



**Environmental Advisory Board
Tuesday, July 1, 2025
3:30 PM
130 Kearns Road
Small Conference Room
Snowmass Village, CO 81615**

Agenda

- 1. Roll Call**
- 2. Approval of Minutes**
 - 2.A. Approval of June 2025 Minutes
- 3. C.O.R.E. Update**
- 4. H.C.E. Update**
- 5. Items for Discussion**
 - 5.A. Finalize EAB Recommendation Matrix
 - 5.B. Review Small, Gas-powered Lawn Care Equipment Survey
 - 5.C. Pesticides & Weed Control
- 6. Upcoming Agenda Items**
- 7. Next Meeting Date**
- 8. Non-Agenda Items**
- 9. Adjournment**



Environmental Advisory Board
Regular Environmental Advisory Board Minutes
Tuesday, June 3, 2025
3:30 PM
130 Kearns Road
Small Conference Room

1. ROLL CALL

Council Members Present: Jamie Vogt, Greg LeBlanc, Rebecca Paschal, Shashi Neerukonda, Mike Steiner, Andrew Wickes, Morgan Fixel, Joseph Goodman.

Council Members Absent: none

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jamie Vogt motioned to Approve . Shashi Neerukonda seconded. All in favor.

2.a Approval of May 2025 Minutes
[05-06-25 EAB Minutes.pdf](#)

3. C.O.R.E. UPDATE

Recent hiring of CORE staff on the programs team to assist with outreach and impact in the village to reflect the added funding by the town. CORE was present at Town Cleanup Day which had turnout over 100 people with great engagement by Jamie McManis from CORE.

4. H.C.E. UPDATE

HCE- Annual Meeting at Buttermilk on Thursday June 5, 5pm with family activities and board election.

5. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

5.a Town Council Presentation Recap

Feedback from attendees indicate the letter and presentation were well prepared and favorably received by the council who had reviewed the information in advance and had prepared good questions for the board.

The electrification portion of the presentation could benefit from some additional

crafting into a pilot program to make it seem more attainable.

The council requested some follow-up homework of the board. The board began work on a matrix listing the recommendations for each section including the pilot idea, the cost, staffing needs and timeline of the pilot, and the bigger picture cost beyond the pilot.

Additional draft work will be done on the sections to finalize the matrix before the follow up with the council, the date of which is TBD and will be communicated to the board when decided.

A number of questions came up to ask City of Aspen including financial info on pilot ideas about mulching/chipping costs and capital and ongoing costs of commercial composting.

5.b Mycorrhizal fungi as a Firefighting Tool

Brief discussion of this method of reducing fire risk of downed wood on the forest floor.

6. UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

Finalize the matrix.

Pesticides, herbicides & chemical use in the village.

Mowers & Blowers - with review of results from previous survey.

7. NEXT MEETING DATE

July 1, 2025

8. NON-AGENDA ITEMS

June 18 - EAB presence at Community Discussion on Wildfire at The Collective.

CORE's recently hired Regional Sustainability Coordinator will start in July.

Red Flag on Woodbridge.

Transportation audit - review study results of why people drive in the village.

Village Shuttle expanded door to door summer service using the Village Shuttle app.

Ebike rebates.

9. ADJOURNMENT

5:01 pm

This survey can be completed in 5 minutes.

1. Do you currently live or perform work in Snowmass Village?

☐ Yes

☐ No

2. In which areas does your business provide service? [Select all that apply]

☐ Landscaping

☐ Property management

☐ Pest control

☐ Irrigation

☐ Snow removal

☐ Retail

☐ I'm a homeowner and maintain my own property

☐ Other (please specify)

3. In which seasons does your business operate? [Select all that apply]

☐ Winter

☐ Spring

☐ Summer

☐ Fall

4. What types of gas-powered machinery does your business employ? [Select all that apply]

☐ Lawn movers (riding and push models)

☐ Trimmers (hedge, edging, etc.)

