

Attachment 3

Zero-Emission Outdoor Power Equipment Jurisdictional Scan

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Introduction

In 2023, Toronto City Council expressed its support for a phase-out of the use of gas powered, two-stroke engine equipment in Toronto as a precaution against adverse impacts to human health and climate (2023.IE5.1). Towards this goal, the Clean Air Partnership (CAP) was retained by the City of Toronto to conduct a jurisdictional scan, interviews and data gathering.

This report provides a high-level review of existing municipal standards and policies related to the phase-out of two-stroke, gas-powered engine equipment. It examines how municipalities and U.S. states have approached the phase-out, including:

- types of restrictions imposed,
- how non-compliance is determined and reported,
- penalties,
- phase-out timelines,
- rationale behind restrictions.

Furthermore, the report reviews incentive programs that support the replacement of two-stroke, gas powered engine equipment with zero emissions alternatives, as well as communications and educational efforts encouraging community transitions.

The objective of the jurisdictional scan is to provide the City with guidance on lessons learned from other jurisdictions that have phased-out gas powered, two-stroke engine equipment.

There are three main parts to the study:

- Regulatory, policy, and standards review;
- Incentive programs; and
- Marketing and educational campaigns.

Purpose

The City of Toronto retained the Clean Air Partnership to conduct a jurisdictional scan of 25 jurisdictions across North America, including 23 municipalities and two U.S. states, and conducted interviews with staff from six municipalities that are transitioning their internal operations to zero-emission outdoor power equipment or have enacted community restrictions or bans.

Policy Learnings

The jurisdictional scan revealed that noise, environmental impact and health concerns are primary reasons for imposing ordinances on gas powered outdoor landscape equipment. In 21 of the 25 jurisdictions reviewed, penalties for non-compliance are monetary, often increasing with the number of offences. Out of seven incentive programs included in this scan, gas powered leaf blowers are the most frequently targeted piece of equipment. Educational flyers and brochures targeted at residents are used to promote either a community by-law/ordinance or to encourage the transition from gas powered to zero-emission outdoor power equipment.

Summary of Key Findings

1) Regulatory, policy, and standards review

The regulatory, policy, and standards review included a total of 25 jurisdictions across North America, including 23 municipal governments and two American states. All 25 jurisdictions include gas powered leaf blowers in their restrictions in some capacity, while 23 of the 25 exclusively restrict the use of gas-powered leaf blowers. The main reasons put forth by jurisdictions that have restrictions on gas-powered small engine equipment are concerns regarding health (9 out of 25), the environment (16 out of 25), and noise (24 out of 25). The rationale for exclusively banning leaf blowers and omitting additional gas-powered, two-stroke engine equipment from the ban is not explicitly provided.

2) Incentive programs

Seven incentive programs were reviewed to collect information on incentive types, rates, program structure, communication strategies, and participation metrics.

Of the seven incentive programs covered within this scan, five offered rebates, while only one offered grants and one offered point-of sale vouchers. The programs included an array of equipment; however, leaf blowers were included in the majority (six out of seven) of programs.

The tendency to include leaf blowers aligns with the jurisdictional scans bias toward restricting gas powered, two-stroke leaf blower use.

Information available online related to communication strategies and participation metrics is limited; however, Clean Air Partnership reached out to program staff to gain

further insight into these key program aspects and where possible these findings have been included in the scan.

3) Marketing and educational campaigns

All of the nine municipal governments included in the scan of marketing and educational campaigns are primarily employing educational flyers and brochures, however, it is not clear how these flyers are being distributed (whether they are being promoted on social media, distributed at public outreach events, mailed directly to resident inboxes, etc.).

Methods

The 25 jurisdictions included in the scan represent a range of restrictions on different types of gas powered, two-stroke engine equipment. Information on the jurisdictions' approaches was gathered through a review of websites, staff reports, municipal codes, and related documents as well as through six interviews and direct email communication. The initial questions pertaining to community restrictions that were provided to recipients via email are as follows:

- What enforcement mechanisms are in place?
 - Have these changed over time/ Were new mechanisms needed?
 - How many new staff were required to enforce the ban?
 - What is the proof of violation?
 - What is working, and what is not?
- Did the City provide incentive programs?
- What communication campaigns were used, and how effective did you find them?
- Were there any pre-existing bans you modeled your ban after?
- Any additional insight into the challenges faced during the transition period.

The questions pertaining to a corporate transition that were provided to recipients are as follows:

- How many batteries are needed to keep up with the maintenance demands of your crews?
- How do you gauge what "Peak" demand is on equipment to ensure proper tooling/battery supply?
- How is performance/use affected under real-world conditions (wet grass vs. dry grass; thick grass vs. sports fields)
- How will batteries perform after long periods of limited use in winter?
- Which equipment is more likely to be first replaced with an electric alternative (like-to-like operations) in your municipality?

Table 1. Jurisdictions included in the scan.

Jurisdiction
Ann Arbor, Michigan
Aspen, Colorado
Berkely, California
Beverly Hills, California
Burlingame, California
Bronxville, New York
Brookline, Massachusetts
California, U.S.A
Cambridge, Massachusetts
District of Columbia, U.S.A
Halifax Regional Municipality, Nova Scotia
Hermosa Beach, California
Lexington, Massachusetts
Evanston, Illinois
Montclair, New Jersey
Montgomery County, Maryland
Oakland, California
Pleasantville, New York
Portland, Oregon
Rye, New York
Santa Monica, California
Solana Beach, California
Vancouver, British Columbia
West Hollywood, California
Yonkers, New York

Table 2: Jurisdictions interviewed.

Jurisdiction
City of Aspen, Colorado
City of Ottawa, Ontario
City of Vancouver, British Columbia
District of Oak Bay, British Columbia
Halifax Regional Municipality, Nova Scotia
Metro Vancouver Regional District, British Columbia

Findings

Restriction Type and Exemptions

Twenty-three of the 25 jurisdictions have enacted restrictions exclusively on gas powered leaf blowers, while only two jurisdictions prohibit the use of all gas-powered, two-stroke engine equipment.

Ten jurisdictions have prohibited the use of gas-powered leaf blowers year-round (total prohibition), and one of these 10 has included gas-powered string trimmers in their restriction. Table 3 summarizes the type of restriction enacted and type of equipment restricted in each of the jurisdictions. The sum of the values displayed in Table 3 is not 25 due to instances where two separate restrictions exist in one jurisdiction.

The three jurisdictions that have banned the sale of equipment are Montgomery County, Maryland (gas powered leaf blowers and vacuums), Washington D.C. (gas-powered leaf blowers) and the State of California (all gas-powered small engine equipment). The former will prohibit the use of this equipment beginning in 2025, as per the amendments to the Country Noise Law adopted in 2023. California's ban on sales extends to manufactures and requires all new equipment to be zero emissions. However, the state has not released information on their plans to prohibit the use of gas powered, two-stroke engine equipment. Currently, municipal governments are enacting their own regulations.

Of the 14 jurisdictions that have not already prohibited the use of gas-powered leaf blowers, six have proposed to do so in the future (Ann Arbor, Michigan; Brookline, Massachusetts; Cambridge, Massachusetts; Lexington, Massachusetts; Montgomery County, Maryland; Portland, Oregon).

