



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: November 18, 2025

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## Air District launches commercial electric lawn and garden equipment exchange

Eligible landscapers can receive up to \$15,000 to replace combustion-powered equipment with zero-emission alternatives

**SAN FRANCISCO** – The Bay Area Air District today announced the launch of its Commercial Electric Lawn and Garden Equipment Exchange Program, a pilot grant program designed to reduce air pollution by replacing gasoline and diesel-powered landscaping equipment with cleaner, zero-emission electric alternatives.

"Small gas-powered engines used in lawn and garden equipment are a significant source of air pollution in our region," said Dr. Philip Fine, executive officer of the Air District. "This program is an important step in helping commercial operators switch to cleaner, electric equipment, improving air quality and protecting the health of Bay Area residents while also reducing emissions."

The pilot program provides point-of-sale vouchers ranging from \$700 to \$15,000 per piece of equipment, depending on the type of equipment. Qualifying equipment includes chainsaws, trimmers, edgers, brush cutters, leaf blowers, vacuums, walk-behind mowers and ride-on or stand/sit mowers.

Eligible participants, commercial landscapers, public agencies and schools operating in designated Community Emissions Reduction Plan areas, including Bayview-Hunters Point, East Oakland, West Oakland and Richmond/San Pablo must apply for the vouchers through Air District authorized retail vendors and turn in their older gasoline or diesel-powered equipment at the time of purchase for destruction and recycling and are required to operate the new equipment within these communities.

Applications are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis until funds are exhausted. Participants must provide at least a 15 percent cost share and may receive up to \$100,000 total in voucher funding. As a pilot, initial results will help inform potential program expansion across the Bay Area. For program details, eligibility requirements and a list of authorized vendors, visit: <a href="https://www.baaqmd.gov/lawngarden">www.baaqmd.gov/lawngarden</a>.

2025-063 Page 1 of 2

The Bay Area Air District is the regional agency responsible for protecting air quality and the global climate in the nine-county Bay Area. Connect with the Air District via <u>Facebook</u>, <u>X</u>, <u>Instagram</u> and <u>YouTube</u>.

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2025-063 Page 2 of 2