



air pollution control district  
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

## **APCD To Launch Voluntary Electric Landscape Equipment Program March 4**

**Program offers up to \$10,000 to landscaping  
businesses, schools, and public agencies**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**February 27, 2020**

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***En Español:*** <https://www.ourair.org/wp-content/uploads/022720-LEEFprogram-SPANISH.pdf>

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY, Calif. — Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) is excited to announce a new program to encourage businesses, public agencies, and schools to use electric-powered landscaping equipment. Beginning on March 4, up to \$100,000 is available for the Landscape Equipment Electrification Fund (LEEF) pilot program to provide vouchers covering up to 60 percent of the cost for eligible landscape equipment and up to 100 percent of the cost for additional batteries and chargers for equipment purchased through the program, up to a maximum of \$10,000 per organization. Commercial

landscaping businesses — as well as public agencies and public and private schools and universities that perform their own landscape maintenance — are eligible for the program. Individual homeowners are not eligible to apply.

Gasoline- and diesel-powered landscaping equipment is highly polluting and contributes to regional and neighborhood air quality impacts. Operating the best-selling commercial lawn mower for one hour emits as much smog-forming pollution as driving a top-selling 2017 passenger car about 300 miles – approximately the distance from Los Angeles to Las Vegas. For the best-selling commercial leaf blower, one hour of operation emits smog-forming pollution comparable to driving a passenger car about 1,100 miles, or approximately the distance from Los Angeles to Denver. The California Air Resources Board estimates that in the early 2020s, smog-forming emissions from small engines (a large portion of which are used in landscaping equipment) will exceed those from passenger cars statewide.

“This new pilot project is a great opportunity to partner with local businesses, governments, and schools to incorporate zero-emission landscaping equipment into their daily operations, at a reduced cost,” said Aeron Arlin Genet, APCD Director. “This program provides improved air quality for individuals operating the equipment and reduces neighborhood impacts.”

For full program details and requirements, and links to application materials, visit [www.ourair.org/LEEFprogram](http://www.ourair.org/LEEFprogram). For questions, email [LEEFProgram@sbcapcd.org](mailto:LEEFProgram@sbcapcd.org).

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