Correspondence with municipal staff from the City of Portland, Oregon provided insight into the rationale behind a seasonal ban, stating that the reason for the allowance between October and December is due to the "wet leaf season", when leaves are heavier and stick to surfaces, causing surfaces to be slippery. The reported ineffectiveness of removing wet leaves, due to zero emissions equipment being less powerful, not only prolongs the process, but increases the likelihood of workers and passerby slipping.¹ Gas powered leaf blowers will continue to be allowed during this season in the City of Portland, Oregon with the presumption that by 2028 the equipment will be improved, and the zero emissions version will be a like-to-like replacement.²

¹ Cooper, S. (2024, August 14). Portland ban on 2-stroke engine leaf blowers and other equipment [Email].

² Cooper, S. (2024, August 14). Portland ban on 2-stroke engine leaf blowers and other equipment [Email].

Table 3: Summary of gas-powered small engine restrictions of the 25 jurisdictions included in the jurisdictional scan.

	Total Prohibition	Seasonal	Time of Day	Neighbourhood Restriction	Seasonal and Time of Day	Ban on Sales
Gas Powered Leaf Blowers	11	6	3		1	
All Leaf Blowers				1		
Two-Stroke Engine Equipment			1	1		1
Gas Powered Leaf Blowers and String Trimmers	1					
Gas Powered Leaf Blowers and Vacuums			1			1

Non-Compliance, Penalties and Administration of Penalties

Penalties for non-compliance vary between jurisdictions. In six out of 25 jurisdictions perpetrators receive warnings upon the first offence, whereas in 13 out of 25 jurisdictions first time violations result in fines of varying sums (Table 4). It is common for jurisdictions to establish penalties for first, second and third offences, and at times the value of penalties for subsequent offences. In Table 4, in cases where information on penalties beyond the third offence has not been found, 'N/A' has been inserted. 'Unknown' has been inserted where information on penalties was unavailable, and Clean Air Partnership was unable to receive this information from jurisdictional staff.

Table 4: Penalties for non-compliance across jurisdictions.

Jurisdiction	First Offence	Second Offence	Third Offence	Fourth Offence	Fifth Offence
Municipal Governments					
Ann Arbor, Michigan ³	\$100	\$250*	\$250	\$250	\$250
Aspen, Colorado ⁴	Warning	\$100	\$250	\$500	Unknown
Berkely, California	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Beverly Hills, California	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Burlingame, California	Currently in a six month grace period before fines are administered.				
Bronxville, New York ⁵	\$250	\$500	\$1000	Unknown	Unknown
Brookline, Massachusetts ⁶	Written warning	\$50	\$100	\$150*	\$150
Cambridge, Massachusetts ⁷	\$300	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Halifax Regional Municipality, Nova Scotia ⁸	\$300+	\$700+	\$1000+	N/A	N/A
Hermosa Beach, California	Up to \$100	Up to \$200	\$500*	\$500	\$500
Evanston, Illinois ⁹	Written warning	\$100	\$150	\$200	\$250*
Lexington, Massachusetts ¹⁰	Up to \$50	Up to \$100	Up to \$200	Up to \$200	Unknown
Montclair, New Jersey ¹¹	\$250	\$500	\$1000*	\$1000	\$1000
Montgomery County, Maryland ¹²	\$500*	\$500*	\$500*	\$500*	\$500*

³ City of Ann Arbor. (n.d.-b). Gas leaf blower phase-out. <https://www.a2gov.org/departments/sustainability/Sustainability-Me/Businesses/Pages/Gas-Leaf-Blower-Phase-Out.aspx>

⁴ Sandifer, Sarah. (2024, October 11). *Gas powered leaf blower ban* [Email].

⁵ Village of Bronxville. (2021, June 14). Mitigating the health, environmental, and quality of life impacts of gas powered leaf blowers. https://www.villageofbronxville.com/sites/g/files/vyhlf336/f/pages/cody_bronxville_leaf_blower_report_june14_2021_2_2.pdf

⁶ Town of Brookline. (n.d.-a). Leaf blower bylaw. <https://www.brooklinema.gov/DocumentCenter/View/21303/>

⁷ City of Cambridge. (2016, September 12). Leaf blower regulations. <https://www.cambridgema.gov/-/media/Files/licensecommission/leafblowersandnoise/lbregulationsenglish.pdf>

⁸ Halifax Regional Municipality. (n.d.). By-law N-200: Respecting the use of leaf blowers. <https://www.halifax.ca/sites/default/files/documents/city-hall/legislation-by-laws/By-LawN-200.pdf>

⁹ City of Evanston. (n.d.). Leaf blowers. <https://www.cityofevanston.org/about-evanston/sustainability/leaf-blowers#:~:text=In%20November%202021%2C%20the%20Evanston,permitted%20after%20April%201%2C%202023.>

¹⁰ Town of Lexington. (n.d.). Bylaw on the use of landscape maintenance equipment. <https://www.lexingtonma.gov/796/Bylaw-on-the-Use-of-Landscape-Maintenanc>

¹¹ Spear, S. (2023, August 17). *Montclair bans gas powered leaf blowers starting in October: What to know*. Montclair Girl. <https://www.themontclairgirl.com/leaf-blower-ban-montclair-new-jersey/>

¹² Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection. (n.d.). Leaf blowers. <https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/DEP/property-care/leaf-blowers/index.html>

Jurisdiction	First Offence	Second Offence	Third Offence	Fourth Offence	Fifth Offence
Oakland, California ¹³	\$100	\$200	\$500	N/A	N/A
Pleasantville, New York ¹⁴	Up to \$500	Up to \$500	Up to \$500	Up to \$500	Up to \$500
Portland, Oregon ¹⁵	Warning	\$250	\$500	\$1000*	N/A
Rye, New York ¹⁶	Up to \$250	Up to \$350	Up to \$1,500	N/A	N/A
Santa Monica, California ¹⁷	Administrative citation	Up to \$250 if within one year from initial violation	N/A	N/A	N/A
Solana Beach, California ¹⁸	Warning	\$100	N/A	N/A	N/A
Vancouver, British Columbia ¹⁹	\$250+	\$250+	\$250+	\$250+	\$250+
West Hollywood, California ²⁰	Violations may result in a fine ranging from \$100 to \$500, plus an administrative fee of \$50.				
Yonkers, New York ²¹	Violations may result in a fine ranging from \$250 to \$5,000.				
States					
California	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
District of Columbia ²²	Up to \$500	Up to \$500	Up to \$500	Up to \$500	Up to \$500

*Amount fined for subsequent violations

Note: Fine amounts are shown in USD for American jurisdictions and CAD for Canadian jurisdictions.

