



State of Utah

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**NEWS RELEASE**

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## Utah Department of Environmental Quality to Host Electric Lawn Mower Discount and Exchange Event

Salt Lake City — The Utah Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is offering 389 electric lawn mowers at a significant discount and creating added incentives for those who scrap a gasoline-powered lawn mower through its first Lawn Mower Discount and Exchange Program event that will take place on Saturday, May 2. The cost for the electric lawn mower will be \$175, or \$100 if a gasoline-powered lawn mower is scrapped. DEQ is incentivizing homeowners to switch to electric lawn mowers because gasoline-powered mowers are a significant source of volatile organic compounds (VOC) that contribute to the formation of summer ozone.

The Lawn Mower Discount and Exchange Program is being funded through the Clean Air Retrofit, Replacement, and Off-Road Technology (CARROT) Program that was enacted during the 2014 session of the Utah Legislature. This event is the second segment of CARROT, a program created to encourage individuals, businesses, and local government to reduce emissions from vehicles, engines, and equipment. The first segment of the CARROT Program occurred in January and awarded \$100,000 in grants for reducing emissions from heavy-duty diesel engines.

“We are grateful to the Legislature for providing a means to create voluntary programs that lead to measureable outcomes,” said Amanda Smith, executive director of DEQ. “These are the types of programs that are a win-win for public health and air quality.”

Emissions from one four-stroke gasoline lawn mower operating for one hour is equivalent to those of an average vehicle traveling 500 miles, according to air quality scientists.

To reserve a discounted lawn mower you must pre-register for the event through an online registration form, which opens today. The lawn mowers will be reserved on a first-come, first-served basis and only be given to those who pre-registered for the event that will take place at the Multi Agency State Office Building, 195 N. 1950 West in Salt Lake City.

To pre-register, and for more information on the program, visit [www.CARROT.deq.utah.gov](http://www.CARROT.deq.utah.gov).

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**About DEQ:** Established in 1991, the Utah Department of Environmental Quality’s (DEQ) mission is to safeguard public health and quality of life by protecting and enhancing the environment. DEQ implements state and federal environmental laws and works with individuals, community groups and businesses to protect the quality of Utah’s air, land and water. For more information, visit [www.deq.utah.gov](http://www.deq.utah.gov), follow DEQ on Facebook ([utahdeq](https://www.facebook.com/utahdeq)) and Twitter ([UtahDEQ](https://twitter.com/UtahDEQ)), or call 1-800-458-0145.