

NEWS RELEASE
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**Attn: Local news, business
and assignment editors**

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**Grant deadline nears for commercial
lawn equipment demonstration program**

*Zero-emission program offers electric equipment to commercial lawn-care
businesses and public agencies*

September 20 is the final day for commercial lawn care operators to apply for a pilot program to use and evaluate zero-emission lawn and garden equipment.

The Valley Air District is accepting applications through Thursday for the new Cordless Zero-Emission Commercial Lawn and Garden Equipment Demonstration Program. The pilot program is open to commercial lawn care operations located in the Valley air basin for non-residential applications.

Participating companies can choose from a list of approved vendors offering battery-operated equipment that includes commercial-rated, self-propelled and cordless lawnmowers, sweepers, blowers, chain saws and trimmers. An Air District grant program will fund up to 10 pieces of the demonstration equipment for a maximum of \$10,000 for selected operators.

The demonstration will give participants hands-on familiarity with zero-emission equipment and help further improve the use of clean technologies which, until now, have been limited in the commercial sector.

Eligible applicants are public agencies that have their own lawn care maintenance teams and private, professional, licensed landscape businesses, including those that contract with public agencies. Public agencies that contract with outside lawn care companies are not eligible. Businesses that service residential neighborhoods are eligible to participate.

Applications are available at http://www.valleyair.org/Grant_Programs/GrantPrograms.htm#CordlessLawnMachine and will be accepted by mail or in person only.

For more information about the Cordless Zero-Emission Commercial Lawn and Garden Equipment Demonstration Program, visit weberip@valleyair.org or call a District office: in Fresno (559-230-6000), in Modesto (209-557-6400) or in Bakersfield (661-392-5500).