☐ Snow blowers & throwers (large and small)

☐ Leaf blowers (handheld & backpack models)

Other (please specify)

5. What types of electric equipment does your business employ? [Select all that apply]

- ☐ Lawn movers (riding and push models)
- ☐ Trimmers (hedge, edging, etc.)
- ☐ Snow blowers & throwers (large and small)
- ☐ Leaf blowers (handheld & backpack models)

Other (please specify)

6. What barriers to entry do you or your business face when switching from gas to electric power?

7. For how many hours per day is your business using small gas-powered equipment?

- ☐ 0-2 hours
- ☐ 3-4 hours
- ☐ 5-6 hours
- ☐ 7-8 hours
- ☐ 9+ hours

8. If a rebate was available for purchasing electric powered equipment, would you replace your existing equipment?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Why, or why not? (please specify)

9. What concerns do you have about replacing gas powered equipment with electric equipment?

10. Have you estimated the increased cost of business if you were to go fully electric with equipment?

☐ Yes

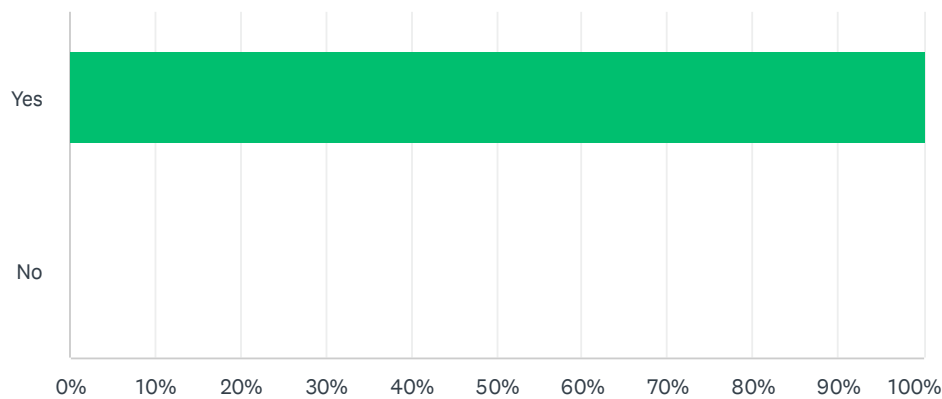
☐ No

If so, what is your estimate?

11. Would you like the Town to follow up with you? If so, please share your contact information below:

Q1 Do you currently live or perform work in Snowmass Village?

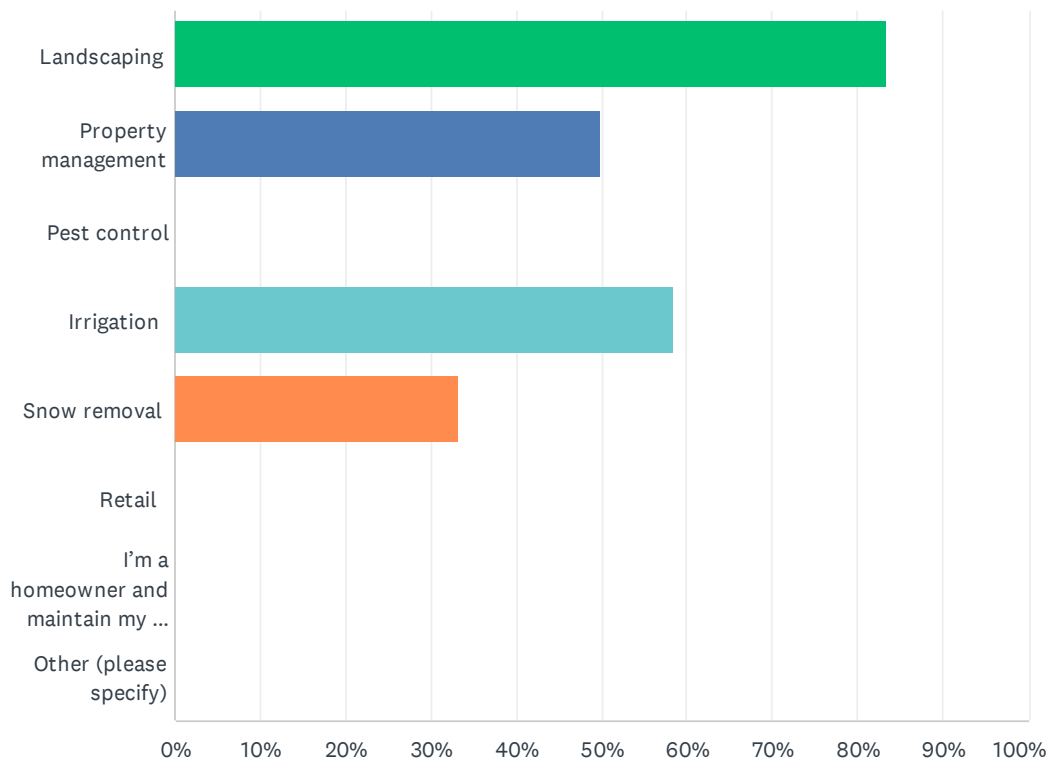
Answered: 12 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	100.00%	12
No	0.00%	0
TOTAL		12

