



City of San Clemente Code Compliance Division

City of San Clemente Announcement: Incentive Programs for Zero-Emission Lawn and Garden Equipment

Dear City of San Clemente residents and business owners,

We are excited to share important information regarding the use of lawn and garden equipment in our city. Effective November 4th, 2022, the use of gas-powered leaf blowers in San Clemente has been prohibited. As part of our commitment to environmental sustainability, we want to inform you about the incentive programs available through the California Air Resource Board (CARB) and South Coast Air Quality Management District.

The Clean Off-Road Equipment Voucher Incentive Project (CORE) is a valuable program that offers a point-of-sale discount to offset the cost of zero-emission technology for professional landscaping services. This program specifically targets small businesses and sole proprietors in the landscaping industry. By participating in CORE, you can contribute to a cleaner environment while benefiting from state-of-the-art, cleaner equipment. To learn more about the CORE program and participate, please visit the CORE professional landscaping participation page here: <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/our-work/programs/zero-emission-landscaping-equipment/zero-emission-landscaping-equipment-incentive>

We also encourage you to explore other incentive programs provided by CARB and the South Coast Air Quality Management District. These programs aim to support individuals, businesses, and organizations in transitioning to zero-emission lawn and garden equipment.

For commercial operators, please visit: <http://www.aqmd.gov/home/programs/community/electric-lawn-and-garden-programs/lawn-and-garden-equipment> to access the South

Coast Air Quality Management District's Electric Lawn and Garden Programs page. This page provides valuable information for businesses interested in the incentives available.

Residential users can take advantage of the Electric Lawn Mower Rebate Program offered by the district. To learn more about this program, visit:

<http://www.aqmd.gov/home/programs/community/electric-lawn-and-garden-programs/electric-lawn-mower-rebate-program>

Please note that electric leaf blowers may be used in compliance with specific guidelines:

A. Sound Rating Certification: Leaf blowers should be category 1 rated by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) or an approved outside laboratory. This ensures that leaf blower manufacturers produce models with a maximum sound rating of 65 dB (A) measured 50 feet from the noise source (ANSI standard B175.2).

B. Operating Hours: Leaf blowers may be operated between 7:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on weekdays, and between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on weekends and City-recognized holidays. Outside these time periods, leaf blowers must comply with noise restrictions outlined in Municipal Code Chapter 8.48, Noise Control.

C. Dust and Debris Control: It is prohibited to deposit dirt, dust, leaves, grass clippings, trimmings, green waste, solid waste, or any debris onto neighboring properties, streets, sidewalks, gutters, or storm drains using leaf blowers.

D. Required Use of Mufflers and Blower Tubes: Leaf blowers must be operated with the attachment of mufflers and full extension blower tubes provided by the manufacturer.

Thank you for your cooperation and commitment to creating a cleaner and quieter San Clemente. Together, we can make a positive impact on our environment.