



Continued Phase-out of Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers (GPLBs) Use in Arlington Permanent Ban on GPLB by residents in effect March 15, 2026

History and Key Dates

- In 2022, Town Meeting approved a bylaw allowing for the gradual phase-out GPLBs in Arlington.
- The initial phase (**March 15, 2023- December 30, 2024**) introduced seasonal bans on the use of GPLBs by commercial operators in Arlington, as well as restrictions on commercial use during certain times of day, and days of the week.
- The second phase went into effect on **March 15, 2025**, and included a permanent ban on the use of GPLBs by commercial operators in Arlington.
- The final phase goes into effect on **March 15, 2026**, and includes a permanent ban on the use of GPLBs by any operator, including private residents in Arlington.

What to Know

- GPLBs are banned for commercial and residential use in Arlington.
- Electric leaf blowers can be operated by commercial businesses and residents during the following times:

Dates and Times for Use of Electric Blowers by Commercial Operators and Residents

Days of Week	Monday - Friday	Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays
Allowed Times	7:30 am - 6:00 pm	8:00 am - 4:00 pm

** The Town of Arlington may use wheeled leaf blowers powered by four-stroke engines for the purposes of clearing the Minuteman Bikeway and other municipal property of an acre or more and under emergency conditions.*

Reporting Violations

- According to the [Town's Noise Abatement Bylaw](#), the following information must be submitted with a leaf blower complaint to initiate an investigation:
 1. The name of the commercial landscaper or resident alleged to have violated this bylaw;
 2. The location of the alleged violation;
 3. The date and time of the alleged violation;
 4. Any additional identifying information regarding the use of the gas powered leaf blower. Photographic and recorded evidence in support of the complaint is permitted but not required.
 5. All complaints must be signed by the complainant.

- If you believe there has been a violation of this bylaw, you may report it to the Health Department [through this DocuSign form](#). Follow the instructions on the form to complete it.
- If you have questions, contact the Health Department at (781) 316-3170 or boh@town.arlington.ma.us

What happens when a commercial operator/resident is in violation of the Bylaw?

Warnings and tickets based on complaints shall be issued to the commercial operator in violation of the Bylaw and the property owner of the property where the violation occurred. The table below outlines the enforcement schedule.

Enforcement by Calendar year	
1st Violation	Written warning and education provided to both resident and commercial landscaper
2nd Violation	\$100 fine to both resident and commercial landscaper
Subsequent Violations	\$200 fine to both resident and commercial landscaper

What equipment is considered a gas powered leaf blower?

A gas powered leaf blower is a leaf blower powered by gas or gas and oil used to blow leaves, dirt and other matter by forced air for landscape maintenance.