



Media Alert

Westchester County Introduces First-Ever Municipal 'Green-Zone' at Larchmont's Kane Park on September 22nd

The Village of Larchmont, with support from Sustainable Westchester, is leading the way in sustainable landscaping and environmental policy in the county.

Join us to learn about Westchester's first AGZA Certified Green Zone®, and see a demonstration of sustainable landscaping at the ribbon cutting ceremony in Kane Park on Wednesday, September 22nd from 10 am to 11 am. Village of Larchmont Mayor Lorraine Walsh and Larchmont Environmental Committee will lead the event.

The inauguration will celebrate the newly designated 'Green Zone' and recognize Larchmont's steadfast achievements in environmental sustainability.

Recently, the Village passed a landmark code, effective January 1, 2022, that entirely bans the use of gas-powered leaf blowers and restricts the use of electric leaf blowers to spring and fall clean-up periods. Larchmont is taking sustainable landscaping several steps further by encouraging mulch mowing, forgoing chemical pesticides and fertilizers and using native trees and plants in landscaping municipal properties.

"Larchmont is proud to be a leader in municipal green policy. It is essential that we rapidly change our practices in order to make meaningful progress in mitigating climate change." – **Mayor Lorraine Walsh**

With the help of the American Green Zone Alliance (AGZA), Larchmont's Green Zone demonstrates that properties can be well-maintained without use of fossil fuel-powered equipment.

"We are thrilled to establish Westchester County's first AGZA Certified Green Zone at Kane Park with the Village of Larchmont. Larchmont is leading by example and improving the quality of life for village residents. AGZA looks forward to expanding Larchmont's Green Zone areas and working together to reach out to private gardeners with education and information on how to reduce gas use." – **Dan Mabe, CEO, AGZA**

Using Larchmont as a model, Sustainable Westchester will work with its other member municipalities to roll out program education and information in order to develop additional Green Zones and greatly reduce pollution from landscape maintenance. Each Green Zone provides an essential framework of sustainable landscaping practices that can be adapted across the county.

“We congratulate Larchmont for their commitment and hard work in creating Westchester's first certified 'AGZA Green Zone' that will serve as a countywide model for sustainable and healthier landscaping practices. We are proud to have played a role in helping to facilitate this initiative with the Larchmont community and our partners American Green Zone Alliance (AGZA) and Quiet Communities. The Larchmont Green Zone is another example of the important work by Westchester municipalities and their dedicated environmental committees and volunteers. We look forward to using this model to help lead the way to greater adoption countywide.” – **Neha Dhanik, Program Director, Sustainable Westchester**

*****Interviews & Photo Ops*****

WHAT – Launch Ceremony for the Inauguration of Larchmont’s Green Zone.

WHEN – September 22, 2021 @ 10 AM [Rain date September 23, 2021 @10 AM]

WHERE – Kane Park, Larchmont 2214 US-1, Larchmont, NY. Access to the event and free parking is available on Kane Avenue.

WHO – Hear from:

County Executive George Latimer

Legislator Catherine Parker

Peter McCartt, Director of Energy Conservation & Sustainability, Westchester County

Assemblyman Steve Otis

Senator Shelly Mayer

Nina Orville, Executive Director, Sustainable Westchester

Kristin Andersen, Lisa McDonald & Sasha Nahr, Larchmont Environmental Committee

Austin Acocella, Landscaper for Village of Larchmont parks

Dan Mabe, CEO, American Green Zone Alliance

Jamie Banks, Founder, Quiet Communities

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