

## PACIFIC GROVE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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"Our community, your police"

February 5, 2005

Carl M. Miller Chief of Police (831) 648-3147

Thomas Uretsky Admin. Lieutenant (831) 648-3151

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## DEAR LEAF BLOWER OWNER OR USER:

The City of Pacific Grove has a very stringent law governing the use of gas or electric leaf blowers. Section 11.96.020 (b) of the Pacific Grove Municipal Code states that **gas blowers** that are capable of producing noise of **56dBA** at 50 feet away from your property lines are <u>illegal</u>. There is currently NO GAS blower that produces such a low noise level. Therefore, <u>NO GAS LEAF BLOWERS ARE ALLOWED</u>.

Electric leaf blowers are allowed as long as they do not produce a sound that exceeds **62 dBA** measured at fifty feet in any direction, §11.96.020(c) PGMC. Most electric blowers can meet this requirement, but look for a sound rating sticker or plate on your blower to see if it does.

It is also unlawful to blow debris (leaves, dirt, etc) off your property and not "immediately" pick it up, §11.92.020 (d) PGMC.

A violation of the above section is an infraction and carries a fine \$130.00 for each offense.

Also if you are operating a business in Pacific Grove, such as a gardening or yard cleaning business, city law §7.04.040 also <u>requires you to have a Pacific Grove Business License</u>. Operating a business in Pacific Grove, without a license is an arrestable offense and punishable by up to a \$500 fine and six months in jail (§7.04.280). You must also carry this license on your person when working in Pacific Grove (§7.04.180). You can get a business license at City Hall, 300 Forest Ave., Pacific Grove, during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, (831) 648-3100.

Please call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Police Chief