



Town of Bristol, Rhode Island
Department of Community Development

10 Court Street
Bristol, RI 02809
401-253-7000

May 21, 2025

TO: Steven Contente, Town Administrator

FROM: Edward M. Tanner, Principal Planner / Zoning Officer

RE: *Petition of George Voutes, 17 Shore Road*
Restrictions on Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers

EMT

2025 MAY 22 AM 11:58

TOWN OF BRISTOL
RHODE ISLAND

I have reviewed the petition of George Voutes requesting restrictions on gas-powered leaf blowers. I have also forwarded this petition to members of the Bristol Conservation Commission for review. Mr. Voutes presents information with his petition regarding potential negative impacts of this type of landscape machinery on public health and the environment. The Bristol Conservation Commission has discussed this issue at previous meetings, at least one of which was attended by Mr. Voutes. The conservation commission will not meet again until June 3rd, so they have not had an opportunity to review and comment on this petition. Generally speaking, however, I believe that the conservation commission agrees that gas-powered leaf blowers are a topic that deserves discussion, as they contribute to noise and air pollution and they could have a negative impact on neighborhoods. The commission would likely be receptive to any additional information regarding this topic; and if requested by the administration or the council, they could study the topic further and present their findings and potential policy recommendations.

AM
5/22/25