¹³ Gardenland. (n.d.). City of Oakland bans gas powered leaf blowers, string trimmers. <https://www.gardenland.com/buyers-guide/city-of-oakland-bans-gas-powered-leaf-blowers-string-trimmers/>

¹⁴ Pleasantville, NY. (2023.). *Seasonal ban on gas powered leaf blowers: FAQ*. <https://www.pleasantville-ny.gov/projects-initiatives/pages/seasonal-ban-on-gas-powered-leaf-blowers-faq>

¹⁵ City of Portland. (n.d.). Ordinance no. 191653. <https://www.portland.gov/council/documents/ordinance/passed/191653>

¹⁶ City of Rye. (n.d.). Municipal code: Chapter 122 leaf blowers. <https://ecode360.com/40654630>

¹⁷ City of Santa Monica. (n.d.). Leaf blower policy. <https://www.santamonica.gov/leaf-blower-policy>

¹⁸ Kaplanek, B. (2011, January 6). New law limits leaf blower use in Solana Beach. The Coast News Group. <https://thecoastnews.com/new-law-limits-leaf-blower-use-in-solana-beach/>

¹⁹ City of Vancouver. (n.d.). *Noise Control By-law 6555: Part 5 offences and penalties*. <https://bylaws.vancouver.ca/6555c.PDF>

²⁰ City of West Hollywood. (2021, December 13). City's code compliance division increases outreach to residents about 'good neighbor' policies. <https://www.weho.org/Home/Components/News/News/10069/23>

²¹ City of Yonkers. (n.d.) Leaf blower ban. <https://www.yonkersny.gov/210/Leaf-Blower-Ban#:~:text=In%202007%2C%20the%20City%20of,health%20by%20reducing%20air%20pollution.>

²² Council of the District of Columbia. (2022). B22-0234: Gas powered leaf blower prohibition act. https://lms.dccouncil.gov/downloads/LIMS/37820/Signed_Act/B22-0234-SignedAct.pdf?Id=105999

Mechanism for Reporting Non-Compliance

Nineteen out of 23 municipal governments included in the scan have established complaint-driven reporting, where complaints are submitted either to police, public works, or code compliance departments. In the case of the City of Portland, Oregon, a complaint system has been proposed, however, there are concerns that a complaint system may disproportionately affect equity-deserving groups.²³

Through correspondence with Aspen, Colorado City staff, they expressed interest in enforcing via patrol rather than complaints to solve issues surrounding violators avoiding detection.²⁴ In addition to concerns around avoiding detection, complaint-based reporting has resulted in challenges in other jurisdictions. For example, in the City of Evanston, Illinois, landscapers have made claims that their staff have been harassed.²⁵

Interview Findings

Key findings from the interviews showed that the City of Vancouver, British Columbia had successfully transitioned approximately 90 per cent of their hedge trimmers and long pole saws to zero emissions alternatives. Similarly, District of Oak Bay, British Columbia found smaller equipment like zero-emission alternatives chainsaws, hedge trimmers and handheld leaf blowers worked well.

However, five out of six municipalities reported challenges with battery performance, with insufficient battery and equipment lifespan hindering operations. Completing larger, more demanding or longer tasks proved difficult with battery-operated equipment. For example, Halifax Regional Municipality, Nova Scotia reported that tasks like leaf removal in cemeteries require a mix of gas powered and zero emission equipment, while District of Oak Bay, British Columbia reported that zero emission leaf blowers were unsuitable for large tasks like long stretches of boulevards due to their short battery life. The City of Ottawa, Ontario found that handheld leaf blowers did not meet performance needs during wet seasons or in areas with dense vegetation. Additionally, the City of Vancouver, British Columbia reported that battery-operated string trimmers required mid-season replacements. The City of Ottawa, Ontario emphasized the importance of collecting daily input from staff during pilot programs to better understand the transition's challenges and benefits and to aid in equipment selection.

Incentive Programs Summary

This scan includes a total of seven incentive programs, five of which are administered at the municipal level. While the incentive programs administered by the South Coast Air Quality Management District and the El Dorado County Air Quality Management District operate under the same guidelines established by the California Air Resource Board,

²³ Cooper, S. (2024, August 14). Portland ban on 2-stroke engine leaf blowers and other equipment [Email].

²⁴ Sandifer, Sarah. (2024, October 11). *Gas powered leaf blower ban* [Email].

²⁵ Meadows, J. (2021, June 15). Evanston leaf blower policy changes hedged by city council. Patch. <https://patch.com/illinois/evanston/evanston-leaf-blower-policy-changes-hedged-city-council>

how they are administered differs and they are therefore considered two separate programs within this scan.

The most frequently (five out of seven) administered incentive type is a rebate, which provides customers with money following a purchase (Table 5). Within the scan, grants (funds that do not require repayment) and point-of-sale vouchers (which provide a discounted price at the time of purchase) were only administered once each.

Table 5: Number of programs per incentive type.

Type of Incentive	Number of Programs	Jurisdictions Using this Approach
Rebates	5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Burlingame, California• El Dorado County Air Quality Management District• Holland, Michigan• South Portland, Maine• Toledo, Ohio
Grants	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evanston, Illinois
Point-of-Sale Voucher	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• South Coast Air Quality Management District

Zero emissions leaf blowers are included in six out of seven incentive programs and were only excluded from The City of Toledo's Electric Lawn Mower Rebate Program (Figure 1). The tendency to include leaf blowers aligns with the jurisdictional scan's bias toward restricting gas-powered, two-stroke engine leaf blower use. Of the jurisdictions who provide incentives for gas-powered leaf blowers, only two have not implemented restrictions on gas-powered leaf blower use (Holland, Michigan and South Portland, Maine), although, South Portland recently held a City Council workshop focused on advancing an ordinance that would specifically prohibit gas-powered, two-stroke engine leaf blower use.²⁶

²⁶ Parmelee, Susan. (2024, October 16). South Portland Electrify Everything incentives for electric leaf gas blowers [Email].

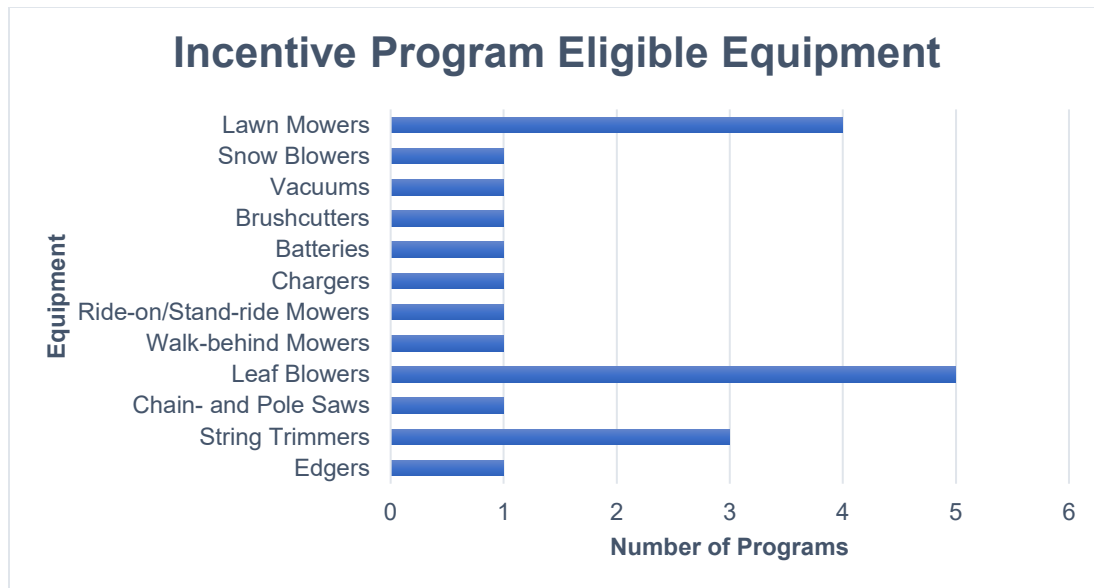


Figure 1: List of equipment included in the seven incentive programs reviewed.

