

Introduction and first reading: May 13, 2025
Public hearing: May 17, 2025
Second reading and enactment: May 17, 2025

INFORMATION ON PROPOSED ORDINANCE

Title

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Article Chapter 5 (NOISE CONTROL) of Title 11 (HEALTH, ENVIRONMENTAL, AND SANITARY REGULATIONS) of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.

Summary

This ordinance prohibits the use of gas-powered leaf blowers and gas-powered leaf vacuums. Further, this legislation includes a public-facing advisory of the City’s longstanding practice that the decibel limitations expressed in Table III of Code § 11-5-5(a)(3) do not apply to power lawn and garden equipment, which is separately regulated in Table II of Code § 11-5-4.1(16)..

Sponsor

James F. Parajon, City Manager

Staff

Mike Moon, Interim Director, T&ES
Jesse Maines, Division Chief, Stormwater Management, T&ES
Lindsay Dubin, Assistant City Attorney

Authority

§§ 2.04, 2.04(m), Alexandria City Charter
Va. Code §§ 15.2-980, 15.2-1102

Estimated Costs of Implementation

A total of \$75,000 is the estimated cost to phase-out the use of gas-powered leaf blowers for City departments, including Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Activities, Transportation and Environmental Services, and General Services. Funding for this activity was included in the approved FY 2026 Budget.