



AGENDA

VILLAGE OF NORTHFIELD COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

Tuesday, February 16, 2021

A meeting of the Committee of the Whole of the Village of Northfield is scheduled for **Tuesday, February 16 2021 at 5:30 p.m.** to be held remotely via a Zoom webinar

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86814062618>

Or iPhone one-tap :

US: +13126266799,,86814062618# or +13017158592,,86814062618#

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 312 626 6799 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 646 558 8656 or +1 346 248 7799
or +1 669 900 9128 or +1 253 215 8782

Webinar ID: 868 1406 2618

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86814062618>

The Agenda is as follows:

1. Call to order.
2. Approval of the January 19, 2021 COW Report of Proceedings.
3. Discussion – Tree Preservation Code
4. Discussion – Go Green Northfield's request to consider a seasonal ban on gas powered leaf blowers
5. Other business.
6. Adjournment.

The Village of Northfield is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Individuals with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to observe and/or participate in this meeting, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting or the facilities, are requested to contact the Village Manager's office at 847/446-9200 or 847/446-7131 (TDD) at least one week prior to the meeting, if possible, to allow the Village of Northfield to make reasonable accommodations for those persons.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEMORANDUM

TO: PRESIDENT AND VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FROM: STACY ALBERTS SIGMAN, VILLAGE MANAGER
SUBJECT: FEBRUARY 16, 2021 COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
DATE: FEBRUARY 10, 2021
CC: BUZZ HILL, VILLAGE ATTORNEY
STEVE GUTIERREZ, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

At the February 16, 2021 Committee of the Whole meeting there are two items on the agenda. The details on those are as follows:

TREE PRESERVATION CODE. Based on feedback from residents, President Frazier requested that staff assess our existing Tree Preservation code and compare it to how other area communities regulate trees. The attached report outlines the history of our current ordinance; our general tree preservation provisions and permitting process; how other nearby communities regulate tree removals; and discusses some of the additional standards the Village Board might wish to consider incorporating into our code. Steve Gutierrez will be at the meeting to review the staff report and resident Mike Sawyer will be at the meeting to share his thoughts on the code.

GO GREEN NORTHFIELD. Go Green Northfield has written the Village President and requested the Village consider amending our code to limit the use of gas-powered leaf blowers (GLBs) in Northfield. Specifically, they would like to see the use of GLB's limited to spring and fall cleanup (banned from around mid-May till the end of September). As their attached letter outlines, Go Green feels that limiting the use of these devices will benefit the community by reducing emissions, minimizing the kicking up of particulate matter on lawns, and reduce noise levels. The Board and staff liaisons to Go Green Northfield, Trustee Whittaker and Melissa Jewett, will provide some background on this request and Go Green Northfield member Betsy Kochvar will be at the meeting to review the details of the request and answer any questions the Board may have.

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
VILLAGE OF NORTHFIELD
TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2021**

The Committee of the Whole meeting was called to order remotely via Zoom, due to the COVID-19 crisis, by Village President Joan Frazier on Tuesday, January 19, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. Village Clerk Stacy Sigman called the roll as follows:

Committee Members Present:

Trustee Tom Terrill
Trustee John Goodwin
Trustee Greg Lungmus
Trustee Charles Orth
Trustee Todd Fowler
Trustee Tom Whittaker

Absent:

President Joan Frazier

Others Present:

Village Manager Stacy Sigman, Community Development Director Steve Gutierrez, Finance Director Kyle Cratty, and Village Attorney Everette Hill.

Approval of the December 1, 2020 Report of Proceedings.

Trustee Terrill made a motion, seconded by Trustee Goodwin, to approve the December 1, 2020 Report of Proceedings. Approval was unanimous.

Discussion on the license agreement request to use the Village right of way adjacent to 352 Jeffery Lane.

President Frazier indicated the next item was a discussion on a license agreement request to use the Village right of way adjacent to 352 Jeffery Lane.

Manager Sigman stated a License Agreement had been requested for the use of a portion of the public right of way (ROW) at the end of Jeffery Lane. Tracey Mendrick is the new owner of the home at 352 Jeffery Lane and is requesting a License Agreement to allow her to erect a fence and use a 45' x 83' portion of the Village's 100' wide right of way for her dog run. The Village right of way immediately adjacent to this home was extensively planted and partially fenced off by the prior owner. Ms. Mendrick would like to extend that existing fence 83' east, to the front line setback of the home, and add a 43' section to fully enclose the area. As proposed, the 43' section would include a 12' double gate to allow the Village and other utility companies to have access. Public Works inspected the area and made Ms. Mendrick aware of the existing 10" water main and 12" sanitary sewer main in this portion of the ROW. If approved, the existing sanitary sewer would be within the fenced area but the water main would not. The water main is located

north of the proposed fence. Public Works had no objections to the fence installation and noted that the 12' wide access gate would be very helpful if/when they need to access the area.

