

## Taking Reasonable Precautions

Reasonable precautions are actions taken that minimize dust emissions. Examples of some effective options are:

1. Limiting the power or air speed to keep dirt from blowing
2. Refraining from using commercial sized blowers that are employed for blowing off large areas
3. Cease the activity or operation
4. Water or other wetting agents
5. Dust suppressants



# Clean Air!

## Leaf Blowers

## Pinal County



## Pinal County Air Quality

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## What do Leaf Blowers do?



- They generate as much tailpipe emissions from their engines (two-stroke) in one hour as a newer automobile does in driving over 350 miles. While a car will emit that pollution over a long stretch of road, the leaf blower may concentrate it all in one neighborhood.
- They emit dense clouds of oily smoke (2-stroke engines)
- They kick up more than just leaves. Swirling clouds of debris, including soil or dust, pollen or mold spores that pollute our air.

## Pinal County Leaf Blower Ordinance for Area A

### N of Arizona Farms Rd & W of Hwy 79

- Within Area A of Pinal County, no person will use a leaf blower to blow material into public roadways at any time.
- A leaf blower is not to be used except on surfaces that have been stabilized. NEVER USE A BLOWER ON DIRT FIELDS, ROAD SHOULDERS, OR LOOSE DIRT.

### State of Arizona

### T1N, R8E (Apache Junction area)

- At least once every 3 years, any person operating a leaf blower for compensation will successfully complete training on how to operate a leaf blower in a manner designed to minimize the generation of fugitive dust emissions.
- It is prohibited for any government employee or contractor of the city or county from operating leaf blowers on any high pollution advisory (HPA) day that is forecasted by ADEQ except while in vacuum mode.

### Particles Are Harmful

The smoke and dust particles created when using leaf blowers are not simply a nuisance, they are harmful to our health. Fine particles suspended in the air, are inhaled and deposited in the airways or reach deep into the lungs where they may accumulate, or be absorbed into the

underlying tissues.

In healthy people, short-term exposure to elevated pollution may cause minor irritations and temporary symptoms such as irritation of the eyes, nose, and throat; coughing; phlegm; chest tightness; shortness of breath; wheezing; and fatigue.

People with respiratory or heart disease, diabetics, older adults, and children are at a greater risk when breathing polluted air.

### Leaf Blower Alternatives

- ▶ **Manual rakes and brooms**
- ▶ **Vacuum-type equipment with dust collection device attachments**

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A "Guide" for leaf blowers has been developed by ADEQ.

- [Training for Leaf Blower Operators](#)
- [Pointers for Operating a Leaf Blower](#)