



ORDINANCE 1816
AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING CHAPTER 9.32 LEAF BLOWERS

SECTION 1.

Chapter 9.32 - LEAF BLOWERS

9.32.010 - PURPOSE AND INTENT.

The Borough of Glen Ridge hereby finds that the unlimited use and operation of Leaf Blowers impairs the environmental, social welfare, health, peace and quality of life of persons residing in Glen Ridge. The Borough of Glen Ridge wishes to strengthen its commitment to public health and wellness and environmental sustainability. The purpose of this Ordinance is to minimize the adverse impact of Leaf Blowers by restricting their use within the Borough.

9.32.020 – DEFINITIONS.

- (1) **“Commercial Operator”** means any person or entity who in the normal course of business receives direct compensation from a Property Owner or one acting in the place or on behalf of a Property Owner for services which includes or involves the use of a Leaf Blower on any Property.
- (2) **“Debris”** means grass clippings, leaves, sticks, tree branches, dust, dirt, and similar droppings and/or waste as encountered in yard and lawn maintenance.
- (3) **“Electric-Powered Leaf Blower”** means a piece of equipment that (a) is intended to blow a volume of air and (b) is used primarily for but not exclusively to move or blow Debris and (c) is powered solely by an electric motor, whether using a battery or a cord and used primarily for but not exclusively to move or blow Debris.
- (4) **“Gas-Powered Leaf Blower”** means a piece of equipment that (a) is intended to blow a volume of air and (b) is used primarily for but not exclusively to move or blow Debris and (c) is powered by a two-stroke or four-stroke engine using gasoline or mixture of gasoline and oil blend as fuel.

- (5) **"Leaf Blower"** means any Electric-Powered Leaf Blower, Gas-Powered Leaf Blower and/or Turbo Blower.
- (6) **"Non-Commercial Operator"** means any person or entity not a Commercial Operator.
- (7) **"Property"** means any property located in the Borough of Glen Ridge and designated with a tax block and tax lot.
- (8) **"Property Owner"** means the owner of any Property as shown on the tax records of the Borough of Glen Ridge.
- (9) **"Turbo Blower"** means a piece of equipment (including a "Buffalo Blower") that (a) is intended to blow a large volume of air and (b) is used primarily for but not exclusively to move or blow Debris and (c) is connected to a small tractor, golf cart or other vehicle.

9.32.030 - LIMITATION ON ELECTRIC-POWERED LEAF BLOWERS.

- (1) The use and operation of Electric-Powered Leaf Blowers shall be permitted throughout the calendar year subject in all cases to the limitations set forth in (2) below.
- (2) Electric-Powered Leaf Blowers may be used and operated only as follows:
 - (a) Mondays through and including Fridays between 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., except that Non-Commercial Operators may use Electric-Powered Leaf Blowers between 8:30 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.
 - (b) Saturdays between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
 - (c) Sundays and legal holidays in the State of New Jersey between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

9.32.040 - LIMITATION ON GAS-POWERED LEAF BLOWERS.

- (1) The use and operation of Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers are permitted in each calendar year only during the period from April 1 to May 15, inclusive, and during the period from October 15 to December 15, inclusive. They are otherwise not permitted.
- (2) During the periods allowed by (1) above, Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers may be used and operated only as follows:

- (a) Mondays through and including Fridays between 8:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m., except that Non-Commercial Operators may use Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers between 8:30 a.m. and 8:00 p.m.
- (b) Saturdays between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
- (c) Sundays and legal holidays in the State of New Jersey between 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

9.32.050 - LIMITATION ON TURBO BLOWERS.

- (1) The use and operation of Turbo Blowers are permitted in each calendar year only during the period from March 15 to November 30, inclusive. They are otherwise not permitted.
- (2) Turbo Blowers shall only be permitted for use on properties of 5 acres or greater.
- (3) During the period allowed by (1) above, Turbo Blowers may be used and operated only as follows:
 - (a) Mondays through and including Fridays between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.
 - (b) Saturdays between 7:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.
 - (c) Sundays and legal holidays in the State of New Jersey between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

9.32.060 - APPLICATION OF CHEMICALS.

In no event shall any Leaf Blower be used for chemical application.

9.32.070 – MUFFLERS.

It shall be a violation hereof to operate any Gas-Powered Leaf Blower or Turbo Blower in the Borough of Glen Ridge without a properly functioning muffler.