The Board had full consensus to go forward with the license agreement and agreed to waive the \$1,000,000 insurance coverage as long as the Village of Northfield is named as an "additional insured" on Ms. Mendrick's homeowner insurance policy. Ms. Mendrick acknowledged the criteria and agreed to fully comply with the standards. Staff was directed to prepare a license agreement for consideration at the February Village Board meeting.

Update and discussion on the "Eat. Shop. Explore. Find it in Northfield" initiative.

President Frazier indicated that over the past couple of months, Trustees Orth and Whittaker had assisted staff in developing a program to promote Northfield businesses, especially in light of the negative, financial impact of COVID-19.

Trustee Orth stated that in November and December, the "Shop. Eat. Explore. Find it in Northfield" campaign was developed, and includes a new logo, banner for the community event sign, and targeted ads for social media. Trustee Orth, Trustee Whittaker, and several staff members worked to quickly get a program established during the holiday season but they want to build on that initiative to promote our local businesses long term. Some initial ideas for future programs include:

- Northfield Gift Card that could be used at all local Northfield businesses
- Targeted promotions for holidays (Valentine, Easter, Mother's Day) or other weekly promotions like #TakeoutTuesday or #FeaturedFoodFriday
- Feature the new logo on our 2021 vehicle stickers
- Social media campaign where people submit pictures of themselves in front of our stores or restaurants with merchandise/take-out food to win a raffle prize/gift card. The pictures would then be used to promote "Shop. Eat. Explore. Find it in Northfield."
- "Northfield influencer" would blog about purchasing a different food item or other merchandise (i.e. shoes, baby outfit, or a massage) from a business in Northfield. They could take attractive pictures and include an enticing, brief description of their experience to be placed on social media each week.
- Put the "Shop. Eat. Explore. Find it in Northfield" logo on face masks and showcase them with staff, our boards, and commission members. Photos would be posted on our website and social media. The masks could also be made available to the public with the proceeds being used to further support our businesses.
- Economic Recovery Task Force in conjunction with Northfield Now
- Grant or no-interest loan Program (using Village reserves) to help businesses pay for COVID-specific costs
- Northfield weekly online coupon book.
- Northfield Dine Out program where people can submit receipts of over \$25 to the Village and be in a raffle every week for prizes.

Trustee Fowler suggested coordinating with the Chamber of Commerce and noted that Winnetka's logo was featured on the Chamber's website but Northfield's was not. He noted that there was good feedback among the businesses and they felt the Village was behind them.

President Frazier noted that Lake Bluff, Mt. Prospect, Niles, Northbrook, Wilmette, and Winnetka have all invested hundreds of thousands of dollars into assisting their businesses through programs such as grants, PPE purchase reimbursements, fee forgiveness/deferrals, and no-interest loans. She asked the Board to consider doing something along these lines for Northfield's businesses. She also suggested a coupon book program, which she has seen in other towns. President Frazier stressed keeping the dialogue open with all Northfield businesses.

Several trustees stated their concerns with the dangers and complexities involved in offering grants or loans using the Village Reserves. They questioned what type of money and support would be needed to truly help businesses survive. They noted that some businesses had received forgivable loans and that it would be challenging to pinpoint those in need.

President Frazier and all of the trustees liked the "Shop. Eat. Explore. Find it in Northfield" initiative. They thought it showed good faith to the businesses, educated people about the businesses, and showed creativity. They believed that it was great for relationship building and created a strong foundation as a recruiting tool for future businesses in Northfield.

The Village Board was supportive of all of the ideas and in favor of moving forward with the program beyond COVID-19. The Board agreed to an additional \$15,000 in expenditures for the remainder of this fiscal year for this program. Trustee Orth and Trustee Whittaker will then also develop a dollar figure for this program for consideration during the budget process for FY 2021/22.

Other Business

Trustee Fowler made a motion, seconded by Trustee Whittaker to adjourn the meeting.

