



## **Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon Society**

Dear Members of the Huntington Conservation Board:

Huntington-Oyster Bay Audubon support restrictions on the use of Gas Leaf Blowers in the Town of Huntington for warmer months of the year, from approximately Memorial Day to Labor Day.

Some of the reasons for banning:

1. **They're noisy.**

A normal decibel level, considered acceptable in residential areas, is about 60 decibels (60dB). Every increase in decibels means noise that is 10 times louder. Leaf-blowers usually generate about 70-75 dB. According to the U.S. EPA this level of noise actually degrades quality of life by interfering with communication and sleep, leads to reduced accuracy of work and increased levels of aggravation, which can linger hours after exposure.

2. **They worsen allergies and asthma and irritate the lungs.**

Because they operate at such high velocities, leaf blowers stir up the mold, allergens, and dust particles that otherwise have been tamped down with rain and decomposition.

3. **They waste gas.**

Rakes and even electric-lawn blowers offer a petroleum-free alternative.

Many communities across America have recognized these issues and put some basic limits on the use of leaf blowers. Therefore we respectfully request that the town of Huntington follow their lead and place restrictions on the use of leaf blowers during the months when many people are outdoors trying to enjoy their yards, streets or parks.

Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stella Miller".

Stella Miller  
President