

2011 Commercial Mower Incentive Program

The Minnesota Propane Association (MPA) and the Minnesota Propane Education Promotion and Safety Council have approved a limited Propane Commercial Mower Incentive Program. With gasoline costs rising, environmental concerns and new engine and conversion technologies available, the time is right for lawn care and landscape specialist to consider propane as their fuel of choice.

This program like other MPA rebate programs must be submitted by the propane marketer. The refueling procedures and processes and a consistent propane supplier/customer relationship will be vital to the success of this program.

The following outlines the 2011 Commercial Mower Incentive Program:

WHY COMMERCIAL PROPANE MOWERS

Propane-fuelled commercial grade mowers provide benefits in cost and emission reductions. Research shows that propane engines reduce harmful emissions by one-third compared to gasoline. Other benefits include:

- Reduced fuel cost
- no theft of fuel from the tanks
- refueling ease
- less equipment maintenance
- no ground or air contamination from spillage
- and increased engine longevity

Propane also is a component in US energy security as nearly 90% of US propane supplies are produced in existing domestic facilities.

PARTICIPATION AND LIMITS

The Minnesota Propane (MPA) Commercial Propane Mower incentive program will work as a rebate program. Purchase of any equipment described herein does not automatically guarantee incentives and not all applicants will qualify. Propane companies and their employees are not eligible to receive incentives. This program is a competitive award designed to help replace conventional gasoline mowers with cleaner, propane-fueled equipment. MPA will evaluate all applications and make awards based on geographic equity, company commitment to propane fueling, and partnerships with fuel suppliers.

MPA recommends submitting an application prior to purchasing the equipment although the administrator will consider applications prepared after purchase. MO-PERC may deny an application or request for incentive for any reason, even if all eligibility requirements have been met. Funding is limited and not all applications may be able to receive awards.

WHO IS A GOOD CANDIDATE?

The Purchaser's fleet may include private licensed landscape contractors, state, federal, municipalities, counties, schools, school districts and universities who are registered to do business in the State of Minnesota.

QUALIFYING COMMERCIAL MOWERS

Qualifying mowers must be commercial grade, walk behind or riding units. Cutting widths must be a minimum 36 inch for walk behinds and 60 inches for riding units. Converted equipment must displace a minimum estimate of **200 gallons of gasoline per year, per unit.**

Original Equipment LPG Mowers

New, factory-direct OEM (original equipment manufacturer) mowers which designed for use on propane or dual fuel are eligible for an incentive of **\$1,500 per mower.**

Conversions

Conversions of existing gasoline-powered mowers with a propane dedicated or a dual fuel kit are eligible for an incentive of **\$750 per mower.**

APPLICATIONS

- The Purchaser shall agree to follow the equipment manufacturer's recommendations for maintenance of propane engine and conversion equipment.
- The Purchaser shall agree that the equipment for which a rebate is provided must remain in use, in the service area, for a minimum of three years or until sold.
- The Purchaser shall agree not remove alternative fuel conversion equipment permanently from the service area for a period of three years.
- Purchasers will report the qualifying mower's propane gas fuel usage annually.
- On-site refueling must only be performed by persons who have been trained on the appropriate state curriculum for dispensing propane.
- The completed incentive application must be submitted within 60 days of the mower purchase or conversion date. Incomplete applications will not be processed. The applications should include the:
 - Completed application for each mower
 - Computer-generated invoice for each mower
 - Vehicle Identification Number(s) (VIN #) with this application

SUBMIT APPLICATION TO:

Minnesota Propane Association
PO Box 220
Princeton, MN 55371

PO Box 220

Princeton, MN 55371

Phone 763-633-4271

Email mpga@mnpropane.org

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Rules and Regulations:

- The recipient agrees to submit fuel and maintenance records to MPA no more than one year after receiving the incentive. The survey, provided by MPA, will request basic information about fuel consumption and operational characteristics that will assist the propane industry and propane mower/conversion system manufacturers on developing more efficient products, refueling practices, and training.
- Successful applicants will agree to participate in case studies and further documentation to promote conversions or educate others about the program.
- The incentive program begins April 1, 2011, and ends August 30, 2011, or when program funds are exhausted. Incentives available through MPA are subject to available funds. If available funds run out during the program year, MPA may elect to carry over applications until the next program year.
- Applicants will be notified of the status of their applications within 60 days after the application is received at the MPA office. No applicant has a legal right or other entitlement to receive funding under the program or this agreement. A completed application does not bind MPA to approve or pay an incentive to any applicant.
- An applicant or propane marketer may be suspended from, or declared ineligible to participate in the program if the MPA determines that the applicant or propane marketer has submitted false information or otherwise violated program terms and conditions. Within 30 days after MPA suspends or declares an applicant or propane marketer ineligible, the applicant or propane marketer may appeal the action by submitting the appeal in writing to MPA. Actions taken by MPA with respect to the appeal will be final.
- An applicant or propane marketer who submits false information pertinent to a rebate is subject to criminal and civil penalties including U.S. Mail fraud. MPA will seek the return of any released funds as well as punitive damages for fraudulent applications or claims.