Marketing and Educational Campaigns

Methods

To inform potential promotional campaigns, a review of marketing strategies and communication tools was conducted to identify current leading practices. This included the following:

- A literature review of marketing strategy communication tools for promoting environmental policy and behaviour and sustainable practices, including examples from environmental organizations; and
- A scan of jurisdictional communication campaigns related to zero-emission outdoor power equipment adoption and restrictions on gas powered, two-stroke engine equipment.

Marketing Tactics and Communication Tools Literature Review

A study conducted by Grilli and Curtis (2021) concluded that “improving environmental quality ... can be achieved by changing unsustainable behaviour”.²⁷ Those who feel motivated to protect the environment are more likely to support environmental policy and behave pro-environmentally.²⁸ Research has explored how to galvanize the public into increased motivation and pro-environmental behaviour. It has been suggested that to build trust between residents and municipal government and for residents to accept

²⁷ Grilli, G., & Curtis, J. (2021). Encouraging pro-environmental behaviours: A review of methods and approaches. *Renewable and Sustainable Energy Reviews*, 135. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S1364032120303300>

²⁸ Sharpe, E. J., Perlaviciute, G., & Steg, L. (2021). Pro-environmental behaviour and support for environmental policy as expressions of pro-environmental motivation. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, 76. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0272494421001031>

the need for action, municipal governments need to “begin to discipline themselves into more pro environmental practices”.²⁹

The European Environment Agency (EEA) conducted a scoping study in 2016 focused on the connections between public communication, environmental policy, and behavioural science. This report outlined a series of communication tools including nudging and social marketing. Several prominent campaigns centered on sustainable lawn care and yard practices have utilized the tools and tactics outlined in the EEA report (Table 6).

Table 6: Marketing tactics and communication tactics and tools.

Tactic/Tool	Description	Example/Campaign
Nudging	A predictable, repeated attempt to influence decision-making without limiting available choices by presenting one choice as more attractive and convenient than others, through minorly changing the setting in which decisions are made. ³⁰	<i>Bee City</i> Bee City is an organization dedicated to the protection of pollinators. Bee City Canada and Bee City USA utilize nudging by presenting pollinator friendly practices such as planting native gardens as easy and actionable steps.
Social Marketing	Marketing on the basis that certain ideas, attitudes, and behaviours are beneficial to the audience and greater population. ³¹	<i>Plastic Free Foundation – Plastic Free July</i> Plastic Free July is a movement that targets plastic waste reduction and aims to change consumption behaviours. The movement uses social marketing by framing practices that reduce plastic waste as positive for the greater good. For example, one of the reasons the Plastic Free Foundation promotes refusing single-use plastic straws is to protect animals who may ingest the waste.
Social Innovation	Presents new solutions as meeting needs more effectively than existing solutions, while also leading to improvements in asset and resource use. Generally, social innovation	<i>Grass Lawn Alternatives</i> Many organizations promote alternatives to grass lawns, such as native plant gardens, xeriscaping, and food-scaping, as superior to grass lawns. For example, GreenUP

²⁹ Burgess, J., Harrison, C. M., & Ilius, P. (1998). Environmental communication and the cultural politics of environmental citizenship. *Environment and Planning*, 30, 1445–1460. <https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/pdf/10.1068/a301445>

³⁰ European Environmental Agency. (2016). Communication, environment and behaviour: Scoping study on the links between public communication, environmental policy implementation and behavioural science. <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/communication-environment-and-behaviour/file>

³¹ European Environmental Agency. (2016). Communication, environment and behaviour: Scoping study on the links between public communication, environmental policy implementation and behavioural science. <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/communication-environment-and-behaviour/file>

Tactic/Tool	Description	Example/Campaign
	leads to increased public trust and encourages new social norms. Under this lens, environmental issues may be reframed as opportunities. ³²	promotes the low maintenance nature of native plant gardens. ³³
Social Media	A highly interactive platform that permits users to share, converse, and co-create in real-time on a broader scale in terms of reach, frequency, and proximity using direct, accessible language. ³⁴	No Mow May Introduced by United Kingdom based organization Plantlife, the goal of this movement is to support pollinators by putting a halt on lawn mowing throughout the early spring when there are limited floral resources. ³⁵ Plantlife utilizes social media to promote the movement by encouraging the use of hashtags such as #NoMowMay and providing the public with pre-developed sharable social media posts available through their website.
Direct Mail Marketing	Direct mail marketing is the practice of distributing promotional materials through mail directly to resident's home mailboxes. ³⁶	El Dorado The El Dorado County Air Quality Management District's Clean Lawn Equipment Incentive Program measure's marketing success through their incentive application by posing the question "How Did You Hear About the Clean Lawn Equipment Incentive Program?". Through this question, it has been determined that the program has encountered the most success through direct mail marketing.

³² European Environmental Agency. (2016). Communication, environment and behaviour: Scoping study on the links between public communication, environmental policy implementation and behavioural science. <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/communication-environment-and-behaviour/file>

³³ Goodchild, H. (n.d.). Peterborough GreenUP shares four reasons to plant a tree or shrub this fall. GreenUP. <https://greenup.on.ca/peterborough-greenup-shares-four-reasons-to-plant-a-tree-or-shrub-this-fall/>

³⁴ European Environmental Agency. (2016). Communication, environment and behaviour: Scoping study on the links between public communication, environmental policy implementation and behavioural science. <https://www.eea.europa.eu/publications/communication-environment-and-behaviour/file>

³⁵ Bee City USA. (n.d.). Now mow may, slow mow spring. <https://beecityusa.org/no-mow-may/>

³⁶ Canada Post. (n.d.). How to do direct mail: Your small business guide to launching a direct mail campaign. <https://www.canadapost-postescanada.ca/blogs/business/marketing/how-to-do-direct-mail-your-small-business-guide-to-launching-a-direct-mail-campaign/>

Jurisdictional Communication Campaigns

Two-Stroke, Gas-Powered Engine Equipment Restrictions

Several of the tools and tactics highlighted in Table 6 have been employed by jurisdictions with the objective of promoting restrictions on gas powered, two-stroke engine equipment and advancing zero-emission outdoor power equipment adoption. Each jurisdiction included in this scan has utilized social marketing by presenting zero emissions alternatives as having widespread benefits, ranging from emissions reduction to health benefits. Often, several tactics have been used to relay these benefits to the public, often communicated via promotional flyers, webpages and public service announcements. Table 7 provides a detailed list of communication tools, however, information on marketing strategies was not available. The flyers and brochures found during this search can be viewed in Appendix 2.A.

Table 7: Summary of municipal social marketing strategies and communications tools disaggregated by jurisdiction.

