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**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Electric Snow Blowers Help Cut Pollution**

*The Uinta Basin Snow Blower Exchange is Saturday, Oct. 26!*

Vernal, Utah — The Utah Division of Air Quality (DAQ), in partnership with the TriCounty Health Department and Lowe's Home Improvement, is hosting the 2019 Uinta Basin Snow Blower Exchange, a voluntary emissions reductions program.

The program, open only to Uintah and Duchesne county residents, offers 150 Greenworks 80 volt electric snow blowers for \$69, a \$330 discount, to residents who turn in a gas-powered snow blower for recycling. The gas-powered snow blowers will be collected by Montgomery Recycling at the event.

Online registration for the October 26<sup>th</sup> event opens Oct. 1 at noon at [snowblower.utah.gov](http://snowblower.utah.gov). The exchange is limited to the first 150 people to sign-up and pay. The event will be held in Vernal. Residents must be pre-registered and pre-paid to participate.

The intent of the program is to encourage the use of electric snow blowers during the winter months when the Uinta Basin experiences elevated levels of ozone, a harmful pollutant that is formed when volatile organic compounds (VOC) and nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) react in sunlight. Gasoline-powered engines found in traditional snow blowers are common culprits for emitting VOCs and NO<sub>x</sub>. DAQ scientists estimate that operating a snow blower for one hour emits as much pollution as driving a new passenger car 287 miles.

“Transitioning to electric snow blowers is healthy for both the environment and our health because we don’t get exposed to harmful gasoline fumes,” said Courtney Ehrlich, an Air Quality Grants Manager for the DAQ. “They are also much quieter, which will make your neighbors happy, too.”

The exchange program is funded by DAQ’s Environmental Mitigation Fund, Clean Air Fund, and CARROT (Clean Air Retrofit, Replacement, and Off-Road Technology) Program. DAQ’s Clean Air Fund comes from voluntary contributions from taxpayers.

For more information about the 2019 Uinta Basin Snow Blower Exchange Event, visit [snowblower.utah.gov](http://snowblower.utah.gov).

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### **About DEQ**

Established in 1991, the Utah Department of Environmental Quality's (DEQ) mission is to safeguard and improve Utah's air, land and water through balanced regulation. 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](#)) and Twitter ([UtahDEQ](#)), or call 1-800-458-0145.

### **About Utah's Clean Air Retrofit Replacement and Off-Road Technology (CARROT) Program**

The Utah Division of Air Quality administers several incentive programs created to encourage individuals and businesses to reduce emissions. More details regarding qualifications and how to apply for the programs are found at: <https://deq.utah.gov/tag/clean-air-retrofit-replacement-and-off-road-technology-carrot-program>