Q2 In which areas does your business provide service? [Select all that apply]

Answered: 12 Skipped: 0

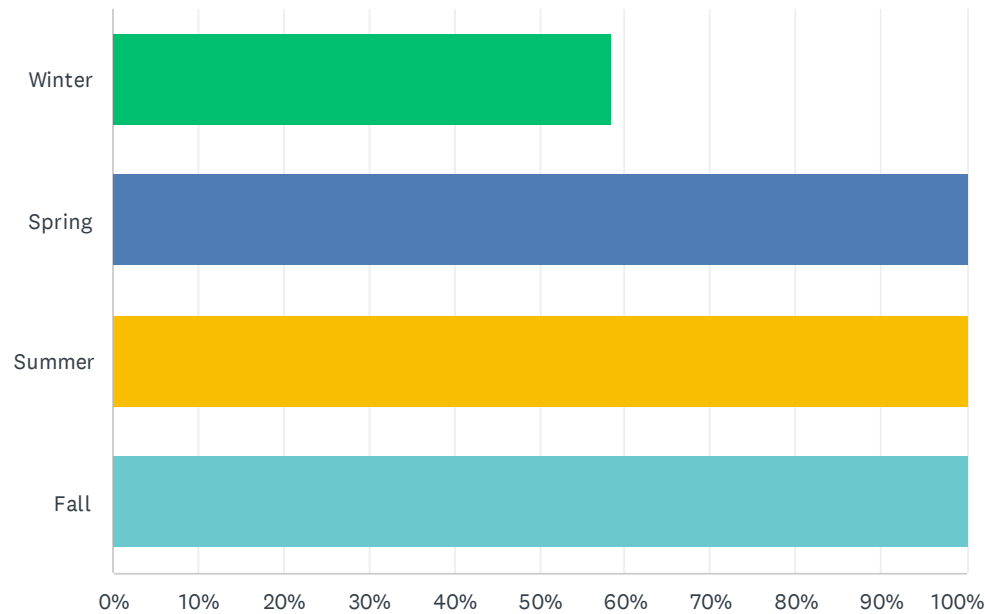


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Landscaping	83.33%	10
Property management	50.00%	6
Pest control	0.00%	0
Irrigation	58.33%	7
Snow removal	33.33%	4
Retail	0.00%	0
I'm a homeowner and maintain my own property	0.00%	0
Other (please specify)	0.00%	0
Total Respondents: 12		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
	There are no responses.	

Q3 In which seasons does your business operate? [Select all that apply]

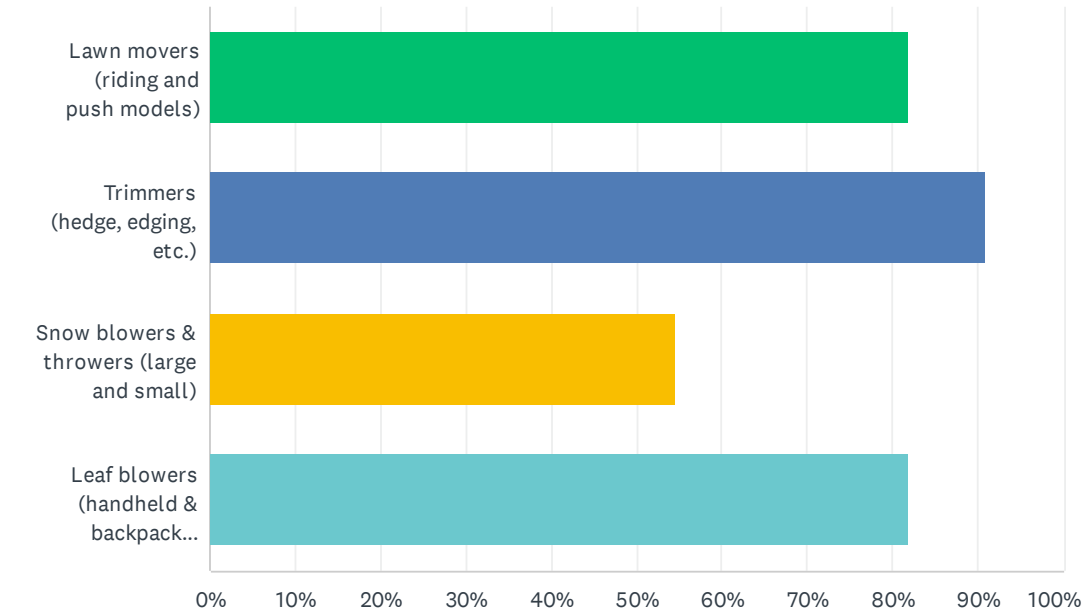
Answered: 12 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Winter	58.33%	7
Spring	100.00%	12
Summer	100.00%	12
Fall	100.00%	12
Total Respondents: 12		

