

**Policies and Procedures for Administration
Of the
Carl Moyer Memorial Air Quality Standards Attainment
Program (Carl Moyer Program)**

Appendix F: Lawn and Garden Program Addendum

Introduction

The Carl Moyer Memorial Air Quality Standards Attainment Program (Moyer Program) provides monetary grants for the incremental cost of cleaner than required technology. The 2017 Moyer Program Guidelines provide minimum requirements for projects including eligible project source categories supported by the program. Lawn and Garden Equipment Replacement projects are addressed in Chapter 9 of the Moyer Program Guidelines. In 2023, CARB updated Chapter 9 to ensure a streamlined approach to reducing emissions from small off-road engines (SORE) by funding the replacement of zero-emission equipment. These updates support the goal to transition California to 100 percent zero-emission off-road vehicles and equipment by 2035 where feasible according to the Governor’s Executive Order N-79-20.

This document is an addendum to the Northern Sierra Air Quality Management District’s (District) Carl Moyer Program Policies and Procedures Manual describing the implementation of the District’s Lawn and Garden Equipment (L&GE) Program consistent with Chapter 9 of the Moyer Program Guidelines. All projects and applicants must meet the minimum requirements stated in the 2017 Moyer Program Guidelines, CARB Technical Advisories, and District Carl Moyer Policies and Procedures to which this addendum is made.

Program Goals and Objectives

The L&GE Program offers incentives, when funding is available, toward the replacement of existing combustion lawn and garden equipment with cordless, zero-emission lawn and garden equipment. The emission reductions are surplus because zero-emission lawn and garden equipment is not currently required by end users. This program will include outreach and educational components to inform applicants about available technology and capabilities and the benefits of switching to zero-emission equipment.

The L&GE Program will provide vouchers to qualifying **commercial and /or residential** applicants for the purchase of cordless, zero-emission lawn and garden equipment from Participating Merchants **as outlined in the most current District application process. The L&GE Program will provide reimbursement for qualifying purchase to Public Agencies as outlined in the most current District application process.** Funding sources and allocations as approved by the District Governing Board will govern if vouchers will be issued to Commercial entities, Residential individuals, or both.

Project Eligibility

Commercial Applicants

The following entities are eligible to apply for the Commercial component of the L&GE Program:

- a. California businesses and Small Business owners that provide landscape maintenance services for residential, commercial, institutional, or public properties;
- b. Public agencies, businesses, or non-profit entities that conduct commercial-scale landscaping activities on their properties;
- c. Public agencies, businesses, or non-profit entities conducting forest management, land management, and fire hazard reduction activities.

For purposes of this Program, a “California business” means the individual and/or business applicant resides in California. A business resides in California if its principal place of business is physically located in California and it has held a California and/or Plumas, Nevada or Sierra County business license for at least two (2) years.

For purposes of this Program, a “small business” means an independently owned and operated business that is not dominant in its field of operation, the principal office of which is located in California, the officers of which are domiciled in California, and which, together with affiliates, has 100 or fewer employees, and average annual gross receipts of ten million dollars (\$10,000,000) or less over the previous three years, or is a manufacturer, as defined in subdivision (c), with 100 or fewer employees. Commencing January 1, 2019, the average annual gross receipts threshold shall be fifteen million dollars (\$15,000,000). (Gov. Code § 14837(d)(1)(A)) ([Participate \(Landscape\) - Clean Off-Road Equipment Voucher Incentive Project \(californiacore.org\)](#))

Residential Applicants

To be eligible for the District L&GE Program an individual must reside in Plumas, Nevada, or Sierra County. Residential status will be verified during the application practice. **Residential applications will be accepted dependent on funding source used by the District.**

Additional Applicant Requirements

Applicants must have owned and operated the existing combustion lawn and garden equipment for a minimum of two (2) years and intend to operate the replacement equipment within California for a minimum of 36 months from the date of purchase. The majority of use (greater than 75%) is intended to be in Plumas, Sierra or Nevada County. Additional eligibility requirements may be incorporated based on the source of funding (such as with Community Air Protection Incentives). Applicant will certify this information on the application form.

