

Department of Public Health

Ord. No. 855-2022

**Executive Summary  
Lawn Equipment  
Rebate Program**

**Background/Purpose:**

Authorizing the Director of Public Health to enter into one or more contracts with Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to accept Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) funds for the purpose of administering rebate gift cards for a Lawn and Garden Equipment Rebate Program. Cleveland Department of Public Health – Division of Air Quality (CDAQ) will receive funding through Ohio EPA and private organizations as part of a settlement agreement for failure to comply with environmental laws. The private organization may elect to fund a project that provides environmental or public health benefits to the affected community, in lieu of paying a portion of a penalty. Additional funding includes Cleveland City Council authorized funds.

CDAQ is the Ohio EPA delegated local air agency for Cuyahoga County. The purpose of the Lawn and Garden Rebate Program is to reduce emissions of air pollutants caused by gasoline powered lawn equipment by incentivizing the purchase of electric lawn equipment. The pollutants caused by gasoline-powered lawn equipment are harmful to human health and contribute to Cuyahoga County's non-compliance status with the federal National Ambient Air Quality Standards for ozone. Participants that meet eligibility criteria will receive either a \$100 rebate gift card or \$50 rebate gift card after properly disposing of their gasoline powered lawn equipment and purchasing the battery operated equivalent.

**This ordinance will:**

- Improve local air quality by reducing emissions of pollutants that lead to the formation of ozone and contribute to Cuyahoga County's non-compliance of the federal National Ambient Air Quality Standard for ozone.
- Improve public health by reducing exposure to harmful air pollutants that exacerbate symptoms of respiratory and cardiovascular disease
- Accept and administer Ohio EPA Supplemental Environmental Project Funds for electric Lawn and Garden Equipment through December 31, 2023.
- Administer an estimated quantity of 656-\$100 rebate gift cards and an estimated quantity of 377-\$50 rebate gift cards (but not to exceed a total of \$90,000) to Cuyahoga County residents and businesses that meet program eligibility requirements.
- \$100 rebate gift cards will be restricted to the purchase of battery operated electric lawnmowers or battery operated electric snow blowers.
- \$50 rebate gift cards will be restricted to the purchase of battery operated lawn equipment.
- Promote the adoption of electric lawn equipment throughout Cuyahoga County

**Rebate Gift Card Eligibility:**

- All lawn and garden equipment must be new and battery operated. Proof of purchase must be submitted to CDAQ and have eligibility verified by a staff member.
- Participant must scrap the gasoline powered lawn equipment and submit proof to CDAQ. The proof must demonstrate that like-equipment was scrapped for the requested rebate. To be eligible for the rebate for an electric lawnmower, a gasoline powered lawnmower must be scrapped. To be eligible for an electric snow blower, a gasoline powered snow blower must be scrapped. To be eligible for the \$50 rebate card, small gasoline powered lawn equipment must be scrapped.
- Participant may be eligible for up to \$150 in rebates (1-\$100 rebate and 1-\$50 rebate).
- Residents must reside in Cuyahoga County. Businesses must be physically located in Cuyahoga County and their service area must be focused in Cuyahoga County.
- Participant must register and receive a confirmation
- Electric lawnmowers and snow blowers purchased after 4.25.2022 are eligible for the \$100 rebate. Small electric lawn equipment purchased 10.1.2022 or later are eligible for the rebate.

**Rebate Gift Card Restrictions:**

- The number of gift cards is limited to available funding
- Total rebate amount not to exceed \$150 per address
- Additional restrictions may apply that will be specified at the time of program implementation
- CDAQ Employees are not eligible

**LAWN AND GARDEN EQUIPMENT REBATE**  
**PROGRAM BUDGET**

**October 1, 2022 – December 31, 2023**

CDAQ will utilize Ohio EPA Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) and City Council approved General Funds for the Lawn and Garden Equipment Rebate program. CDAQ has received \$50,000 in SEP funding from Ohio EPA and has \$40,000 authorized from City Council. Additional funding may be received through Supplemental Environmental Projects and/or a renewal of City Council approved funding.

**Budget:**

Supplemental Environmental Projects	\$50,000
City Council General Fund	\$40,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$90,000</b>

**Expenses:**

*(656) \$100 Rebate Gift Cards	\$65,600
*(377) \$50 Rebate Gift Cards	\$18,850
Vendor Processing Fees	\$3,092.20
Marketing and Promotion	\$2,457.80
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$90,000</b>

*\*At least \$84,450 will be restricted to gift card purchase. The final quantity of available \$100 and \$50 gift cards is subject to change pending participant response.*