices is "Polluting-Noise-Bazookas". Need I say more?



Here at Terra Nova Ecological Landscaping we support a leaf blower ban and we recognize that we are in the minority within our industry on this subject. We must be an oxymoron. I mean, how can we be a landscape business and not be completely enamored with the omnipresent labor-saving device known as the leaf blower? This is a touchy subject or should I say a noisy one? Everyone has an opinion about gas powered leaf blowers, from the folks like myself who refer to them as Polluting Noise Bazookas, to those who think of them as indispensable and use them as a primary tool in outdoor janitorial work. I thought it would be helpful to lay out the issue blow by blow if you will.

It is good to understand both sides of the story. Believe me, I know, I've been there. "My Escape from the Land of the Two-stroke Back-pack Bowers" is an article I wrote a few years ago to tell my story. While I do address *electric* leaf blowers, what follows primarily discusses the use of gas-powered leaf blowers because they are the main offenders in this story.

My friend Steve Zien is Executive Director of Biological Urban Gardening Services (BUGS), an international membership organization of professional landscapers. He states, "BUGS has opposed the use of leaf blowers for many years for a variety of reasons. There are many hidden costs when utilizing blowers regularly. The leaf blower is perhaps the most over-used and inappropriately used landscape tool. Autumn's tremendous amount of organic debris that requires collection might be considered appropriate use of this tool. However, the weekly routine of blowing abuses the soil and damages landscape plants while the noise creates ill will from neighbors and clients alike."

You Tested This?

ECHO

BLOW

PB-265L

Comfortable operation coupled with low noise performance.

- 65 dB(A)*
- Ideal for noise sensitive environments
- 25.4 cc professional-grade 2-stroke engine
- 30% reduction in starting effort
- Positive locking pipe connection system
- Padded backrest and shoulder straps
- Variable speed throttle with cruise control



* Per ANSI B175.2-2002



BLOW

PB-265L

Comfortable operation coupled with low noise performance.

- 65 dB(A)*
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- 25.4 cc professional-grade 2-stroke engine
- 30% reduction in starting effort
- Positive locking pipe connection system
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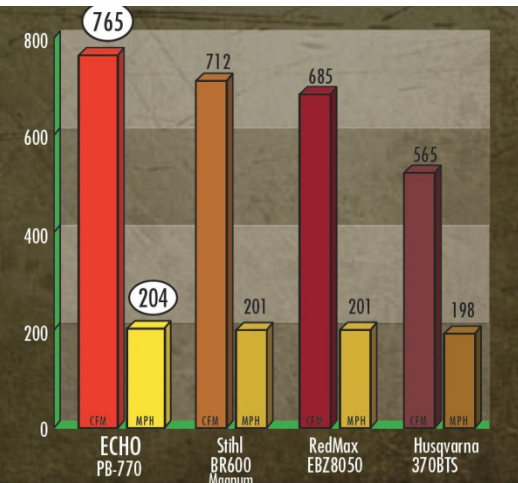


* Per ANSI B175.2-2002

PB-770

ECHO's most powerful backpack blower.

- 63.3 cc professional-grade 2-stroke engine
- Easy-to-reach tube-mounted (PB-770T) or hip-mounted (PB-770H shown) throttle with cruise control
- Side-mounted, heavy-duty, dual-stage air filtration
- Padded backrest and shoulder straps
- Exclusive vented back pad for user comfort in hot weather
- Leaf guard
- Positive locking pipe connection system



SPECIFICATIONS

BACKPACK BLOWERS

Model	Blower Type	Engine Displacement (cc)	Carburetor (w/Purge Pump)	Starting System	Fuel Capacity (fl. oz.)	See-through Fuel Tank	Helper Handle	Average Air Volume (cfm-pipe) Round/Flared	Maximum Air Speed (mph-pipe) Round/Flared	dB(A)*	Dry Weight (lb)**
PB-265L	Backpack	25.4	Rotary	i30™	21	Standard	Standard	355	135	65	13.3
PB-410	Backpack	39.7	Diaphragm†	Standard	47.3	Standard	Standard	380	175	72	24.2
PB-460LN	Backpack	44	Diaphragm	Standard	64	Standard	Standard	380	175	65	26.4
PB-500H/T	Backpack	50.8	Diaphragm	Standard	61.2	Standard	Standard	450	162	70	22.9/21.8
PB-620H	Backpack	58.2	Diaphragm	Standard	56	Standard	Standard	530	185	72	20.9
PB-620ST	Backpack	58.2	Diaphragm	Standard	56	Standard	Standard	530	185	72	22
PB-770H/T	Backpack	63.3	Diaphragm	Standard	68.3	Standard	Standard	765	204	74	24.3/23.8

* per ANSI B175.2-2002. **With standard pipes. †Without purge pump.

HANDHELD BLOWERS

Model	Blower Type	Engine Displacement (cc)	Carburetor (w/Purge Pump)	Pro-Fire® Electronic Ignition	Fuel Capacity (fl. oz.)	See-through Fuel Tank	Helper Handle	Average Air Volume (cfm-pipe)	Maximum Air Speed (mph-pipe)	dB(A)*	Dry Weight (lb)**
PB-250	Handheld	25.4	Rotary	Standard	16.9	Standard	N.A.	390	135	68	9.9
PB-255	Handheld	25.4	Diaphragm	Standard	16.9	Standard	N.A.	345	160	65	10.4

* per ANSI B175.2-2002. **With standard pipes.

Why Not This?