Jurisdiction	Marketing Strategies and Communication Tools
Annapolis, Maryland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FAQ webpage on the municipal site - Go Electric: Leaf Blower Policy webpage on the municipal site - Bilingual flyers (Figure 6)
Ann Arbor, Michigan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dedicated webpage on the municipal site - Electric Lawn Care Case Study Guide - Gas Leaf Blower Phase-Out FAQ - Gas Leaf Blower Phase-Out Flyer (Figure 7) - The City will be hosting a Sustainable Lawn Care Learning Session in October 2024, open to homeowners, lawn care companies, and property owners and will include presentations and live demonstrations
Aspen, Colorado	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bilingual flyers (Figure 8) - Emails directly to landscaping companies - Local newspaper announcements - Social media posts - Community Development Newsletter
Brookline, Massachusetts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dedicated webpage on municipal site - Brochure outlining best practices regarding how and when to use leaf blowers (Figures 9 and 10)
Burlingame, California	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dedicated webpage on municipal site - Leaf Blower Ban Flyer, available in English and Spanish (Figure 11) - Leaf Blower Ordinance Informational Flyer

Jurisdiction	Marketing Strategies and Communication Tools
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Leaf Blower Regulation Reminder, available in English and Spanish
Coronado, California	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gas powered Leaf Blower Ban webpage on municipal site - Gas powered Leaf Blower Ban flyers (English and Spanish) (Figure 812) - Public service announcement published to YouTube - Two electric leaf blower virtual webinars
Montgomery County, Maryland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Multiple webpages on the municipal site, including pages on the following: Ordinance, About Electric Leaf Blowers, Buying Electric Leaf Blowers, Electric Leaf Blower Rebates, and Leaf Blower FAQs - Gas powered leaf blower ban flyer (Figure 13)
Oakville, Ontario	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Providing information on their Community Climate Action webpage - Choose electric over gasoline flyer (Figure 14)
Paulo Alto, California	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Blog post on City run blog - Webpage on municipal website - Gas powered Leaf Blowers Prohibited in Residential Neighborhoods brochure (Figure 15)

Across the nine jurisdictions included in the review, all used flyers as a tool to promote bans on gas-powered and/or two-stroke engine equipment and encourage the adoption of zero emission outdoor power equipment (Table 15). Seven of the nine municipalities have enacted, or are advancing, a ban and have dedicated webpages located on their municipal website. The municipality that utilizes the largest variety of communication tools, including an in-person event and study guide (both of which are not utilized by any other jurisdiction), is Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Table 8: Summary of communication mechanisms.

Jurisdiction	Webpage	Flyers	Study Guide	Virtual Event	Public Service Announcement	In Person Event	Blog/ Newspaper post
Ann Arbor, Michigan	x	x	x	x		x	
Annapolis, Maryland	x	x					
Aspen, Colorado		x			x		x
Burlingame, California	x	x					
Brookline, Massachusetts	x	x					

Jurisdiction	Webpage	Flyers	Study Guide	Virtual Event	Public Service Announcement	In Person Event	Blog/ Newspaper post
Coronado, California	x	x		x	x		
Montgomery County, Maryland	x	x					
Oakville, Ontario		x					
Paulo Alto, California	x	x					x

The review found that when promoting bans or encouraging a transition away from gas powered, two-stroke engine equipment, jurisdictions are likely to highlight the following benefits in their communication tools (Table 16):

- carbon reduction;
- improved health;
- financial savings;
- improved air quality;
- lightweight/less physically demanding yard work; and
- noise reduction.

As displayed in Table 16, carbon reduction is the most cited benefit among the sample (six out of nine). Of the seven municipalities that have enacted a ban, six have implemented a ban and are using the flyers as educational tools targeting residents.

The only exception is the Town of Oakville, Ontario, which is promoting the adoption of zero-emission outdoor power equipment to residents through an annual six month campaign but have not yet indicated that they are pursuing a municipal ban or bylaw.

Table 9: Benefits of zero-emission outdoor power equipment mentioned in communication tools.

Jurisdiction	Carbon Reduction	Improved Health	Financial Savings	Improved Air Quality	Lightweight	Noise Reduction
Ann Arbor, Michigan	x	x				x
Annapolis, Maryland		x	x			x
Aspen, Colorado						
Burlingame, California				x		x
Brookline, Massachusetts	x					x

Jurisdiction	Carbon Reduction	Improved Health	Financial Savings	Improved Air Quality	Lightweight	Noise Reduction
Coronado, California						
Montgomery County, Maryland	x	x	x	x		x
Oakville, Ontario	x	x	x	x	x	
Paulo Alto, California	x					x

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Appendix 2.a

Clean Lawn Equipment Incentive Program Communications Materials

THE CLIPPER • (530) 626-3460 www.theclipper.com FEBRUARY 27, 2024 — PAGE 27



Clean Lawn Equipment Incentive Program

El Dorado County residents can receive incentives of \$100 to \$2,000

when you replace your old gas powered lawn equipment with zero emission cordless electric lawn equipment.

INCENTIVE PROGRAM STEP BY STEP:

STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6
Purchase a new cordless electric lawn equipment device from a store or order online.	Apply for the CLIP program at: EDCCleanAir.org	Receive your approved CLIP application via email. Print approved CLIP application.	Within 30 days of the purchase of the new lawn equipment, take the old gas powered lawn equipment and the approved application to an approved disposal site. Disposal site will sign application and return to you.	Deliver complete application and copy of receipt for new equipment to EDC AQMD in person or via email. (edcaqmd@edcgov.us)	In 4 to 6 weeks, receive a check from El Dorado County AQMD for your incentive!
					

INCENTIVE AMOUNTS:

- Leaf Blower - **up to \$100***
- Walk-Behind Lawnmower - **up to \$200***
- Chainsaw, Trimmer, Edger, Brush Cutter, "Weed-eater" - **up to \$200***
- Ride-On Lawnmower - **up to \$2,000***

*incentive amount cannot exceed price of lawn equipment

Applicants must meet specific eligibility requirements:

- Reside in El Dorado County.
- Currently own and operate working gasoline or diesel powered lawn equipment.
- Purchase replacement new, cordless, electric lawn equipment.
- Application **MUST** be approved by AQMD before you dispose of old equipment.
- You must dispose of the old lawn equipment within 30 days of purchase of new lawn equipment.
- Surrender old lawn equipment to:
 - El Dorado Disposal MRF - Placerville
 - Radius Recycling (formerly Schritzer Steel) - Rialto/Corralville, CA
 - South Tahoe Refuse & Recycling Services - South Lake Tahoe

To apply, visit  EDCCleanAir.org or call (530) 621-7501


Figure 2: Clean Lawn Equipment Incentive advertisement in The Clipper, page 1.³⁷

³⁷ Wilson, Scott. (2024, October 25). Clean lawn incentive program [Email].

THE CLIPPER • (530) 626-3400 www.theclipper.com SEPTEMBER 24, 2024 — PAGE 35

El Dorado County residents can receive an incentive of **\$200 to \$2,000 and improve their community's air quality at the same time!**

NEW INCENTIVES!



THE EL DORADO COUNTY AIR QUALITY MANAGEMENT DISTRICT OFFERS INCENTIVE PROGRAMS TO RESIDENTS OF EL DORADO COUNTY TO IMPROVE LOCAL AIR QUALITY.

