



Pointers on Operating a Leaf Blower

Leaf blowers are widely used because they can save time but blowers can spread dust which can cause health problems for people. These tips will help you use your leaf blower properly and protect the environment.

Be Considerate

Follow local noise and air pollution regulations. Be considerate of people who may be ill, sleeping, or working at home by operating only during the hours between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m.

NEVER BLOW DEBRIS INTO THE STREET.

Use the lowest possible speed

Lower speeds mean less noise, dust, and fuel use. Try not to use your blower at full throttle – most jobs can be done at half throttle.

Sweep or rake large piles first

Starting out a job with hand tools makes blowing debris much faster.

Always use the blower tube and place it close to the ground

With the nozzle close to the ground your blower makes less dust. It also makes your job faster.

Be aware of what is going on around you

Point your blower away from people, pets, open windows, vehicles, and play areas – especially if children are present. If a cloud of dust has formed around you, stop working and allow it to settle. If anyone approaches your work area, stop until they have passed.



Local laws (A.R.S. § 49-457.01) in the Valley of the Sun effective April 1, 2008:

- Ban blowing debris into the street
- Ban using a blower on dirt fields, road shoulders or loose dirt
- Limit leaf blower use on High Pollution Advisory days. To find out if there is an advisory, call (602) 771-2367, sign up for a text message at: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/AZDEQ/subscriber/new>

Clean up when you are finished

Dispose of trash properly. Make sure you haven't blown debris into someone else's yard, the street, or on vehicles.

Protect the environment – Limit Dust

If you are working in dusty conditions, reduce your blower's speed. Do not blow dust beyond the property line. **NEVER USE A BLOWER ON DIRT FIELDS, ROAD SHOULDERS, OR LOOSE DIRT.**

Protect the environment – Use care when refueling your blower

When refueling, turn off the engine and give it a few minutes to cool down. If your blower has a 2-cycle engine, make sure you mix the oil and gasoline as recommended in the owner's manual.

DO NOT SPILL FUEL ON THE GROUND.

Training for leaf blower operators can be found at static.azdeq.gov/aqd/landscape_maint_guide.pdf



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