

Gas Leaf Blowers

*How residents are driving change
Across Contra Costa County*

August 27, 2026

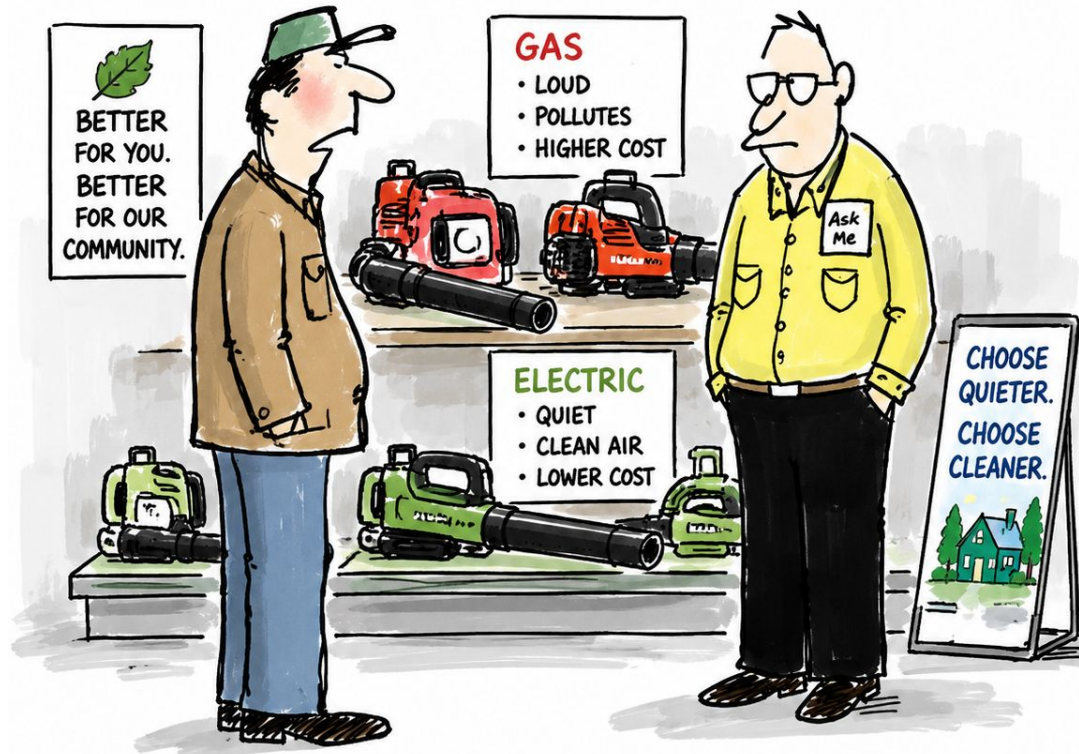


Tonight's Agenda

Topic	Speakers
Case for Change	Carrie Beckstrom - 350 CCA Volunteer
State & Contra Costa County Context	Monica Burnick - 350 CCA Volunteer
Success Story: City Level	Sameer Advani - WC activist Candice Rankin Mumby, WC Sustainability Manager
Success Story: HOA Level	Anthony Hsieh - 350 CCA Volunteer
Q&A	Open to all
Call to Action	Carrie Beckstrom



LEAF BLOWERS



"I want one that clears leaves,
not the entire neighborhood."

Why are gas leaf blowers are a problem?

Air Pollution

- Produces significant smog-forming pollution
- One hour of use can equal hundreds of miles of car emissions
- Adds pollution during wildfires season



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Health Impacts

- Fine particulate matter contributes to respiratory and cardiovascular disease

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Noise

- Gas blowers: **90–100 decibels**
- Low-frequency sound travels blocks
- Disrupts sleep, remote work, pets, weekends

Why are electric leaf blowers a better alternative?

- Zero tailpipe emissions
- No emissions-related health risks
- Dramatically quieter
- Lower maintenance



State & County Context



California's Green Lawn Care Law



Community
Climate Forum

How Does this affect you?

What Equipment Does the New Law Cover?

Examples of small off-road engines (SORE) affected by Assembly Bill 1346 include:

- Lawn mowers
- Leaf blowers
- Chainsaws with engines less than 45 cubic centimeters
- Hedge trimmers
- String trimmers or weed whackers
- Log splitters
- Pressure washers
- Utility and golf carts
- Portable generators



Alameda and Contra Costa Bans

Piedmont

- Gas-powered leaf blowers are prohibited
- Electric and battery-powered blowers are allowed
- Long standing local model - in effect since 1990

Lafayette

- Gas-powered leaf blower use banned July 1 2024
- City offers free lending program
- Electric and battery-powered blowers allowed.
- Homeowners are responsible for compliance.

Walnut Creek

- Gas-powered leaf blower ban took effect April 1, 2026.
- Property owners are responsible for compliance.
- City provides outreach and compliance resources



Success Stories at a City Level

Sameer Advani - WC Resident

Candice Rankin Mumby, WC Sustainability Manager



Success Stories at an HOA level

Anthony Hsieh



Questions and Answers



Call to Action: Start where you can

Individual

- Go electric
- Ask landscaper to do the same

Neighborhood

- Take informal survey to gauge interest
- Organize neighborhood electric-landscaping pledge

HOA

- Find out what authority your HOA has
- Put an electric equipment policy on the agenda

City

- Organize residents
- Ask your city to act