Q4 What types of gas-powered machinery does your business employ?
[Select all that apply]

Answered: 11 Skipped: 1

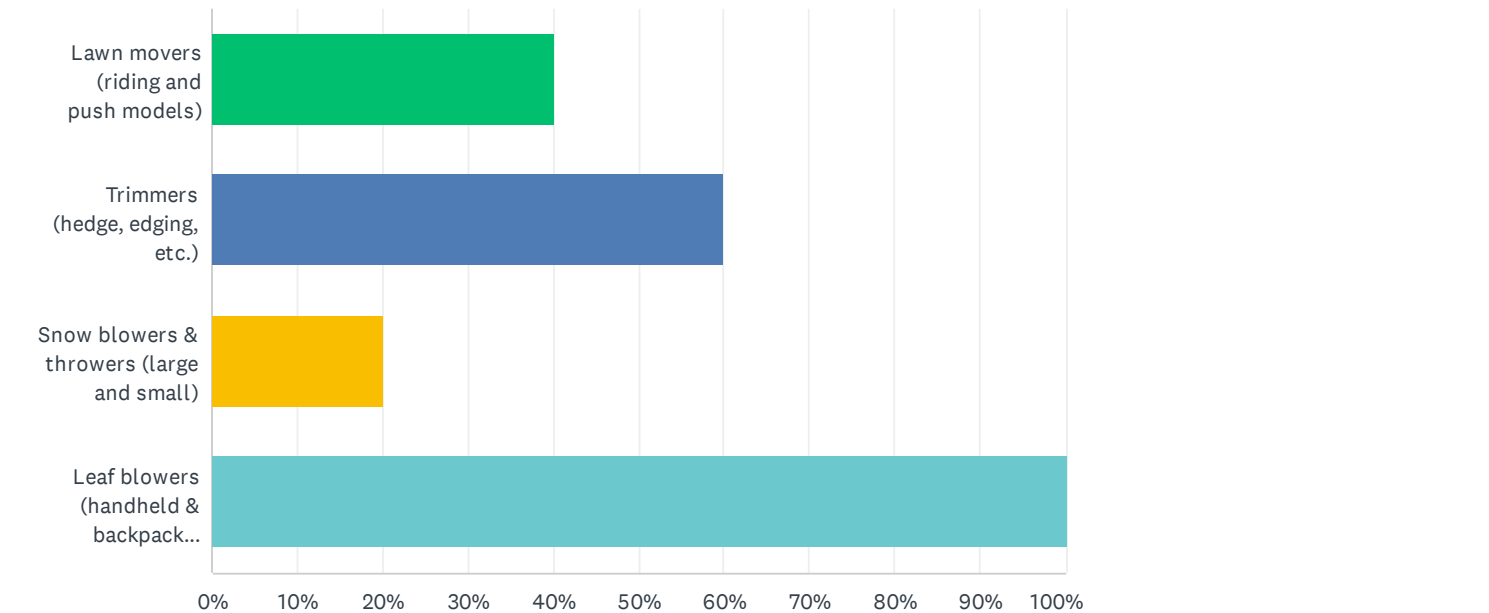


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Lawn movers (riding and push models)	81.82%	9
Trimmers (hedge, edging, etc.)	90.91%	10
Snow blowers & throwers (large and small)	54.55%	6
Leaf blowers (handheld & backpack models)	81.82%	9
Total Respondents: 11		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Power washer	6/21/2024 7:41 AM
2	Gas is the only way. Electric sucks.	6/20/2024 12:02 PM

