To Our Lawn Care Company,

We would appreciate your taking care of our property without using leaf blowers in the landscaping process. There are many reasons for this request - the obvious issue of neighborhood noise, but also the health effects on workers, air pollution, and carbon emissions - that have been outlined below. Raking leaves and other debris would be our first choice; the use of a battery operated leaf blower is an alternative.

Thank you very much for your service and for honoring this request.

**Health and Environmental Effects of Leaf Blowers:**

 **Noise:** The health effects of leaf blowers are clearly worst for the user, but also affect nearby homeowners, passersby and even neighbors farther away from the source.

 **Toxic emissions and other pollution:** Pollution comes from two sources -

1. The machine itself which emits an unburned gas and oil aerosol as well as other toxic chemicals and particulates such as carbon monoxide, benzene and formaldehyde. The hydrocarbons emitted by a leaf blower contribute to smog and ozone production in amounts far greater than that of an automobile.

2. The dust that is thrown up by the blower. Besides being a general irritant, this dust may contain pollens, molds and other allergens, dried animal feces, and pesticide and herbicide residues from lawn and garden care.

 **Carbon dioxide:**  (Not sure what to say here…..it is actually less of an issue but should be noted)