Equipment

The Program supports the replacements of the following types of lawn and garden equipment:

- Chainsaws/Trimmers/Edgers/Brushcutters
- Leaf blowers/Vacuums
- Walk Behind Lawn Mowers
- Riding Lawn Mowers

Existing combustion lawn and garden equipment must be in operational condition at the time of application submission. This means the equipment must be able to start, move and has all operational parts intact. Applicant will certify this information on the application form and operational condition will be certified by Participating Merchants prior to destruction and recycling.

Destruction of the existing combustion equipment is required. If surrendering the existing combustion equipment to the Participating Merchant for destruction, surrender must be within 30 days of purchase of the replacement lawn and garden equipment. The equipment must be in operational condition when delivered, and destroyed by the Participating Merchant **or Public Agency** within 60 days of receipt. If existing combustion equipment is taken to a scrap / recycling facility, a receipt or verification of destruction must be provided to the District within 60 days of purchase of the new equipment.

Replacement Equipment must serve the same function and perform the same work as the existing equipment. New, cordless zero-emission electric equipment must be purchased from a Participating Merchant only. District will maintain a list of participating merchants.

Equipment Merchants interested in participating in this program must agree to the terms and conditions of this program by signing an agreement with the District. Only Merchants who have signed an agreement with the District will be eligible to participate in the **commercial and residential application program**.

Public Agencies interested in participating in this program must agree to the terms and conditions of this program by entering into a contract with the District upon an approved application. Only Public Agencies who have signed a contract with the District will be eligible to participate in the program.

Vouchers and Funding Amounts

The L&GE Program will provide vouchers **and funding** to eligible applicants towards the purchase of eligible equipment **from participating merchants for commercial and residential applicants**. Eligible purchases include cordless, zero-emission electric lawn and garden equipment, batteries and/or charging cables to support the selected equipment. Purchases of batteries and/or charging cables without equipment is not eligible for funding. The District will fund vouchers in accordance with current limits outlined in Chapter 9 Lawn and Garden Equipment Replacement of the **most current** Carl Moyer Program Guidelines.

The L&GE Program may also provide reimbursement to eligible Public Agencies towards the purchase of eligible equipment. Public Agencies seeking to enter into a contract for direct reimbursement for eligible purchases of cordless, zero-emission electric lawn and garden equipment, batteries and/or charging cables to support the selected equipment must follow all program guidelines and enter into a contract with the District. Purchases of batteries and/or charging cables without equipment is not eligible for funding. The District will fund funding in accordance with current limits outlined in Chapter 9 Lawn and Garden Equipment Replacement of the most current Carl Moyer Program Guidelines.

Program Workflow

1. Prior to implementation, District will train Participating **Public Agencies and/or** Merchants and execute **a Board approved Public Agencies and/or Merchant Agreement/Contract**. The District will also coordinate with local scrap and recycling facilities to prepare a list of District authorized locations to perform the destruction required by this program. The District will conduct outreach to the public to announce the program opening and application solicitation.

