POWER LEAF BLOWING

Leaf blowing may offer some conveniences for doing yard work, but it comes with responsibilities in being a considerate, law-abiding neighbor.

WHAT IS THE IMPACT?
Improper use of leaf blowers may lead to:
• Pollution of our bays and waterways
• Neighborhood flooding caused by clogged storm drains
• Noise and air pollution

Debris in our streets and storm drains can cause water quality problems in our creeks, lakes and surrounding bays. These problems include fish kills, algae blooms, odors and other concerns.

ENFORCEMENT
City ordinances prohibit blowing or depositing leaves, yard clippings or other debris into the public right-of-way, another property, city streets, alleys or storm drains. Violating these city restrictions may result in fines up to $500 for each occurrence. City ordinance allows the use of leaf blowers and other power tools 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday and 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Sundays and holidays.

PROPER LEAF BLOWING
Encourage healthy yards and prevent excess nutrients from entering our storm drains and polluting our waterways by using these techniques.

Dispose of them
Collect leaves and landscaping waste to compost them, use curbside pick-up or dispose of them at one of the city’s brush sites.

Use them
Mulch them into the lawn or blow them into landscape beds to recycle nutrients. They’ll decompose, returning nutrients to the soil. Additionally, they can help keep sand out of the streets and stabilize loose soils.

HOW TO GET IN TOUCH
Stormwater, Pavement and Traffic Operations:
727-893-7421
www.stpete.org/protectourbays

To report improper pool maintenance:
• Mayor’s Action Center: 727-893-7111
• SeeClickFix Website: www.seeclickfix.com/st-petersburg