9.32.080 - RESPONSIBILITIES OF PROPERTY OWNERS, BUSINESS OPERATORS, LANDLORDS, TENANTS AND OCCUPANTS.

- (1) Commercial Operators, Non-Commercial Operators and Property Owners shall each have all the duties and responsibilities prescribed in this Ordinance.

- (2) Commercial Operators, Non-Commercial Operators and Property Owners shall not be relieved from any duty or responsibility under this Ordinance by reason of the fact that any other of them is additionally responsible therefore and in violation thereof.
- (3) A Commercial Operator's violation of any provision of this Ordinance shall be considered a violation by both the Commercial Operator and the Property Owner of the Property on which the violation occurred and each shall be separately punishable as set forth in 9.32.100. It shall be no defense to a Commercial Operator's violation of this Ordinance that its actions were directed by a Property Owner or a Non-Commercial Operator.
- (4) A Non-Commercial Operator's violation of any provision of this Ordinance shall be considered a violation by only the Property Owner of the Property on which the violation occurred and the said Property Owner shall be punishable as set forth in 9.32.100.
- (5) A Property Owner's violation of any provision of this Ordinance shall be punishable as set forth in 9.32.100. It shall be no defense to a violation deemed to have been committed by a Property Owner that the said Property Owner had no knowledge of a violation committed by a Commercial Operator or a Non-Commercial Operator, even if the Commercial Operator or the Non-Commercial Operator acted contrary to directions given by the Property Owner.

9.32.090 – POWERS OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR.

In the event of a weather emergency or extreme or unusual weather or emergent circumstances as determined by the Borough Emergency Management Coordinator, the Borough Emergency Management Coordinator shall be permitted to temporarily modify the restrictions of this Ordinance.

9.32.100 - VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES.

- (1) A written warning shall be issued for any first violation of any provision of this Ordinance regardless whether such violation is committed by any Commercial Operator, Non-Commercial Operator or Property Owner, provided, however, that with respect to any Commercial Operator all violations committed by a Commercial Operator on more than one Property on any one day shall collectively be considered one collective offense.
- (2) Any second violation of any of the terms or provisions of this Ordinance, regardless whether such violation is committed by any Commercial

Operator, Non-Commercial Operator or Property Owner, shall be punishable by the municipal court of the Borough of Glen Ridge by a fine of \$500, provided, however, that with respect to any Commercial Operator all violations committed by a Commercial Operator on more than one Property on any one day shall collectively be considered one collective offense.

- (3) Each subsequent violation of any of the terms or provisions of this Ordinance, regardless whether such violation is committed by any Commercial Operator, Non-Commercial Operator or Property Owner shall be punishable by the municipal court of the Borough of Glen Ridge by a fine not to exceed \$1,000, provided, however, that with respect to any Commercial Operator all violations committed by a Commercial Operator on more than one Property on any one day shall collectively be considered one offense. The exact amount of the fine shall be determined in the discretion of the judge of said municipal court.
- (4) The determination of first offenses, second offenses and subsequent offenses shall be made annually from year to year, with each yearly offense determination period commencing January 1 and ending December 31 of each calendar year.
- (5) Notice of any violation of this Ordinance by a Commercial Operator shall be given to both the Commercial Operator and the Property Owner of the Property on which the violation occurred.
- (6) Notice of any violation of this Ordinance by a Non-Commercial Operator shall be given to the Property Owner of the Property on which the violation occurred.
- (7) Notice of any violation of this Ordinance by a Property Owner shall be given to the Property Owner of the Property on which the violation occurred.
- (8) All notices shall be given by personal delivery or by regular mail. Notice to any Commercial Operator shall be given to the address for said Commercial Operator as known by the Borough. Notice to any Property Owner shall be delivered to the address for the Property Owner as shown on the tax records of the Borough of Glen Ridge.
- (9) In the event any fine is not paid when due, the council may after notice to the Property Owner add the amount of any unpaid fine to the taxes next to be levied on the affected Property and assessed upon such Property, and the amount of such fine shall be a lien upon such Property until the

same shall be paid.

SECTION 2.

9.32.110 – SEVERABILITY.

Where any section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of these regulations is, for any reason, declared by the courts to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the regulations as a whole, or any part thereof, other than the part so declared.

SECTION 3.

9.32.120 - EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Ordinance shall take effect on January 1, 2025, after final passage and publication and as provided by law.

Introduced:

Adopted:

Deborah Mans
Mayor

Tara Ventola
Borough Clerk