



NYU

GROUNDNS

NYU Grounds Zero Emissions Policy

Washington Square Campus

Gas-powered grounds maintenance equipment is prohibited due to impacts on air quality and ambient noise levels.

- 1. Gas-powered leaf blowers are never permitted.**
- 2. Seasonal Leaf Blower Ban.** Both NYU Grounds staff and our contractors are **prohibited** from using electric or gas-powered leaf blowers from May 1st to Labor Day.
- 3. Seasonal Leaf Blower Use.** Both NYU Grounds staff and contractors are permitted to

use electric leaf blowers as needed from Labor Day to Memorial Day.

- 4. Other types of grounds maintenance equipment.** Line trimmers, hedge clippers, lawn mowers, lawn aerators, and all other lawn equipment must be zero emission, electric powered.
- 5. Chainsaws, wood chippers, air-spades, augers, excavators.** Gas-powered arboricultural and excavation equipment is permitted, however, electric battery powered equipment is preferred when feasible.
- 6. Hand tools and human-powered equipment** are always preferred over electric battery powered equipment when feasible.
- 7. Fallen leaves.** Horticultural best practices shall be employed to reduce the need for removing leaves from plant beds. Every effort shall be made to take advantage of the benefits of leaf decomposition for the soil.

We accept some fallen leaves in the landscape as an acceptable cost for the occupational safety, quality-of-life, and ecological benefits of eliminating the emissions and noise of gas-powered grounds maintenance equipment.

For additional information, send an email to grounds@nyu.edu.

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