

# Commercial Battery-Powered Landscaping Equipment Resources Guide: Learn the Basics

DOER **Leading By Example (LBE)** and the **Operational Services Division (OSD)** are working collaboratively to promote the adoption of **battery-powered landscaping equipment (BPLE)** at state facilities. BPLE offers a clean, emissions-free alternative to traditional gas- and propane-powered internal combustion equipment. Besides contributing to the Commonwealth's decarbonization goals, this equipment offers numerous benefits, including reduced operational costs and improved staff health and comfort. **This guide is intended to summarize key resources to help state entities navigate the various educational resources, costs, benefits, incentives and Statewide Contract availability.**



## Learn the Benefits

Compared to fossil fuel-based equipment, BPLE is quieter, smoother, easier to maintain, and produces zero onsite greenhouse gas and particulate matter emissions. Several resources are available to provide a deeper dive on the potential benefits to state entities:

- OSD's [Environmentally Preferable Products Program](#)
- Leading By Example's [Sustainable Landscaping page](#)
- External organizations: [Quiet Communities](#) and [AGZA](#)

## Calculate Your Savings

Depending on the type of equipment, BPLE may have higher capital costs than traditional equipment. However, due to lower fuel and maintenance costs, BPLE often has a lower lifetime cost of ownership. Use the [Commercial Battery-Powered Electric Lawn and Garden Equipment Calculator](#) to estimate the potential costs and emissions savings by switching to BPLE.

For more information on BPLE, please visit the Leading By Example website:  
<https://www.mass.gov/orgs/leading-by-example>



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## Test the Equipment

The **DCAMM Tool Barn** is a program available to state agencies to borrow and test equipment at no cost. The Tool Barn includes:

- battery electric backpack leaf blowers
- commercial push mowers, and
- pro-turn mowers.

For the latest inventory, usage guidelines, and request form, see the Tool Barn Program website (<https://www.mass.gov/how-to/tool-barn-program>).

## Leverage Statewide Contracts

BPLE is available for purchase via **Statewide Contract FAC116: Lawns & Grounds Equipment, Category 8**. Many vendors have demonstration equipment for potential buyers to test prior to purchase. The [FAC116 Contract User Guide](#) includes vendor contact information and instructions for using this contract. To ensure you are procuring commercial-grade equipment, consult the [FAC116 Commercial Grade BPLE Specifications](#) document on COMMBUYS.

## Get Incentives

LBE's **Equipment Decarbonization Grant Program** for eligible state entities serves to support the affordability of decarbonizing Commonwealth-owned facilities and/or their respective operations and is designed to address funding gaps for small to medium heating system and facility equipment electrification projects, including landscaping equipment.

Did your entity purchase battery-powered equipment? What were your challenges? Success stories? Contact [Morgan.Bowler@mass.gov](mailto:Morgan.Bowler@mass.gov) to share your progress and discuss barriers.



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