AYES: Orth NAYS: 0 ABSTAIN: 0 ABSENT: 0
Fowler
Lungmus
Goodwin
Whittaker
Terrill

The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

REPORT: VILLAGE OF NORTHFIELD TREE PRESERVATION ORDINANCE

February 8, 2021

ISSUE:

The Village President has spoken to some Northfield residents who are concerned about trees being removed on lots where there is new construction. The Village President asked staff to draft a report that recounts the history of our current tree preservation ordinance; outlines our tree preservation provisions and permitting process; catalogs how surrounding communities regulate tree removals; and distills the issues the Village Board might wish to consider.

HISTORY

- 2002: Northfield residents expressed an interest to preserve trees in the Village.
- February 3, 2003: The Plan and Zoning Commission consider text amendments to Chapter 10 of the Village Code entitled "Trees", which would establish requirements for tree preservation and protection and landscape plan review.
- March 18, 2003: Village Board adopts the proposed amendments to Chapter 10 (Ord. #03-1182) with a sunset provision requiring subsequent review of the tree preservation and protection program.
- November 2004: After receiving positive evaluation of the program from staff, the Village Board approves new requirements permanently.

CHAPTER 10 TREE PRESERVATION PROVISIONS

- Requires a caliper inch for caliper inch replacement, or a fee-in-lieu of replacement, for the permitted removal of any 'protected' tree
- 'Protected Trees' are those that are >6" on naturalized land and >3" in previously landscaped areas and are located in the following areas:
 - (1) Public right-of-way.
 - (2) On a lot proposed for subdivision
 - (3) On a multi-family residential property.
 - (4) In required front or side yard setback on any single-family residential property.
 - (5) All trees on any nonresidential property.
 - (6) All tree(s) on a single-family residential property where the use is nonresidential.
- In event there is not sufficient space within the site to accommodate the required replacement trees a *fee-in-lieu of replacement*, of \$175 for every inch not replaced, must be paid.
- Dead, unhealthy or nonquality trees (such as Buckthorn) trees are exempt.
- During construction trees within the protected areas noted above must be protected from the construction activity.

PERMITTING PROCESS

Northfield's tree preservation permit review includes the following steps (which are similar in other Villages):

1. Any construction, whether a new driveway or a new house, that encroaches in a tree's critical root zone requires a tree preservation permit. The property owner's contractor/arborist is required to submit a tree removal and protection plan.
2. The tree removal and protection plan, submitted by the contractor/arborist includes an inventory of all trees within the Code required front and side yards, or in other areas determined by staff.
3. The inventory chart includes species, size, condition, removal or protection and any tree management activities required during construction.

4. The tree locations, inventory chart, path of construction and tree protection locations are also shown on the submitted engineering plan that depicts the proposed construction and any changes in grade or utility location.
5. The tree preservation plan, application and any fees are submitted with all the other building permit applications and fees. The petitioner may submit a landscape plan that incorporates some or all the inches of tree replacement required.
6. Staff reviews the plans and does a site visit to verify tree species and condition before a permit is issued. Staff also reviews the tree fencing location on site before any construction activity or demolition starts.
7. Staff may suggest alternatives to the petitioner to reduce the loss of or damage to specific trees.
8. Staff conducts a final inspection to confirm the tree preservation plan has been properly implemented, before the Certificate of Occupancy is released.
9. The petitioner can replant trees and be reimbursed for the fee-in-lieu for up to two (2) years after completion of a project.
10. If the petitioner has submitted a landscape plan with the permit application, all the trees on the plan are to be installed and checked in the field.

SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES

Staff reviewed the tree preservation ordinances of Kenilworth, Glencoe, Glenview, Highland Park, Lake Forest, Northbrook, Winnetka and Wilmette. In the attached table we've outlined how each community regulates the following key areas:

- Area of a lot where trees are protected (i.e. on the entire lot or only in required yards)
- What type of trees are protected – subject to regulation (species, size)
- Amount of the fee-in-lieu of replacement
- Replacement requirement (e.g. inch for inch)

Please note that the categories of protected trees vary from community to community. For instance, a number of communities distinguish a heritage or landmark tree from other trees in their regulations. But each community has a different definition of what species or size constitutes a heritage or landmark tree and each community has different requirements for their removal. In addition, every community requires different fees and replacements. The purpose of the table is to illustrate the range of regulations imposed in the area relative to Northfields.

