



HOW TO APPROACH YOUR NEIGHBORS ABOUT QUIET LANDSCAPING

Congratulations on being a part of this effort to improve our neighborhoods!

1. Start by printing out copies of the QP Flyer, which includes the list of Quiet Landscapers, to discuss with your neighbors and to give to them.
2. It's best to go in pairs, with a friend or a member of Quiet Princeton. Go first to people who you think are more likely to say "yes," in order to give you a positive start.
3. After talking to neighbors, leave a copy of the QP flyer with them.
4. If no one is home, don't leave the flyer. Instead, go back on another occasion at a different time of day. Several visits may be needed, but it's worth it. We find that person-to-person contact to explain the program works best.
5. Make a simple record of whom you've visited, and the response you got. Send a copy to Quiet Princeton if you can: quietprinceton@verizon.net
6. Develop your own approach and tailor it depending on the neighbor's situation (does own maintenance using a leaf blower, employs a landscaper who works when the neighbor is away from home, etc.)
Here are some ideas:
"I want to tell you about an exciting neighborhood initiative to improve the quality of everyone's life..."
"While there are many sources of noise, leaf blowers are among the most disturbing. And, as you will see, the most easily prevented."
"Leaf blowers create disturbance that bothers scores of people in the surrounding neighborhood. If you are away when your landscaper uses leaf blowers, you may not be aware of the problem. If you are at home you know very well how loud it can be."

“A group of local residents has created a new win-win approach to reduce disturbing noise pollution. We have signed up a group of landscapers who have agreed to do lawn maintenance without leaf blowers. You can also instruct your own landscaper not to use leaf blowers.”

7. Once you have your neighbor’s interest, it will be necessary to describe the alternatives: **what to do about clippings and leaves**. If the neighbor employs a landscaper, you need to encourage him or her to **discuss the alternatives with the landscaper and how they affect cost**. Lean towards recommending mulching and light raking (quicker and cheaper) and discourage “scorched-earth” raking (which leaf blowers do). Scorched-earth raking is more expensive and is harmful to the environment. See alternatives in the [QP flyer](#). [link]

8. Obviously, use your common sense when talking to your neighbors. If neighbors are unenthusiastic, don’t force the issue. Just ask them to think about it.

9. Don’t expect instant results! This is a paradigm shift and it will take time. One neighbor at a time...

Questions? Comments? Problems?
E-mail QuietPrinceton@verizon.net
or call Quiet Princeton at 609-921-6365



QuietPrinceton.org