

"WE vs ME"

LANDSCAPING

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*Consider the neighbors,
the community as a whole,
and the environment in your
landscape choices*



FROM THIS--->

- Gas Leaf Blowers operating constantly (30 mins of 1 blower = exhaust emissions of driving a Ford Raptor pickup truck for 3900 miles. (Edmunds automotive lab study)
- Blow leaves, debris, and dust outward onto public areas/streets/others' yards. Blow non-permeable surfaces year-round creating toxic dust and degraded community air quality
- Remove every last leaf from a property, leading to topsoil erosion and poor soil health. Poor soil health impacts many things from pollinators to tree health, due to a lack of nutrients. Poor soil health also reduces moisture absorption which increases flooding potential from heavy rains
- Application of toxic pesticides/fertilizers/herbicides that end up in neighbors' gardens, public waterways and community drinking water
- Every home/business behaving as though constant/incessant blowing of dust and debris, in addition to adding synthetic fertilizer, pesticides, and herbicides makes a community "clean"
- Disregard for wildlife, large and small, as well as pets whose nervous systems are overwhelmed by high decibel gas leaf blowers
- Pay landscapers to treat one's own property WITHOUT regard for the landscaping workers' health and well-being
- Reduced property values, over time, as citizens realize that neighborhood walks and peaceful enjoyment of one's home is very difficult without inhaling fumes/dust and hearing the continuous high decibel noise of gas leaf blowers

TO THIS...

- Electric Blowers, rakes, and brooms (Relatively quiet, very efficient, no carcinogenic exhaust)
- Clear and compost (in green bins or garden beds) dense leaves from walkways.
- Leave the leaves on non-permeable surfaces to compost and enrich soil for tree/plant/microorganisms/ecosystem health, wildlife habitat, carbon sequestration, and flooding reduction.
- Avoid adding purchased fertilizers/pesticides/herbicides (or use environmentally safe ones sparingly only if needed). Leaves that naturally decompose are nature's fertilizer
- Peaceful community enjoyment where people from all walks of life can have healthy rest and recreation in the community. People who work odd hours, such as ER physicians and airline pilots can rest during the day if need be. Working professionals can be productive when working from home. Children can enjoy the outdoor environment. People enjoying retirement can enjoy peace during daylight hours.
- Animals, wild and domestic, are able to live without extreme landscape noise and pollution. A healthy ecosystem provides food and shelter.
- Request above sustainable practices from your landscaping company, thus showing regard for the landscape workers' health and well-being
- Higher property values due to increased quality of life in a tranquil environment that people seek out. Children can safely play in yards without risk of toxic landscaping chemicals