

Introduced by: Councilmember Wright

**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND  
RESOLUTION NO. 2011-2**

**SETTING FORTH A POLICY REGARDING USE OF GAS OR  
OTHER FOSSIL FUEL POWERED LEAF BLOWERS BY THE CITY**

WHEREAS, the City Council has heard testimony from residents regarding air pollution and noise resulting from the use of gas powered leaf blowers; and

WHEREAS, the Report of the Takoma Park Task Force on Environmental Action, issued April 30, 2010, recommended a prohibition on the use of gas and other fossil fuel powered leaf blowers; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force also recommended public education about the significant health effects of using fossil fuel powered leaf blowers and lawn care equipment; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is continuing to review the recommendations of the Task Force on Environmental Action; and

WHEREAS, in order to reduce pollution created by the City and to set a positive example for residents, the City Council desires to establish a policy that the City of Takoma Park will not use gas or other fossil fuel powered leaf blowers in its activities; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to formalize its intent in this regard and to provide direction to the City Manager relative to the use of gas or other fossil fuel powered leaf blowers by the City.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK, MARYLAND THAT the City's policy regarding the use of gas or other fossil fuel powered leaf blowers shall be as follows:

- It is the intention of the City of Takoma Park to eliminate its use of gas or other fossil fuel powered leaf blowers.
- The City will not use gas or other fossil fuel powered leaf blowers for clearing leaves, grass, clippings, wood chips, dirt, debris, or other materials.
- This policy recognizes that, in an emergency, the use of such equipment may be needed to ensure public health and safety. In such an event, leaf blowers may be used if expressly authorized by the City Manager.
- The City may, at its discretion, use electric or battery operated leaf blowers.
- This policy shall take effect January 11, 2011.

Adopted this 10th day of January, 2011.

Attest:

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Jessie Carpenter  
City Clerk