MISCELLANEOUS REQUIREMENTS

The following is a list of miscellaneous requirements other communities have which the Village may wish to consider:

- Notify neighbors when protected tree is being removed. (Kenilworth, Wilmette and Winnetka)
- Require chain-link tree protection fencing rather than just orange snow fencing. (Kenilworth, Highland Park, Winnetka)
- Require the replacement of border shrubs that had provided screening between properties but were removed during construction. (Kenilworth)
- Include inventory of neighboring trees 15' outside of the property lines. (Northbrook)
- Tree branch pruning, root pruning must be performed by Certified Arborist using best practices. (Kenilworth, Glencoe, Northbrook and Lake Forest)
- Impose fines for the removal of required tree protection fencing and for stockpiling within the protected root zone. (Lake Forest)

ISSUES TO CONSIDER

The primary issues to consider are whether the Village wishes to expand our tree protection zone, for single-family lots, beyond the front and side yard setback (most others apply protection to entire lot); the size of tree to be protected (our 3" standard is more onerous than the others); what amount the fee-in-lieu of replacement should be (most others have wider range of fees-in-lieu of replacement); and what the replacement ratio itself should be (our inch for inch requirement is the standard in most communities). The Village may also wish to consider adopting any of the miscellaneous provisions listed above.

Please note that any expansion of the scope of the tree preservation ordinance will result in a need for additional staffing/hours for reviews and inspections.

If you have any questions regarding any of this material, please do not hesitate to contact me.

TREE PRESERVATION ORDINANCE COMPARISONS

VILLAGE	AREA OF LOT PROTECTED	TYPE OF TREES PROTECTED	SIZE	FEE-IN-LIEU	TREE REPLACEMENT REQUIREMENT
NORTHFIELD	FRONT AND SIDE YARDS	ALL TREES	6" AND UP	\$175 PER INCH	INCH FOR INCH
			LANDSCAPE TREES		
	ENTIRE LOT FOR: SUBDIVISION, PUD, MULTI-FAMILY AND COMMERCIAL	ALL TREES	3" AND UP		
KENILWORTH	ENTIRE LOT FOR HERITAGE	HERITAGE*	OVER 18"	\$400 PER INCH	INCH FOR INCH X 2
	ALL REQUIRED YARDS FOR PROTECTED	PROTECTED (ALL SPECIES)	10" TO 18"	\$200 PER INCH	INCH FOR INCH
GLENCOE	ENTIRE LOT	HERITAGE (SPECIFIC SPECIES)	8"	\$350 PER INCH	INCH FOR INCH
		PRIORITY 1 - PARKWAY TREE	ALL	\$175 PER INCH	INCH FOR INCH
		PRIORITY 2 - FRONT YARD TREE	8" AND UP	\$175 PER INCH	INCH FOR INCH
		PRIORITY 3 - ANY TREE ON LOT	8" AND UP	\$175 PER INCH	INCH FOR INCH
GLENVIEW	ENTIRE LOT	LANDMARK TREE* - CLASS A (SPECIFIC SPECIES)	16" AND UP	\$15 PER SQ INCH	AMOUNT OF TREES
		CLASS B TREES (SPECIFIC SPECIES)	16" AND UP	\$12.5 PER SQ INCH	BY CLASS
		CLASS C ALL OTHER	20" AND UP	\$7.5 PER SQ INCH	
				\$350 PER REPLACEMENT TREE DEPOSIT	
HIGHLAND PARK	ENTIRE LOT	HERITAGE (SPECIFIC SPECIES AND SIZES)	VARIOUS	\$200 PER INCH	FOUR 3" TREES
		KEY TREE* (SPECIFIC SPECIES)	8" AND UP	\$150 PER INCH	THREE 3" TREES
		PROTECTED	8" AND UP	\$100 PER INCH	TWO 3" TREES
				PLUS \$75 PERMIT FEE PER TREE	
				PLUS REPLACEMENTS	
LAKE FOREST	ENTIRE LOT	HERITAGE	25" AND UP	\$325 X EVERY 3" OF TREE	INCH FOR INCH X 2
		ALL OTHER	8" AND UP		INCH FOR INCH
		CLUSTERS OF 6 + TREES	4"		INCH FOR INCH
NORTHBROOK	ENTIRE LOT	HERITAGE (SPECIFIC SPECIES AND SIZES)	VARIOUS	\$250 PER INCH	INCH FOR INCH
		LANDMARK (SPECIFIC SPECIES AND SIZES)	VARIOUS	\$150 PER INCH	INCH FOR INCH
		PROTECTED TREE	6" AND UP	\$100 PER INCH	INCH FOR INCH
		NUISANCE TREES*		\$25 PER INCH	ONE FOR ONE
WILMETTE	ENTIRE LOT	ALL TREES	10" AND UP	REPLACEMENT A PERCENTAGE	NA
				OF CANOPY DETERMINED	
				DURING REVIEW	
WINNETKA	ENTIRE LOT	ALL TREES	8" AND UP	\$250 PER INCH	INCH FOR INCH

*** Note:**

There is no standard definition for a *heritage*, *landmark* or *key* tree. Each community defines these trees differently. They are generally considered the most desirable trees and may require a higher level of approval for their removal or a higher fee-in-lieu of replacement. They may include large oak, hickory, walnut, bald cypress or some types of elms.

