

*Lauren S. Ruby*

I have owned my home in the Woodside Park neighborhood of Silver Spring since November, 2005.

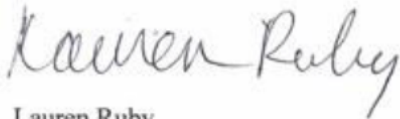
The noise generated by gas leaf blowers has utterly ruined my right to quiet enjoyment. I cannot plan to spend any time outdoors enjoying my yard because a leaf blower often appears to disturb the scene without warning, making it impossible to hold a conversation, play with my dog, read, rest or really do anything. I am constantly driven indoors by the noise of gas leaf blowers.

The noise they make disturbs me indoors as well. They force me to close all my windows but the noise can be heard indoors even so. My livelihood depends on working from home, but I cannot do so without interruption by the racket, which frequently disrupts my business calls.

We residents already endure a lot of inescapable noise from tree trimming and removal equipment, as well as lawn mowers. Gas-powered leaf blowers are not necessary in the same way and should be eliminated to at least alleviate the noise pollution problem.

These machines are a nuisance and, as such, they have no place in residential neighborhoods.

Sincerely,



Lauren Ruby