



Chapter 17.101 Leaf Blowers

City Code Chapter

17.101.010 Purpose.

The purpose of this Chapter is to reduce the health impacts of using gasoline leaf blowers.

17.101.020 Definitions.

A. Electric leaf blower means any leaf blower powered by only electric means, including but not limited to battery-powered leaf blowers, cordless rechargeable leaf blowers and corded leaf blowers.

B. Gasoline leaf blower means any leaf blower powered by an internal combustion engine using gasoline, alcohol or other liquid or gaseous fluid.

C. Inclement weather means extreme weather conditions resulting from rain, snow, ice, flood, or other storm that pose a significant risk of injury to persons or property.

D. Leaf blower means any hand-held or backpack device designed or intended to blow, vacuum, or move leaves or any other type of debris or material by generating a concentrated stream of air. Leaf blower includes any device or machine that accepts vacuum attachments.

E. Owner means any of the following:

1. One or more individuals or entities, jointly or severally, in whom is vested: all or part of the legal title to real property; or all or part of the beneficial ownership and right to present use and enjoyment of real property.

2. A mortgagee of real property who is in possession of that property.

3. In the case of a condominium, the board of the association of condominium unit owners responsible for overall management.

17.101.030 Authority.

A. The City Administrator is authorized to administer the provisions of this Chapter.

B. The City Administrator may, upon request, issue written interpretations of how this Chapter applies in general or to specific circumstances.

C. The City Administrator is authorized to adopt, amend, and repeal rules, procedures, and forms to implement the provisions of this Chapter.

17.101.040 Requirements.

- A.** Effective January 1, 2026, no owner may allow the operation of a gasoline leaf blower on the owner's property from January 1 to September 30, except in cases of inclement weather as determined by the City Administrator.
- B.** Effective January 1, 2028, no owner may allow the operation of a gasoline leaf blower on the owner's property.
- C.** No leaf blower may be operated in a manner that deposits dust and debris onto any neighboring parcel, storm drain, public property, or public street except for the purpose of scheduled debris collection by the City.

17.101.050 Extensions.

The City Administrator may grant an extension of time to comply with Section 17.101.040 to an owner who submits documentation that compliance will require the owner to upgrade electric infrastructure. The owner must provide the City Administrator any documentation requested to substantiate the extension or otherwise assist the City Administrator in the extension determination. If the City Administrator learns that an extension was granted based on materially inaccurate submissions, the City Administrator may revoke or modify the extension.

17.101.060 Penalties for Violations.

It is a violation for any owner to fail to comply with this Chapter or to misrepresent any material fact.

- A.** Violations may result in a written notice of violation. The notice will state the date, address and violation and specify any corrective action required to comply with this Chapter.
- B.** A first violation will result in a warning. A second violation may result in a civil penalty of \$250. A third violation may result in a civil penalty of \$500. A fourth or subsequent violation may result in a civil penalty of \$1,000. Each day an owner is in violation is deemed a separate violation.
- C.** Education and outreach on the requirements of Section 17.101.040 will begin in July 2024.

17.101.070 Right of Appeal.

An owner who receives a civil penalty may, within ten business days of the date of the decision or determination, either pay the penalty amount or request an appeal hearing before the Code Hearings Officer in accordance with procedures set forth in Chapter 22.10 of the Portland City Code. The filing of an appeal request will stay the effective date of the penalty until the appeal is determined by the Code Hearings Officer. If payment of the penalty is ordered, the payment must be received by the City Administrator or postmarked within 15 calendar days after the order becomes final.