Q5 What types of electric equipment does your business employ? [Select all that apply]

Answered: 5 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Lawn movers (riding and push models)	40.00%	2
Trimmers (hedge, edging, etc.)	60.00%	3
Snow blowers & throwers (large and small)	20.00%	1
Leaf blowers (handheld & backpack models)	100.00%	5
Total Respondents: 5		

#	OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	1 Trimmer ; 1 Handheld Blower	6/20/2024 7:02 PM
2	No chance. Doesn't preform. And is worse for environment by all of the mininung needed for batteries etc. gas is renewable	6/20/2024 12:02 PM

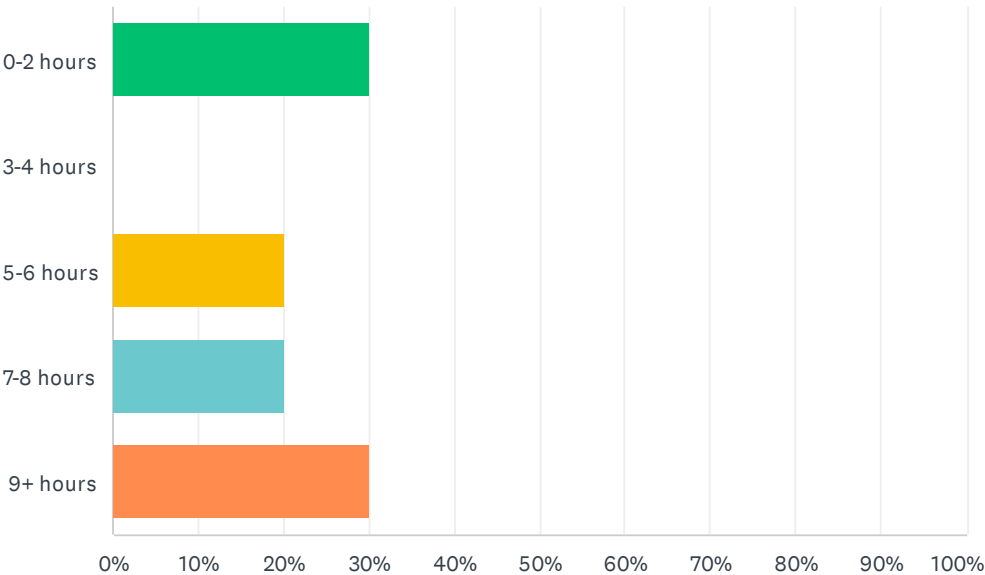
Q6 What barriers to entry do you or your business face when switching from gas to electric power?

Answered: 10 Skipped: 2

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	The amount a charge in a battery will hold	6/26/2024 8:19 AM
2	costs and runtime	6/24/2024 3:20 PM
3	Don't y'all have anything better to do with your time?! Focus on a real project.	6/24/2024 2:04 PM
4	No barriers - no brainer	6/23/2024 12:29 PM
5	the upfront cost of switching, batteries don't last long enough and need frequent charging interrupting work hours	6/21/2024 3:04 PM
6	Electric is good for some machinery but not all. It comes down to power. Gas equipment is more powerful than electric. When it comes to snow blowing and power-washing, gas is simply more powerful.	6/21/2024 7:41 AM
7	Battery powered is much better. This is a dumb survey, have you even talked to Professional Landscapers. Electrical mowers lines are easily tripped on.	6/21/2024 1:22 AM
8	1- The expense for 2 riding mowers 54"; 3 walk behinds 48"; 6 small Walk Behinds 21" 2- 16 Weed eaters 3- 11 Back Pack Blowers 4- 5 Hand Held Blowers	6/20/2024 7:02 PM
9	Electric equipment is very expensive and no one repairs it when it fails. Also, regarding leaf blowers specifically, normal maintenance throughout the season is doable with and electric blower but, for fall leaf cleanup it the electric blowers just aren't powerful enough. It would require much more manual raking, and there is already a labor shortage.	6/20/2024 6:07 PM
10	It's a hoax	6/20/2024 12:02 PM

Q7 For how many hours per day is your business using small gas-powered equipment?

