

Use of Small Gas-Powered Equipment

Feasibility of banning small gas-powered equipment

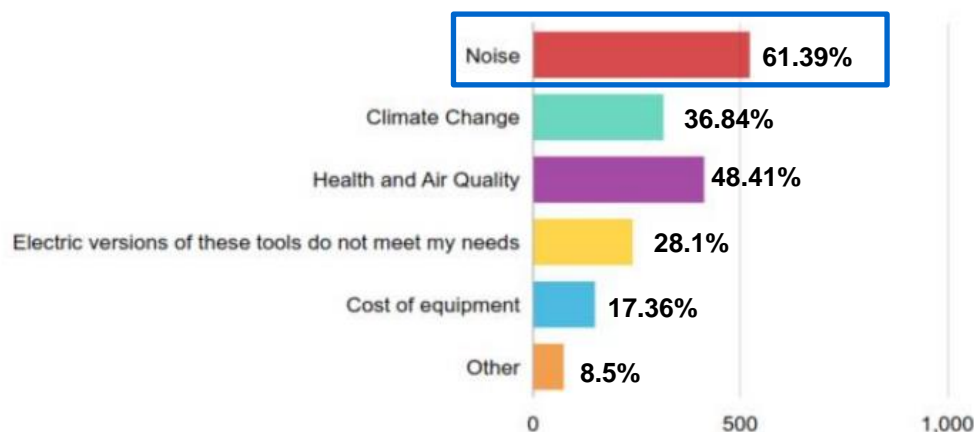
- Jurisdictional review
- Public Consultation - Survey and Open House in February 2024 and hosted virtual meetings with interested Residents Associations.
- Review impacts to Parks and Open Space and Municipal Enforcement Services.
- Launch annual education and awareness campaign encouraging the community to purchase electric yard tools.
- Developed recommendation for consideration.

Noise

Q. 7. When considering the use of gas-powered domestic tools, what issues are a concern to you?

From an environmental perspective:

- **Noise Contaminant / Pollution** interferes with animal communication and disturb habitats.
- Electric Equipment offers approximately 20% reduction in noise
- Electric equipment will reduce noise, but not eliminate the noise completely from the environment.

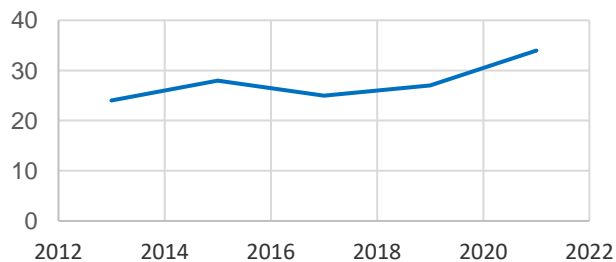


Climate

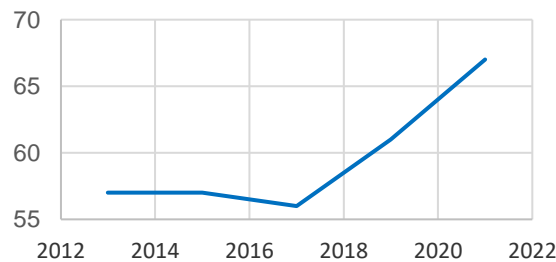
- Emissions from small-gas powered equipment accounts for a small portion of the town's corporate GHG inventory.
- The town is buying electric equipment where available and feasible
- Market is in transition and education and awareness initiatives will support the transition to electric equipment.

Overall Trends In Canada – Electrical Adoption

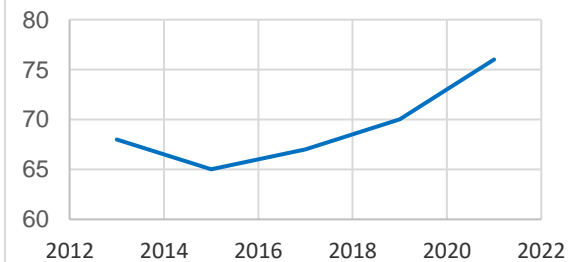
Electric Lawn Mowers



Electric Grass Trimmers



Electric Leaf Blowers



Health and Air Quality

Leaf blowers and other lawn and garden equipment are a source of non-road emissions, including:

- fine particulate matter
- carbon monoxide, and
- several volatile organic compounds

Both gas-powered and electrical blowers generate the same particulate levels.

Impacts on Town Services

- Challenging to enforce and may require additional staff and financial resources.
- Retiring usable gas-powered equipment has its own environmental impact since equipment is only partially recycled.
- The town currently has \$1 million worth of gas-powered equipment that would need to be replaced and would require \$2 million to replace with electrical equipment.
- Facility and electrical panel upgrades would be needed – cost unknown.
- Impacts to maintain services levels due to limitations related to battery-charge life and access to charging infrastructure.

Jurisdictional Review



Next Steps

Education and Awareness

Town has kicked off an annual campaign to promote the adoption and purchase of electric yard tools.

Opportunity: Clean Air Partnership

Seeking funding to support a full study on the impacts of gas-powered equipment and what a ban would look like.

Advocacy

Priority Intergovernmental Requests has been updated to include the use of small gas-powered equipment.



Choose electric over gasoline

Landscaping and yardwork can be just as clean going green.

Electric equipment offers an affordable, environmentally friendly and easy to maintain alternative for yard work. It also:

-  **Eliminates** carbon emissions and reduces reliance on fossil fuels.
-  **Improves the health** and quality of life for the community.
-  **Maneuvers easily** being lightweight making yardwork less demanding.
-  **Saves you money** on buying fuel!
-  **Improves the air quality** in the natural environment.

Visit your nearest retailer for more information.

 OAKVILLE

Recommendation

- That the town continue a phased-out approach to reduce the use of small gas-powered equipment by aligning with market conditions shifting from gas to electric equipment supplemented by an education and communications plan