FINAL

COUNTY COUNCIL OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY, MARYLAND

Legislative Session 2025, Legislative Day No. 18

Bill No. 85-25

Introduced by Ms. Rodvien

By the County Council, October 6, 2025

Introduced and first read on October 6, 2025
Public Hearing set for and held on November 3, 2025
Bill Expires on January 9, 2026

By Order: Kaley Schultze, Administrative Officer

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ORDINANCE concerning: Purchasing – County Government's Transition to Zero Emissions Leaf Blowers – Leading by Example

FOR the purpose of adding definitions of "gas powered leaf blower" and "zero emissions leaf blower"; requiring all County owned gas powers leaf blowers to be replaced with zero emissions leaf blowers; providing for a transition period; and generally relating to purchasing.

BY adding: § 8-2-124
Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended)

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the County Council of Anne Arundel County, Maryland,* That Section(s) of the Anne Arundel County Code (2005, as amended) read as follows:

ARTICLE 8. PURCHASING

TITLE 2. PROCUREMENT

8-2-124. Transition to zero-emissions leaf blowers.

(A) **Applicability.** THIS PROVISION APPLIES TO THE PROCUREMENT OF HAND-HELD OR BACKPACK LEAF BLOWERS.

(B) **Definition.** IN THIS SECTION, THE FOLLOWING TERMS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS indicate new matter added to existing law.
[[Brackets**]]** indicate matter deleted from existing law.
Captions and taglines in **bold** in this bill are catchwords and are not law.

(1) "GAS-POWERED LEAF BLOWER" MEANS ANY LEAF BLOWER, LEAF VACUUM OR OTHER LEAF-GATHERING DEVICE DIRECTLY POWERED BY AN INTERNAL COMBUSTION OR ROTARY ENGINE USING GASOLINE, ALCOHOL OR OTHER LIQUID OR GASEOUS FLUID. LAWN MOWERS, LAWN EDGERS AND ELECTRICALLY POWERED LEAF BLOWERS ARE NOT INCLUDED IN THIS DEFINITION.

(2) "ZERO EMISSIONS LEAF BLOWER" MEANS ANY LEAF BLOWER, LEAF VACUUM OR OTHER LEAF GATHERING DEVICE POWERED BY ELECTRIC MEANS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO BATTERY-POWERED LEAF BLOWERS AND CORDLESS RECHARGEABLE LEAF BLOWERS.

(C) **Replacement of County hand-held or backpack lawn equipment.**

(1) AS OF JULY 1, 2030, ALL DEPARTMENTS AND OFFICES OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY MAY NOT PURCHASE, LEASE, OR USE 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 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.

SECTION 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Ordinance shall take effect 45 days from the date it becomes law.

READ AND PASSED this 3rd day of November, 2025

By Order:

Kaley Schultze
Administrative Officer

PRESENTED to the County Executive for his approval this 4th day of November, 2025

Kaley Schultze
Administrative Officer

APPROVED AND ENACTED this 5th day of November, 2025

Steuart Pittman
County Executive

EFFECTIVE DATE: December 20, 2025

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY OF BILL NO. 85-25 THE ORIGINAL OF WHICH IS RETAINED IN THE FILES OF THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

Kaley Schultze
Administrative Officer