RIP
Chimney Smoke Reduction Incentive Program

The **Chimney Smoke RIP** offers **\$599 to \$2,000*** to replace a non-EPA certified woodstove with a new efficient, cleaner burning, eligible EPA certified device.

*\$2,000 incentive available to low-income residents or residents of designated low-income communities

The expanded **Clean Lawn equipment Incentive Program (CLIP)** offers **\$100 to \$2,000** to replace a piece of gas powered lawn equipment with a zero-emission cordless electric version. Now includes mowers, leaf blowers, weedeaters and more!

CLIP
Clean Lawn equipment Incentive Program

CHARGE
Charge At your Residence and Go Electric

The new **CHARGE At your Residence and Go Electric (CHARGE)** incentive program offers plug-in car owners and lessees a **\$300** incentive to purchase and install a home EV charger.

The **Drive Clean!** incentive program offers El Dorado County residents a **\$599** incentive towards the purchase or lease of an eligible electric, plug-in hybrid, or hydrogen vehicle.

DRIVE CLEAN!
Electric/Plug-in Hybrid Vehicle Incentive Program

FOR DETAILS, CALL OR VISIT:


(530) 621-7501  **EDCCleanAir.org**

Figure 3: Clean Lawn Equipment Incentive advertisement in The Clipper, page 2.³⁸

³⁸ Wilson, Scott. (2024, October 25). Clean lawn incentive program [Email].

THRIVE PRESENTS BACK THE BADGE

**Rustic Gala
The Heart Behind the Badge**

MARCH 9, 2024
DOORS OPEN 5:00PM
DINNER AT 6:30PM
EL DORADO COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
800 PLACERVILLE DR.
PLACERVILLE, CA

TICKETS
\$15.00
\$35.00 (Includes Dinner)
\$10.00 (Kids)

JUST OFF YOUR HOURS? JOIN US FOR A FUN FILLED EVENING!
AUCTION DINNER RAFFLE

Reservations Available
https://heartbehindthebadge.eventbrite.com

www.thewindfall.net
EL DORADO COUNTY
EL DORADO COUNTY
EL DORADO COUNTY

PLATINUM STAR SPONSOR \$1,000

- 10 RESERVED TABLES FOR 8
- 10 RESERVED TABLES FOR 4
- 10 RESERVED TABLES FOR 2
- 10 RESERVED TABLES FOR 1
- 10 RESERVED TABLES FOR 0
- 10 RESERVED TABLES FOR 0
- 10 RESERVED TABLES FOR 0
- 10 RESERVED TABLES FOR 0
- 10 RESERVED TABLES FOR 0
- 10 RESERVED TABLES FOR 0

GOLD STAR SPONSOR \$500

- 5 RESERVED TABLES FOR 8
- 5 RESERVED TABLES FOR 4
- 5 RESERVED TABLES FOR 2
- 5 RESERVED TABLES FOR 1
- 5 RESERVED TABLES FOR 0
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- 5 RESERVED TABLES FOR 0

SILVER STAR SPONSOR \$250

- 5 RESERVED TABLES FOR 8
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- 5 RESERVED TABLES FOR 2
- 5 RESERVED TABLES FOR 1
- 5 RESERVED TABLES FOR 0
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- 5 RESERVED TABLES FOR 0
- 5 RESERVED TABLES FOR 0

Bronze Star Sponsor \$100

- 5 RESERVED TABLES FOR 8
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Reserved Table \$700
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Tickets available at:
https://heartbehindthebadge.eventbrite.com
www.thewindfall.net
EL DORADO COUNTY
EL DORADO COUNTY
EL DORADO COUNTY

Tell 'em The Windfall sent you!

WINDFALL "Everyone Needs One!"

FIND YOUR WINDFALL IN:

- CAMERON PARK
- CEDAR GROVE
- COLOMA
- COOL
- DIAMOND SPRINGS
- EL DORADO
- EL DORADO HILLS
- FOLSOM
- GARDEN VALLEY
- GEORGETOWN
- GREENWOOD
- GRIZZLY FLATS
- MT. ALPINE
- PLACERVILLE
- PLEASANT VALLEY
- PLYMOUTH
- POLLOCK PINES
- RIVER PINES
- SHINGLE SPRINGS

Pleasant Valley Pet Clinic
Comprehensive Veterinary
Medical, Surgical & Dental Care
Serving the Community Since 1991
"Caring for the Pets you Love"
4561 Pleasant Valley Rd.
Placerville/Pleasant Valley
530-644-2424
pleasantvalleypetclinic.com

David Johnson, DVM
Kathy Lutzke, DVM
Dr. Maggie MacQueen, DVM

Service Call with Repair
\$20 OFF
We service most makes & models
for our regular service area. Restrictions apply.
We're in your neighborhood!
SCOTT'S HEATING & AIR
530-644-2206
scottshs@scottshs.com

See's CANDIES
Stop by the Mother Lode Lions Club
Candy Shack - We're OPEN!
Mother Lode Lions Club Foundation - Proudly
serving this community for 75 years. Community
service funds made available through 28 years of
fundraising work by selling See's Candies.
- Tell 'em The Windfall sent you!

Support These Local Businesses
- Tell 'em The Windfall sent you!

Save money on Propane
is easy with 49'R Propane!
\$ Auto-Hill - Don't run out of gas!
\$ Credit Card Acceptance
\$ Don't Pay Delivery Fees!
\$ Get paid for your loyalty!
\$ Senior Discount!
\$ Special Summer Rates!

49'R PROPA
530-622-1353
870 Truck St. Placerville
www.49rpropane.com

RESIDENTIAL COMMERCIAL INDUSTRIAL
DEMOLITION • EXCAVATION • DEBRIS REMOVAL
LICENSED AND INSURED
PACIFIC WEST, INC.
CALL: 530-642-4285
EMAIL: JEFF@JASPACIFICWEST.COM

El Dorado County residents can receive \$100 to \$2,000
By disposing of a piece of gas powered lawn & garden equipment and replacing it with a cordless electric version!
FOR DETAILS, CALL OR VISIT:
(530) 621-7501 EDCCleanAir.org

The El Dorado County Air Quality Management District (AQMD) is pleased to announce the expanded Clean Lawn equipment Incentive Program (CLIP). CLIP incentivizes the retirement of gasoline powered lawn equipment and replacement with cordless electric lawn equipment. These incentives are funded with state Carl Meyer Program funds.

CLIP will provide an incentive in the following amounts:

- Leaf blower - up to \$100
- Walk-behind lawnmower - up to \$200
- Chainsaw, Trimmer, Edger, Brush cutter, "weed-eater" - up to \$200
- Ride-on lawnmower - up to \$2,000

Figure 4: Clean Lawn Equipment Incentive Program advertisement posted in The Windfall.³⁹

³⁹ Wilson, Scott. (2024, October 25). Clean lawn incentive program [Email].

PRESCHOOL

From page 5

Winemomco.

The Boys and Girls Club of North Lake Tahoe encompasses Incline Village, Kings Beach, and Truckee. It serves 1,400 children annually and 400 per day. The Incline Village location at the elementary school serves kindergarten

through 5th graders with programs before and after school and during breaks. Annually, there are 168 children in the program with 85 per day.

