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**STEUART PITTMAN
County Executive**

EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 66

**USE OF PORTABLE ZERO-EMISSION ELECTRIC LEAF BLOWERS
BY COUNTY PERSONNEL**

WHEREAS, the use of gas-powered leaf blowers contributes to air pollution, noise pollution, and climate change; and

WHEREAS, gas-powered leaf blowers may emit harmful pollutants, including nitrogen oxides, volatile organic compounds, and particulate matter, which contribute to smog, respiratory problems, and other health issues; and

WHEREAS, the combustion of fossil fuels in gas-powered leaf blowers contributes to greenhouse gas emissions, which are driving climate change and its associated impacts, such as rising sea levels, extreme weather events, and loss of biodiversity; and

WHEREAS, exposure to air pollution and noise pollution from gas-powered leaf blowers can have adverse effects on public health, particularly for vulnerable populations such as children, the elderly, and individuals with respiratory conditions; and

WHEREAS, zero-emission leaf blowers offer a viable and environmentally friendly alternative to gas-powered leaf blowers; and

WHEREAS, many jurisdictions in Maryland and throughout the country have banned or restricted the use of gas-powered leaf blowers for these reasons; and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Anne Arundel County to protect the health and well-being of its citizens and to promote a sustainable environment by requiring County personnel who engage in landscaping services on County properties to use zero-emission leaf blowers.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Stuart Pittman, County Executive, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Charter and laws of Anne Arundel County, Maryland, hereby order and direct on this 9th day of December, 2024, as follows:

1. As of July 1, 2030, all departments and offices of Anne Arundel County shall be prohibited from purchasing, leasing, or using hand-held or backpack-type gas-powered leaf blowers for any purpose.

2. Prior to July 1, 2030, existing hand-held and backpack-type gas-powered leaf blowers shall be replaced with zero-emission leaf blowers as they reach the end of their useful life or as funding becomes available.

3. All hand-held and backpack-type gas-powered leaf blowers currently used by County staff shall be replaced with zero-emission leaf blowers no later than July 1, 2030.

4. The Office of Central Services is hereby tasked with enforcing this Executive Order and ensuring compliance by all departments and agencies.

5. The Office of Central Services shall develop and implement a public education campaign to inform citizens about the benefits of zero-emission leaf blowers and the negative impacts of gas-powered leaf blowers.

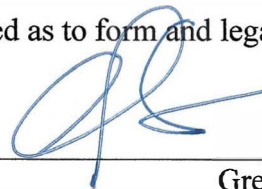
6. The Office of Central Services shall identify and make available suitable contracts for use by County agencies for the purchase of zero-emission leaf blowers, charging devices, and battery packs to support landscaping operations by County personnel on County property.

This Executive Order shall be archived at the Office of Law and remain in existence until altered or terminated by a subsequent Executive Order.



STEUART PITTMAN
County Executive

Approved as to form and legal sufficiency:



Gregory J. Swain
County Attorney