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On Behalf Of:

Committee: Senate Committee On Energy and Environment

Measure: SB525

Gas-powered leaf blowers are unbelievably noxious, disruptive, and loud. It boggles my mind that they're still in use in 2023. Oregon can and should be leading on this issue—not playing catch-up with other places that have banned them already.

The writer James Fallows calls gas-powered leaf blowers "the dirtiest machinery still in legal use," and he's right. They produce an incredible amount of pollution, given their small size. And then, of course, there's the noise—the only groundskeeping tool louder than a gas-powered leaf blower is a chainsaw. My wife and I, like many people these days, work from home and we routinely endure noise from gas-powered leaf blowers in our neighborhood. The noise is impossible to block out, even with the windows shut.

I urge you to read this, from Mr. Fallows, and then to ask yourselves why these unbelievably dirty, noisy devices are still legal in Oregon:

<https://fallows.substack.com/p/gas-powered-leaf-blowers-are-going>

Mr. Fallows concludes that abandoning gas-powered leaf blowers "will happen sooner or later. Make it sooner."

It is WAY past time to ban these things. Please, for the health and sanity of all Oregonians, do so now.