"So with this opportunity, we're really at the beginning phases in exploring existing facilities that can support and operate a center in Incline," Carhaji said. "This would really be

like seed funding for doing an assessment ... we don't have a designated spot yet."

The project timeline is to find a suitable place in Incline Village to support a childcare center by the end of 2024.

"Right now we have 15 Incline Village families on our waitlist," Carhaji said. "It's a tricky number ... parents need to get on

those lists from birth."

The Kings Beach preschool is full and runs at capacity. It takes 24 children ages 3 to 5 who are potty trained.

The Boys and Girls Clubs help 25,000 youth in 90 Nevada communities. It offers outcome-based programs supported by engaged and trained professionals.

TAHOE BASIN

From page 8

- Meyers 6:00-7:30 p.m. Meyers Elementary School 1095 E. San Bernardino Avenue South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Thursday, June 6 - Fallen Leaf Lake 6:00-7:30 p.m. Fallen Leaf Lake Community Center - Price Lane

"We want this effort to provide an opportunity for individual communities to share their vision for future development and needs," said Brendan Ferry, Deputy Director

of the County's Tahoe Planning and Stormwater Division. "Both the website and community workshops have been planned to maximize public engagement in this process."

This is the first of a three-phased approach which will continue through the end of 2024. We anticipate possible of adoption the TED Area Plan by the County and TRPA by the end of 2026.

For additional information, please visit TE-DAreaPlan.com.

LEIGHTON

From page 7

exercises, and community events such as parades, and

be ready to respond when needed.

Joining CERT is a meaningful way to give back to our community and ensure

that we're prepared to face any challenge that comes our way. We look forward to welcoming you to our team.

For more information or to sign up, please visit <https://www.certfire.net/cert/> or <https://nrltpd.org/cert/>.

El Dorado County residents can receive incentives of

\$100 to \$2,000

when you replace your old gas powered lawn equipment with zero-emission cordless electric lawn equipment!

INCENTIVE PROGRAM STEP BY STEP:

STEP 1

Purchase a new cordless electric lawn equipment device from a store or order online.

STEP 2

Apply for the Clean Lawn equipment Incentive Program (CLIP) at: EDCCleanAir.org

STEP 3

Receive your approved CLIP application via email. Print approved CLIP application.

STEP 4

Within 30 days of the purchase of the new lawn equipment, take the old gas powered lawn equipment and the approved application to an approved disposal site. Disposal site will sign application and return to you.

STEP 5

Deliver complete application and copy of receipt for new equipment to EDC AQMD in person or via email. (edcaqmd@edgov.us)

STEP 6

In 4 to 6 weeks, receive a check from El Dorado County AQMD for your incentive!

MAXIMUM CLIP INCENTIVE AMOUNTS:

 Leaf Blower \$100	 Walk-Behind Lawnmower \$200	 Chainsaw, "Weed-eater" Trimmer, Edger, \$200	 Ride-On Lawnmower \$2,000
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Applicants must meet specific CLIP eligibility requirements:

- Reside in El Dorado County
- Currently own and operate working gasoline or diesel powered lawn equipment
- Purchase replacement new cordless, electric lawn equipment
- Application MUST be approved by AQMD before you dispose of old equipment
- You must dispose of the old lawn equipment within 30 days of purchase of new lawn equipment
- Submitter will own equipment to:
 - South Tahoe Recycling & Reusing Services - South Lake Tahoe
 - El Dorado Disposal WPT - Placerville, CA
 - Rockies Recycling (formerly Johnson's Recycling) - Reno, CA

Clean Lawn equipment Incentive Program

Chainsaw, Trimmer, Edger Incentive Program

Electric Plug-in Hybrid Vehicle Incentive Program

Charge All your Vehicles and Go Electric

FOR DETAILS, CALL OR VISIT:

(530) 621-7501

EDCCleanAir.org

Figure 5: Clean Lawn Equipment Incentive Program advertisement in the Tahoe Daily Tribune.⁴⁰

⁴⁰ Wilson, Scott. (2024, October 25). Clean lawn incentive program [Email].

EXAMPLES OF COMMUNICATION CAMPAIGNS



Figure 6: Gas powered leaf blowers, Annapolis, Maryland. ⁴¹

⁴¹ City of Annapolis. (n.d.). Go electric: Leaf blower policy. <https://www.annapolis.gov/2184/Go-Electric-Leaf-Blower-Policy>



GAS LEAF BLOWER PHASE-OUT

Leaf Blower Ordinance

In December 2023, the Ann Arbor City Council passed new restrictions on the use of gas-powered leaf blowers within Ann Arbor city limits.

What are the new restrictions?

- **Summer ban:** Beginning this year, the use of gas-powered leaf blowers is prohibited in the city from June 1st to September 30th.
- **Seasonal use and phase-out:** The use of gas-powered leaf blowers is permitted from October 1st to May 30th through 2027. Starting January 1st, 2028, the use of gas-powered leaf blowers will be prohibited at all times in the city.

Why transition away from gas-powered leaf blowers?

- **Health:** Gas-burning leaf blowers release harmful pollutants that increase the risk of cardiovascular disease, cognitive impairment, and respiratory disease.
- **Noise:** Gas-powered leaf blowers can operate as loud as 100 decibels, which is almost as loud as a jet flyover. This can cause hearing damage and stress from noise pollution.
- **Emissions:** Using a gas leaf blower for one hour can emit the same amount of greenhouse gases as driving a car over 1000 miles.

What are the alternatives?

- **Go electric:** Electric leaf blowers are healthier alternatives to their gas-burning counterparts and are widely available.
- **Skip the leaf blower:** Leaving whole or mulched leave on a lawn can help create a habitat for pollinators, and a broom or rake can be used to remove leaves from sidewalks or driveways.

How can violations be reported?

Violations of the ordinance can be reported to the Ann Arbor Police Department Community Standards at (734)-794-6942.

What is coming next?

- The City of Ann Arbor will launch resources to help lower the cost of transitioning to electric leaf blowers by the end of 2024.

Questions? | Email sustainability@a2gov.org | Visit osi.a2gov.org/leafblowers

Figure 7: Gas leaf blower phase-out, Ann Arbor, Michigan. ⁴²

⁴² City of Ann Arbor. (2024). Gas leaf blower phase-out [Flyer]. <https://www.a2gov.org/departments/sustainability/Sustainability-Me/Businesses/Documents/Gas%20Leaf%20Blower%20Phase-Out%20Flyer.pdf>



GAS POWERED LEAF BLOWERS ARE PROHIBITED IN THE CITY OF ASPEN.



Did you know? Gas-powered leaf blowers have been banned in Aspen since 2003. Gas-powered leaf blowers are a source of air pollution and a noise disturbance to Aspen's residents, guests, and wildlife. Electric or battery-powered leaf blowers, which are both quieter and more environmentally-friendly, must be used instead. Users of gas-powered leaf blowers can incur fines up to \$2650 per day. Thank you for helping keep Aspen clean and serene for the enjoyment of all.

Visit aspen.gov/329/Noise or email sarah.sandifer@aspen.gov for more information.

