

1 **..Title**

2 **Postponing Enforcement of the Ban on Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers** – For the purpose of
3 directing the City Manager to postpone enforcement of the ban on gas-powered leaf blowers in
4 the City of Annapolis pursuant to O-28-23 until June 1, 2025, due to the need for residents and
5 businesses to transition to electric leaf blowers and the time required to establish a voucher
6 program; and generally related to the City's noise prohibitions.

7 **..Body**

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9 **CITY COUNCIL OF THE**
10 **City of Annapolis**

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12 **Resolution-58-24**

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14 **Introduced by: Alderman Savidge**

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16 **AN ORDINANCE** concerning

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18 **Postponing Enforcement of the Ban on Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers**

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20 **FOR** the purpose of directing the City Manager to postpone enforcement of the ban on gas-
21 powered leaf blowers in the City of Annapolis pursuant to O-28-23 until June 1, 2025, due
22 to the need for residents and businesses to transition to electric leaf blowers and the time
23 required to establish a voucher program; and generally related to the City's noise
24 prohibitions.

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26 **WHEREAS,** The City Council adopted Ordinance 28-23 on February 14, 2023, banning the use
27 of gas-powered leaf blowers due to their excessive noise; and

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29 **WHEREAS,** O-28-23 prohibits the use of gas-powered leaf blowers within City limits effective
30 January 1, 2025, and there is a fine associated with violating this ordinance; and

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32 **WHEREAS,** The City empathizes with the financial burden that the transition to electric leaf
33 blowers may impose on many City landscape and lawn care businesses and City
34 residents who do not currently own electric leaf blowers and will need to
35 purchase them to operate a leaf blower in compliance with O-28-23; and

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37 **WHEREAS,** The City has conducted research and has obtained information from the public
38 concerning the expense of purchasing electric leaf blowers; and

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40 **WHEREAS,** The City is committed to assisting lawn care and landscaping businesses and City
41 residents in the transition to electric leaf blowers through a City voucher program
42 providing discounts for the purchase of electric leaf blowers and wishes to
43 provide sufficient time to businesses and residents to purchase electric leaf
44 blowers with vouchers; and

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2 **WHEREAS,** The voucher program will take several months to establish.
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4 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that the
5 City Manager is hereby directed to postpone the enforcement of O-28-23, which pertains to the
6 regulations on gas-powered leaf blowers, until June 1, 2025, to provide time for the City to
7 establish a voucher program that will assist residents in replacing their gas-powered leaf blowers.
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9 **SECTION II: AND BE IT FURTHER ESTABLISHED AND ORDAINED BY THE**
10 **ANNAPOLIS CITY COUNCIL** that this resolution shall take effect upon passage.