Nuisance trees are typically those that are invasive species, dead, diseased, susceptible to disease, maintenance problems, etc. They may include ash, buckthorn and boxelder, tree of Heaven, mulberry, willow, etc.

The Village of Northfield

TO: Village Board

CC: Stacy Sigman, Village Manager

FROM: Melissa Jewett, Director of Administrative Services

DATE: February 1, 2021

SUBJECT: Proposed Gas-Powered Leaf Blower Restriction

Go Green Northfield has requested that the Village Board consider restricting the use of gas-powered leaf blowers to only spring and fall cleanups. In the attached letter, Go Green Northfield states they are requesting this restriction because of the negative environmental impact of gas-powered leaf blowers, including carbon emissions, particulate matter produced, and noise pollution. The Village currently does not place restrictions on gas-powered leaf blowers.

Commercial landscapers highly favor gas-powered leaf blowers because they are more portable and powerful than their electric counterparts. As indicated by Go Green, electric leaf blowers will produce less carbon emissions and noise. However, staff's research found that both gas and electric blowers produce particulate matter, which is also an issue with lawn mowers and mulching equipment. From a sound standpoint, electric blowers are typically in the 65-70 decibel range while gas-powered leaf blowers range from 95-115 decibels. By way of comparison, commercial lawn mowers are about 90-100 decibels.

Following Go Green Northfield's request, staff conducted a regional survey to see what restrictions are in place for our neighboring communities. The survey results are included on the following page. However, it is important to note that from a residential standpoint, Northfield is fairly unique due to our much larger than typical lot sizes. Because of that, the majority of our homeowners use commercial landscaping services. Switching from gas-powered to electric leaf blowers would generally be less impactful to residents on small lots and more impactful to those on large lots or those who use commercial landscapers. Because gas-powered leaf blowers are more powerful, they reduce the amount of time it takes to landscape a property. Restricting gas-powered leaf blowers may therefore increase the cost of landscaping services or may make it more challenging to find a landscaping service willing to accommodate the restriction.

A number of the municipalities' surveyed indicated that they find it incredibly difficult to enforce their regulations. Landscapers are typically finished blowing or are gone by the time Village staff responds to complaints. Survey respondents also noted that to ensure



compliance, it is important to cite the landscaping contractor or homeowner, rather than the employee.

Staff is seeking direction from the Board on whether gas-powered leaf blowing restrictions are appropriate for Northfield. If the Board desires, an ordinance will be prepared for consideration at a future Village Board meeting.

Survey Results

Community	Restriction	Department Responsible for Enforcement	Citation Information
Glencoe	Prohibited except between March 15-May 15 and September 15-December 15	Public Works issues violation notices. If they do not comply, Public Safety issues citations.	Issue violation notices on a complaint basis and have not had to issue any citation
Glenview	No		
Northbrook	No		
Wilmette	Prohibited May 15-September 30	Both Police and Community Development	Issue a verbal warning, then citations. They issue about two citations per year to the contractor
Winnetka	Prohibited June 1-September 30	Police	Issue about 75 citations each year to the contractor, or if used by a homeowner, the citation is issued to them

January 13, 2021

Dear President Frazier,

I am writing on behalf of Go Green Northfield to bring to the attention of the Village Board our concern about the use of gas-powered leaf blowers (GLBs) in Northfield. We urge Northfield to limit leaf blowers to spring and fall cleanup, as many of our sister communities have already done.

