

Policy 3.6.2 City Use of Powered Equipment

POLICY PURPOSE:

City crews and contractors use a variety of powered equipment, including leaf blowers to clean and maintain municipal facilities and open space such as parking lots, the downtown area, landscaped median islands, the Community Center, parks, school sports fields, tennis courts, City Hall and the golf courses. The purpose of this policy is to define how the City crews will use powered equipment during regulated hours in or adjacent to residential areas. The goal of the policy is to preserve and enhance the quality of neighborhoods by continually striving to reduce noise levels related to the use of equipment needed to maintain and repair municipal facilities.

POLICY STATEMENT

The City shall:

1. Use newer, quieter equipment as available when working in areas in or adjacent to residences.
2. Use electric or battery-powered equipment whenever practical and feasible.
3. When replacing equipment, purchase quietest and least polluting models.
4. Whenever possible, start work later than 8:00 am when in or adjacent to residential areas.
5. When work must be started before 8:00 am, schedule tasks with the least noise impact and begin work in locations farthest from residences.
6. Respond to all noise complaints and try to resolve problems amicably.
7. When work must be scheduled during restricted hours (8:00 pm to 8:00 am), it should meet one or more of the following criteria:
 - Required work will create a safety hazard for the City crews or motorists.
 - Required work involves the use of dangerous or hazardous materials.
 - Required work presents a danger or inconvenience to pedestrians.
 - Required work involves the use or placement of equipment in locations that create a safety hazard to field crews and motorists.
 - Required work is for a facility that opens early for use by the general public.

(Adopted: RTC 99-247 (6/8/1999); (Clerical/clarity update, Policy Update Project 7/2005); Administrative Update (March 2012))

Lead Department: Department of Environmental Services