Section 18.04.040(a)(9) - Noises prohibited; nuisances.

Figure 8: Gas powered leaf blowers are prohibited in the City of Aspen. Aspen, Colorado. ⁴³

⁴³ Sandifer, Sarah. (2024, October 11). Gas powered leaf blower ban [Email].



Figure 9: Leaf blower by-law and regulations, Page 1, Brookline, Massachusetts.⁴⁴

⁴⁴ Town of Brookline. (n.d.). Leaf blower by-law and regulations [Brochure].
<https://www.brooklinema.gov/DocumentCenter/View/21302/Brookline-Leaf-Blower-Regulations-Brochure-2023?bidId=>

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS: A TEAM APPROACH TO SAFETY

LIVABLE NEIGHBORHOODS

Town Meeting passed the Leaf Blower Bylaw in order to reduce emissions and noise created from leaf blower use. The bylaw regulates when gas-powered leaf blowers may be used and the maximum decibel level allowed. The goal is to eliminate the use of gas-powered leaf blowers outside of heavy leaf litter collection periods. The regulations are intended to support livable neighborhoods through greater compliance and improved enforcement.

LEAF BLOWER USE

- Article 8.31 Town By-Law holds that: Property owners/managers are **CO-RESPONSIBLE** for compliance with the By-law. Both are subject to penalties following any violation.
- Property owners/managers are not only responsible for the compliant operation of leaf blowers on the property they control, but also on contiguous sidewalks and streets
- On land parcels of 7,500 sq. ft. or less in size, a maximum of two leaf blowers may be used simultaneously

VIOLATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING PENALTIES:

First Offense: Written warning
Second Offense: \$50
Third Offense: \$100
Each Subsequent Offense: \$150

ENFORCEMENT PROCEDURES

The DPW is responsible for complaint handling and monitoring, as well as enforcement coordination with the police.

Leaf blower violations should be reported to:

Department of Public Works
 Monday – Friday | 7am–3pm | 617-879-4900

After business hours:

Brookline Police Department | 617-730-2222

The DPW will contact and inform property owners/managers if a violation has been reported to have taken place on their property, as well as any hired landscaper involved. When applicable, violations will be issued to both the property owner, as well as the hired landscaper involved.

NOISE LEVEL

The Town By-Laws require that any portable leaf blower used in the town have a manufacturer's sticker or a DPW sticker certifying a noise level of no more than 67 dBA when measured at a distance of fifty feet, utilizing American National Standard Institute methodology.

Leaf blowers needing a sticker can be tested at the Municipal Service Center, by appointment on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the following months: October, November, December, March, April and May.

Town Exemption: The Department of Public Works is exempt from the Article 8.31 By-Law.

Please read carefully as to how the Leaf Blower By-Law and regulations affect you and how violations will be enforced.

www.brooklinema.gov/dpw



SEASONAL BAN FOR GAS POWERED LEAF BLOWERS*



DATES PROHIBITED

May 16 - September 30
 January 1 - March 14



DATES PERMITTED

March 15 - May 15 October 1 – December 31



HOURS PERMITTED

Monday - Friday: 8am - 8pm
 Saturday- Sunday and Holidays: 9am - 6pm

*Electric leaf blowers are permitted year round during the permitted hours above.



Figure 10: Leaf blower by-law and regulations, Page 2, Brookline, Massachusetts.⁴⁵

⁴⁵ Town of Brookline. (n.d.). Leaf blower by-law and regulations [Brochure].
<https://www.brooklinema.gov/DocumentCenter/View/21302/Brookline-Leaf-Blower-Regulations-Brochure-2023?bidId=>



GAS LEAF BLOWERS PROHIBITED



Residents should inform their gardeners about the gas leaf blower ban. Gas leaf blowers may not be used in Burlingame.

Burlingame's leaf blower day of the week schedule remains in effect and is unchanged.


1 hour leaf blower use
=

driving 1100 miles from LA to Denver

California Air Resources Board



Electric Leaf Blower Rebate

Apply for a rebate for the purchase of an electric leaf blower and/or battery and charger equipment.

Residents: **\$100 per household**

Commercial Landscapers: **\$500 per business license**

www.burlingame.org/leafblowers

Figure 11: Gas leaf blowers prohibited, Burlingame, California. ⁴⁶

⁴⁶ City of Burlingame. (n.d.). Gas leaf blowers prohibited [Flyer]. https://www.burlingame.org/DocumentCenter/View/4700/Leaf-Blower-Ban-Flyer_-English-PDF



Figure 12: Gas powered leaf blower ban, Coronado, California. ⁴⁷

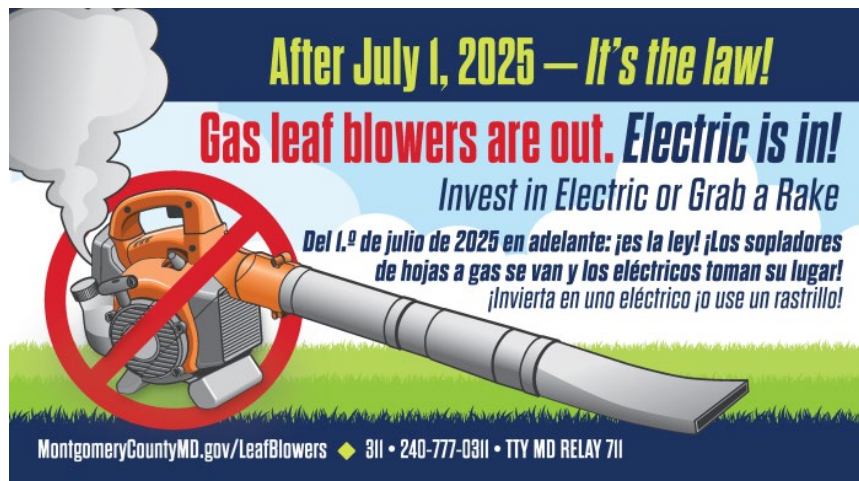


Figure 13: Gas leaf blowers are out, Montgomery County, Maryland. ⁴⁸

⁴⁷ City of Coronado. (n.d.). Gas-powered leaf blower ban. <https://www.coronado.ca.us/296/Gas-powered-Leaf-Blower-Ban>

⁴⁸ My Green Montgomery. (2024, July 20). Gas leaf blowers are out, electric are in-law changing July 1, 2025. <https://mygreenmontgomery.org/2024/montgomery-countys-leafblower-law-what-does-it-mean-for-me/>



Figure 14: Choose electric over gasoline campaign flyer, Oakville, Ontario.⁴⁹

⁴⁹ City of Oakville. (n.d.). Choose electric over green [Flyer]. <https://www.oakville.ca/getmedia/4b9c4aaf-46d0-4575-a1d9-f263c7c77f19/environment-electric-yard-tools.pdf>



Figure 15: Gas powered leaf blowers prohibited, Paulo Alto, California.⁵⁰

⁵⁰ City of Paulo Alto. (n.d.). Gas powered leaf blowers prohibited in residential neighborhood [Flyer].
https://www.cityofpaloalto.org/files/assets/public/v/1/development-services/gas-powered-leaf-blowers-flyer_english.pdf