2. Applicants will complete Application Forms or enter into a Board approved contract and submit along with any supporting materials required to the District.
3. Applications received by the District will be date stamped. District staff will review each application for completeness. If the application is not deemed complete, District Staff will contact the applicant within 30 days, identifying the information or documentation still needed to finalize the review of their application. District staff will document this notification in the application packet or file. Any application not completed after 30 days of District Staff's notification will be deemed incomplete and removed from the pending application list.
4. Funding will be issued in the order the applications were originally received, with an expiration date of four (4) weeks from issuance.
5. Public Agency contracts will include dated deadlines.
6. Vouchers will be accepted by Participating Merchants at the time of sale and applied as a discount. Participating Merchants will notify the District of the sale once the customer has completed the purchase and received their new equipment.
7. Applicants will deliver their existing equipment to a Participating Merchant to be scrapped. Equipment must be verified as operational. If equipment is deemed inoperable, the facility will reject it. Participating Merchant will ensure and verify equipment is destroyed within 60 days of delivery. This does not apply to Public Agency contracts. Public Agencies will be required to ensure and verify equipment scrapping at their expense and per program guidelines.
8. Applicant using a participating local scrap and recycling facilities will coordinate with the District prior to voucher issuance and additional conditions may be required by the District.
9. Participating Merchants will be reimbursed within 30 days by the District once the purchase is completed, new equipment is received by applicant, existing equipment is scrapped, and all required documentation is received. Required documents include a completed Voucher, Final Invoice, Voucher Tracking Form, and Equipment Destruction Form.
10. Participating Public Agencies will be reimbursed per contract conditions by the District once the purchase is completed, new equipment is received by applicant, existing equipment is scrapped, and all required documentation is received. Required documents include a completed Application, Contract, Final Invoice, and Equipment Destruction Form.
11. The District will maintain records and report to CARB as required by the Moyer Program Guidelines.

Agreements

Merchant Agreements

For equipment dealerships or retailers to participate in the Program, they must qualify, be trained on and agree to follow the Program policies and guidelines. At a minimum, the following requirements must be met:

1. Merchant must have had a valid business license issued in California for a minimum of the last two years.
2. Merchant must agree to allow the air district or CARB to inspect cordless, zero-emission electric L&GE or audit program records covered under this Agreement during normal business hours.
3. Merchant must agree to show the voucher amount on the final invoice or purchase receipt. The voucher amount will not lower the base price of the replacement equipment, nor will it reduce the tax basis of the equipment.

4. Merchant must agree that if it fails to show they are implementing the Program consistent with the Program requirements, the merchant shall return to the air district funds in proportion to any loss of emission reductions compared with the projected reductions of the agreement.
5. Merchant must agree to become a vendor with Nevada County and to submit all appropriate paperwork in order to seek reimbursement and participate in the program

Municipality Agreements

District may elect to work directly with public agencies that conduct commercial-scale landscaping activities on their properties. At a minimum, the following requirements must be met:

1. The Public Agency must be located in Sierra, Plumas, or Nevada County and be conducting commercial-scale landscaping activities on their properties.
2. The Public Agency must agree to allow the air district or CARB to inspect cordless, zero-emission electric L&GE or audit program records covered under this Agreement during normal business hours.
3. The Public Agency must work with the District to enter into an approved contract for the reimbursement of purchase of cordless, zero-emission electric L&GE according to program allowable type and amounts
4. The Public Agency must agree that if it fails to show they are implementing the Program consistent with the Program requirements, the merchant shall return to the air district funds in proportion to any loss of emission reductions compared with the projected reductions of the agreement.
5. The Public Agency is responsible for meeting the requirements set forth in the program for the destruction of old gas powered L&GE equipment at the expense of the Public Agency.
6. The Public Agency must agree to become a vendor with Nevada County and to submit all appropriate paperwork in order to seek reimbursement and participate in the program.

Salvage, Disposal or Recycling Facility Agreements

The District may enter into agreements with salvage, disposal and/or recycling facilities to participate in the L&GE Program. Any agreement must comply with Moyer Program requirements for salvage and recycling facilities in addition to the following:

1. Statement agreeing to destroy the L&GE and engine within 60 days of receipt in a way that ensures the L&GE engine is no longer operable or repairable.
2. Agreement to notify the District that the combustion L&GE is destroyed by sending documentation indicating the number of L&GE destroyed.

Refer to the most recent Carl Moyer Program Guidelines and Chapter 9 for a complete list of requirements and terms for the above contracts.

Recordkeeping and Reporting

The District is responsible for maintaining project records and reporting to CARB on the status of the Carl Moyer Program annually. All Program materials will be maintained in accordance with the most recent Carl Moyer Program Guidelines and will utilize the CARL online database as required to provide information to CARB on the implementation of the L&GE Program.