As you know, the Northfield Village Board was the first North Shore village to adopt the Mayors Caucus' Greenest Region Compact 2 in 2016. Included in this compact were goals to "Reduce greenhouse gas emissions," "Maintain clean and healthful air" as well as "Engage the community in climate change mitigation and adaptation." Gas-powered Leaf Blowers negatively impact the environment in many ways:

- Emissions produced by GLBs are highly toxic and polluting.
 - GLBs have two-stroke engines that run on a gas/oil mix; they release as much as 30% of the unburned fuel into the air. Exhaust from the GLBs produces carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons, and fine particulates (which are toxic and/or carcinogenic and/or ozone-forming).¹
 - Particulate matter kicked up by GLBs can be especially problematic for those with respiratory problems like asthma. Beyond the chemicals released, they produce dust that includes pesticides and herbicides from lawn treatments, animal feces, fertilizers, "spores, fungi, pollens, brake-lining dust, tire residue, heavy metals"1
- Noise levels from GLBs can exceed 100 decibels (dBA), equivalent to the noise of a jackhammer. The NIOSH Recommended Exposure Limit for occupational noise exposure is 85 decibels (dBA), over 8 hours, before hearing damage may occur. A 100 decibel sound has 32 times the energy of an 85 decibel sound and is likely to cause permanent hearing loss in a short amount of time.²
- "Observational and experimental studies have shown that noise exposure leads to annoyance, disturbs sleep and causes daytime sleepiness, affects patient outcomes and staff performance in hospitals, increases the occurrence of hypertension and cardiovascular disease, and impairs cognitive performance in school children."³
- GLBs sound "puts health and cognitive functioning of children at risk." Noise is especially impactful on children with learning disabilities and those on the spectrum.⁴
- Stanford Economist, Nicolas Bloom, says that he expects at-home workers to increase 4 times from pre-COVID-19 levels.⁵ GLBs can disrupt both at-home school and work performance.

What has been done to address GLBs?

- The nearby towns of Evanston, Glencoe, Highland Park, Kenilworth, Wilmette and Winnetka have instituted seasonal restrictions by way of village ordinances on GLBs.
 - The ordinances all vary slightly but restrict the use of GLBs on residential property between roughly mid-May through the end of September. This allows the landscapers the use of GLBs

for spring and fall cleanups. Cleaner and quieter electric-powered leaf blowers are allowed all season.

- Fines are levied at different levels, depending on the town (between \$100-\$500, usually after an initial warning).
- In Wilmette, police enforce the ordinance and fines; penalties are paid online, at the Village Hall or the Police Department.⁶
- After 15 years with a restriction in Wilmette, Go Green Wilmette (where their restriction originated) recommends ticketing the company, not the worker, who is only doing his job and is suffering most of the ill-effects of operating the GLBs.

In light of all of the detrimental effects of GLBs, we would like to ask you to consider adding a village ordinance to seasonally restrict their use. In addition to improving the quality of life of the Northfield residents, we believe it would fit within the goals of the Greenest Region Compact.

Thank you for your consideration!

Betsy Kochvar, Go Green Northfield-Land, Air and Water Subcommittee Head

References:

1. Quietcommunities.org. *Memorandum: re: COVID-19 and Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers: A Lethal Combination.* PDF File. Last revised May 3, 2020. https://ec78c1df-68b3-47d0-99b4-038c5ff76fe4.usrfiles.com/ugd/ec78c1_09709fb0618a4c16a2e881b479d83f2c.pdf
2. OSHA.gov. Planet Professional Landcare Network Worksheets. *How Do We Protect Our Ears?* PDF File. https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/2018-12/fy10_sh-21001-10_Trainee_Worksheets-Ears.pdf
3. Basner, Mathias, et al. "Auditory and Non-Auditory Effects of Noise on Health." *The Lancet*, vol. 383, no. 9925, 2014, pp. 1325–1332., doi:10.1016/s0140-6736(13)61613-x. [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736\(13\)61613-X/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lancet/article/PIIS0140-6736(13)61613-X/fulltext)
4. Erica Walker ScD, MS, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and Jamie Banks, PhD, MS, Quiet Communities, "Gas-Powered Leaf Blower Sound and Impact on Children", at 2017 Children's Environmental Health Network Research Conference, Arlington, VA, April 5-7, 2017. PDF File. https://cbbdf324-4618-4028-9957-01a339e4c191.filesusr.com/ugd/4362f2_42559a6eaf1c4aa5ad8340de8d752ae8.pdf
5. University, Stanford. "A Snapshot of a New Working-from-Home Economy." *Stanford News*, 26 June 2020, www.news.stanford.edu/2020/06/29/snapshot-new-working-home-economy/
6. "Leaf Blowers – Wilmette." *The Village of Wilmette, Illinois*, www.wilmette.com/permits/community-development/code-enforcement/leaf-blowers/