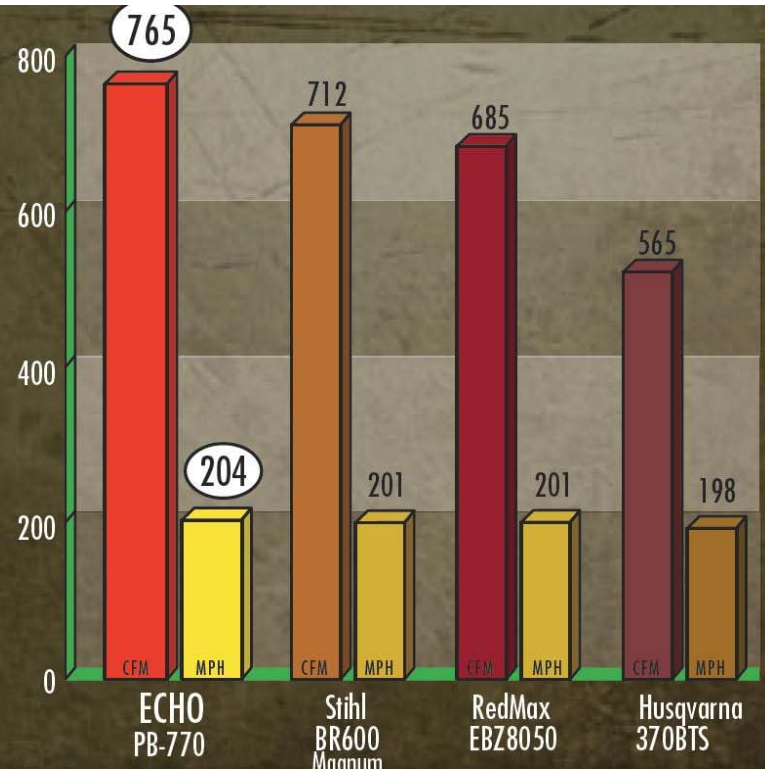
205 mph air velocity = EF 5 Tornado: “Violent”

765 cubic feet of air blown per minute = 8 x 12 x 8' high roomful

PB-770

ECHO's most powerful backpack blower.

- 63.3 cc professional-grade 2-stroke engine
- Easy-to-reach tube-mounted (PB-770T) or hip-mounted (PB-770H shown) throttle with cruise control
- Side-mounted, heavy-duty, dual-stage air filtration
- Padded backrest and shoulder straps
- Exclusive vented back pad for user comfort in hot weather
- Leaf guard
- Positive locking pipe connection system



Deny, Confuse, Deflect, Incite Controversy

“Doubt is our product”: PR versus science

Posted on April 7, 2008 | 4 Comments

How can a public relations campaign win against clear scientific evidence? The tobacco companies found the way to do it.



Chesterfield cigarette advertisement, 1930.

The Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corp. produced an internal document called “Smoking and Health Proposal”^[1] in the summer of 1969. A copy is available in the library archive, chart B&W’s plans to deal with the scientific evidence of smoking with lung cancer and heart disease.

Doubt is our product since it is the best means of competing with the fact that exists in the mind of the general public. It is also the means of establishing a controversy. Within the business we recognize that a controversy exists. However, with the general public the consensus is that cigarettes are in some way harmful to the health. If we are successful in establishing a controversy at the public level, then there is an opportunity across the real facts about smoking and health. Doubt is also the limit of our “product”. Unfortunately, we cannot take a position directly opposing

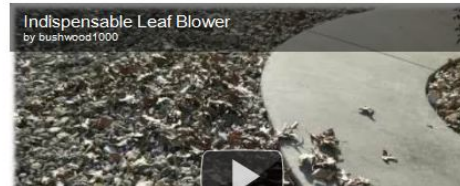


Leaf Blower Noise! What Noise?

Are leaf blowers really that noisy? Oh, I know what you're thinking. Of course they are. Right?

Well, not really. Sure, there are still some older blowers in service that are quite noisy, but today's new blowers are very different. All are quieter than they used to be. Many are as much as 75% quieter than blowers manufactured a decade ago.

The reason I bring this up is because there are people that want to ban the use of leaf blowers due to the way they sound. A ban would be a problem for those that depend on the blower to make a living. I'm sure the homeowner would complain as well because losing the leaf blower impacts the cleanliness of his yard and the amount of time it takes to spruce up his property. If he owns a blower, he's not going to like scrapping it either, especially if he just bought it for anywhere from \$150 to \$400. My goal here is to present the facts about leaf blowers and suggest alternatives to a ban.



*Larry Wilf <wilf@cox.net>

04/11/2011 04:41 PM

*First Selectman Peter Tesi
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bcc:

Subject: Potential Leaf Blower Ban in Greenwich

April 11, 2011

First Selectman Peter Tesi
Selectman Davis N. Thisi
Selectman Drew Marzullo
Town Administrator, John Cray

Gentlemen:

Greenwich is a city with attractive gardens and other landscape intricacies that require professional caretakers. People living in your city expect perfection in the care of their yards. They also expect the public area to be well cared for. So when you hear someone from your community arguing against the leaf blower, well, a bit of a dilemma presents itself to you. How do you satisfy those with sensitive ears without alienating those that want to maintain beautiful properties? I would like to help you understand the issues, which in turn will help you with your forthcoming decision.

I am a retired Vice President of Engineering for Echo Inc., a leading manufacturer of powered lawn care products. My employer, (company info below) has retained me after my retirement to address leaf blower concerns all over the United States and Canada. My assignment is not to negatively influence the outcome of a local decision, but rather, it is to provide up-to-date information about products presently being manufactured so an informed decision can be made.

To begin with, let me say that most cities addressing this issue have avoided banning leaf blowers. As an alternative, many have introduced some kind of control that results in environmental improvements while satisfying the issues of leaf blower ban protagonists. There are several different approaches a city can take. To help you decide which is best for you, the following facts have been put together for your consideration:

Banning

One should take into account the many improvements made to leaf blowers over recent years and