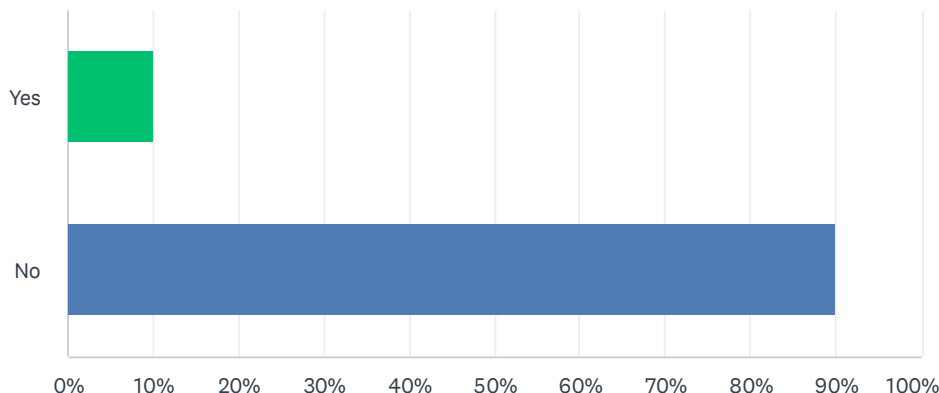
Answered: 10 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
0-2 hours	30.00%	3
3-4 hours	0.00%	0
5-6 hours	20.00%	2
7-8 hours	20.00%	2
9+ hours	30.00%	3
TOTAL		10

Q8 If a rebate was available for purchasing electric powered equipment, would you replace your existing equipment?

Answered: 10 Skipped: 2



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	10.00% 1
No	90.00% 9
TOTAL	10

#	WHY, OR WHY NOT? (PLEASE SPECIFY)	DATE
1	Reason Stated above.	6/26/2024 8:19 AM
2	only if it made sense to operate. batteries are expensive to replace and wear out.	6/24/2024 9:56 AM
3	I already have electric equipment	6/23/2024 12:29 PM
4	Batteries need to be charged too often for efficient commercial use	6/21/2024 3:04 PM
5	With some equipment electric is the best way to go and with some others gas is the way to go. It's best to have a blend of the two rather than a abandon gas equipment because of a leftist political climate agenda. Here's a good example: let's say a landscaper shows up to mow, thatch and aerate someone's lawn. Good luck doing a large property with all electric equipment. And good luck getting the equipment there with an electric vehicle. I'm pretty sure they don't even make electric equipment for such things. Not to mention that lithium ion batteries come from cobalt mines largely in poor African countries, using slave labor that are owned by foreign countries like China. The biggest problem I see is governments, forcing businesses to run their business a certain way using certain equipment that does not fit the job and does not get the job done. We as a country should be energy independent and I believe a blend of the two types of equipment based on the property or task at hand is the best way to go... but to "ban" all gas powered vehicles is insane. Incentivizing is probably the best way to go if you want people to change the equipment they're using without a ton of negative pushback.	6/21/2024 7:41 AM
6	Ask me about battery powered. And we are in !	6/21/2024 1:22 AM
7	We would not be able to get through a 10 hour day without gas powered equipment. Repairs on electric equipment is not even available. The amount of batteries that would be need is unrealistic to keep charged to keep my employees going for a 10 hour day.	6/20/2024 7:02 PM
8	Doesn't make sense in the long run. How about looking at other ways to "save the planet"? How about requiring all mowers to be mulching mowers? How much gas do you think landfill	6/20/2024 6:07 PM

Landscaping Equipment Electrification Survey

companies spend each week taking their clippings to the landfill, not to mention the landfill space?

