

### **Landscape Equipment Exchange Program (LEEP) Description:**

The Monterey Bay Air Resources District is pleased to offer LEEP to residents and commercial operations of Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties. This program will provide financial incentives to replace old, combustion landscape equipment with new, cordless, zero-emission equipment. In California, small off-road engines used in landscape equipment are a larger contributor to smog forming emissions than passenger cars. Exchanging old, combustion landscape equipment with new, zero-emission replacements will help ensure healthier, quieter communities.

### **LEEP Program Guidelines**

- 1) The Landscape Equipment Exchange Program (LEEP) introduced in 2023 has a residential program aspect, which is funded by the Carl Moyer Program funds, and a commercial program aspect, which is funded by Carl Moyer Program State Reserves Year 24.
- 2) LEEP projects are excluded from CMP Guidelines requirements in:
  - Chapter 2: General Criteria
    - P. Applicant cost share
    - U. California Air Resources Board (CARB) verification and certification.
  - Chapter 3: Program Administration
    - S. Project Application Requirements
    - W. Project Pre-Inspection
    - X. Project Post-Inspection
    - Y. Project Invoice and Payment
    - Z. Grantee Annual Reporting
    - AA. Air District Audit of Projects
    - BB. Nonperforming Projects
    - And as noted elsewhere in Chapter 9: Lawn and Garden Equipment Replacement of the Carl Moyer Program Guidelines (2023)
- 3) LEEP applicants will not be eligible for grants if they have taken any action to procure, order, take delivery of, or purchase equipment prior to contract execution. LEEP applicants must complete and submit their reimbursement paperwork within 30 days of contract execution.
- 4) All monies generated from the scrapping of old combustion equipment is the property of A&S Metals.
- 5) The LEEP rebate reimbursement process includes the pre-approval, exchange, and reimbursement steps. Participants establish program eligibility, secure a financial incentive, and enter into contract with MBARD during the pre-approval step. Applicants confirm their understanding of their project's rebate amount during the preapproval step. During the exchange step, confirmation of the dismantling of the old combustion equipment is established. The reimbursement step includes verifying the rebate amount with respect to the description of equipment exchanged and the final invoice of the new, battery-powered, zero-emission equipment. Each project's rebate amount is individually reviewed by an Air Quality Technician or Air Quality Planner before a rebate is sent for review and disbursement by mail by MBARD Finance officers. MBARD finance officers disburse each rebate by mail or as requested by applicant.
- 6) Applicant must be a resident of or have their primary place of business within

the **Monterey, San Benito, or Santa Cruz** counties.

- 7) The participant must currently **own and have operated** the existing combustion landscape equipment **in California for two years** prior to applying.
- 8) An incentive of 80% of the purchase price, but no more than maximum eligible funding amounts, is available to individuals and entities that have successfully completed their application processes.
- 9) **Residential applicants are limited to 1 exchange**, and the total funding per individual is capped at **\$2,000.00**. Commercial applicants' total funding per entity is capped at **\$15,000**.
- 10) **Commercial applicants are limited to one single Ride-on or Stand/Sit Mower** exchange that is capped at **\$15,000.00**, and up to **10 exchanges** of other equipment type categories. Commercial applicants are capped at **\$15,000 total**.
- 11) Residential and commercial applicants are eligible to include a **maximum of 4 extra batteries and or 4 extra charging bays (or 2 dual bay chargers) per piece of equipment exchanged**.
- 12) Applicant must provide a legible copy of a **current and valid government issued ID** and a copy of either a **utility or cable bill within the last 3 months**. Must be 18 or older to participate. These documents are required to be uploaded.
- 13) Program participants have **30 days** to complete and submit the Reimbursement Form from the day that they receive the **Pre-Approval Email** or project funds will be **forfeited and reimbursement will be rejected**.
- 14) A piece of equipment that is deemed by MBARD to be inoperative will not be permitted to be part of a LEEP exchange and is not eligible for an incentive. Participants shall not be given authorization to leave equipment deemed inoperative at an approved facility to be scrapped as part of a LEEP exchange. Participants that leave their equipment to be scrapped without authorization, or scrap their own equipment, are not permitted to be part of a LEEP exchange and are not eligible for an incentive.
- 15) Before purchasing **new, cordless, zero-emission equipment**, the participant **must surrender** the existing combustion landscape equipment to an **approved recycling facility** for disposal. We insist applicants dispose of all internal and associated fuel, fluids, and hazardous waste to the best of your ability through options made available by your local municipality before dropping off your equipment at any approved disposal facility. Please alert employees at any approved recycling facility at the time of drop-off whether you have or haven't successfully to the best of your ability disposed of all internal and associated fuel, fluids, and hazardous waste through options made available by your local municipality.
- 16) **Only purchases from commercial operations with local brick-and-mortar stores in Monterey, San Benito or Santa Cruz counties will be accepted**. In-store purchases are encouraged.
- 17) The new equipment that is part of the exchange must be the same category of equipment as the baseline equipment. Intra-category exchanges are welcome.
- 18) Applicant agrees to allow MBARD the use of all pictures for promotional purposes. The participant must intend to own and operate the new replacement cordless, zero-emission electric L&GE in California for a minimum of 36 months from the date of purchase. If the equipment is returned to the store, sold, lost, or stolen, MBARD must be notified immediately. In these instances, MBARD reserves the right to take all measures available to recover the entire incentive amount. Any fraud discovered will be penalized to the full extent of the law. The applicant agrees to periodic checks by MBARD staff to verify the ownership status of the equipment.

19) By accepting the incentive, the applicant shall defend, indemnify, and hold MBARD, its officers, agents, employees and volunteers harmless from any and all losses, costs, damages, fines or expenses (including attorney fees, court costs and expert witness fees) or liability of any kind or character to any person or property arising from, or alleged to arise from, any use of the new, cordless, electric, zero-emission equipment and associated battery and or-charging bay.