9	Gas is superior	6/20/2024 12:02 PM
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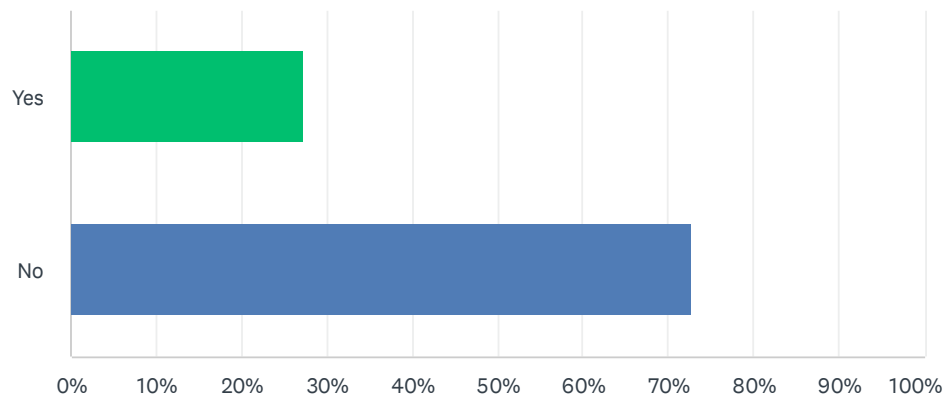
Q9 What concerns do you have about replacing gas powered equipment with electric equipment?

Answered: 9 Skipped: 3

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	mostly run-time. Not a big deal for us. Being able to recharge at client houses during the day can be helpful	6/24/2024 3:20 PM
2	Battery life and having to recharge mid day.	6/24/2024 9:56 AM
3	only the batteries- but the power has to come from somewhere we really enjoy working much more with electric	6/23/2024 12:29 PM
4	All Batteries eventually have a shelf life. Sheer power when it comes to snowblowing, mowing, etc. Is crucial. Gas is simply more powerful than electric nine times out of 10. Also, a lot of the equipment that's out there that you need to do your job properly they don't make electric versions of. Then there is the issue of these batteries getting wet or damaged and exploded are catching fire. I have clients that have electric vehicles, and they refused to charge them while in their garage. They only charge them outside because they know the risk of fire is real.	6/21/2024 7:41 AM
5	The lines on electric are dangerous and cumbersome	6/21/2024 1:22 AM
6	Getting through 200 + accounts in Snowmass Village alone in a 4 day period.	6/20/2024 7:02 PM
7	Too expensive, no one repairs them, increased labor costs for fall leaf cleanup.	6/20/2024 6:07 PM
8	The environmental board should be spending their time in better ways than this low-impact pet project of a board member.	6/20/2024 4:55 PM
9	Charging and battery performance.	6/20/2024 12:02 PM

Q10 Have you estimated the increased cost of business if you were to go fully electric with equipment?

Answered: 11 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	27.27%	3
No	72.73%	8
TOTAL		11

#	IF SO, WHAT IS YOUR ESTIMATE?	DATE
1	For us, a relatively small scale landscape company, it has been 2,500 - 3k +/-	6/23/2024 12:29 PM
2	I'm a small business so it affects me a lot less than it would say a full on landscaping or snow plowing company.	6/21/2024 7:41 AM
3	Over \$100,000.00. NOT COUNTING THE AMOUNT OF BATTERIES THAT WILL BE NEEDED	6/20/2024 7:02 PM
4	\$900 for a large hand-held Stihl blower with a battery, charger, and an extra battery.	6/20/2024 6:07 PM
5	Way more	6/20/2024 12:02 PM

Q11 Would you like the Town to follow up with you? If so, please share your contact information below:

Answered: 7 Skipped: 5

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Thank you but no.	6/26/2024 8:19 AM
2	not really. we don't use a ton of power equipment.	6/24/2024 3:20 PM
3	Not really but I would encourage the use of electric over gas - SO much cleaner! Lighter and quieter ! I do think the Town of Snowmass (and the wider world) should ban the use of toxic chemical herbicides and pesticides (if youi haven't already...)	6/23/2024 12:29 PM
4	No thank you! Don't force people to do things. Provide incentives. Not everyone believes in the very political agenda of climate change, carbon footprint, etc. you can't just go full tilt and ban one thing and replace it with another without upsetting 50% of the population. It's good to have a blend of the two for a lot of reasons.	6/21/2024 7:41 AM
5	Robin Riggs Riggs Design Services Inc 970 319 0009	6/21/2024 1:22 AM
6	KCSNOWPLANT@GMAIL.COM CMZ LLC DBA Driftbusters Snow Removal/ Snowmass Lawn & Plant Po Box 5959 Snowmass Village, CO 81615	6/20/2024 7:02 PM
7	No. Don't do it.	6/20/2024 12:02 PM