

May 3, 2006

Contact – Sandy Krietzman

Workgroup Recommendations and Other Potential Control Measures

Non-Automobile Gasoline Engines Workgroup

NA003 – Green Star Program for Landscaping

Control Measure Summary: This control measure would give special recognition to landscaping operations that voluntarily use low emitting equipment, minimize engine use and engage in practices that align with the Department’s goals. This information could be included in an attachment to customer contracts. This program would be similar to the “Energy Star” label for appliances that meet energy consumption thresholds,	Emission Reductions (tons/year)
2002 existing measure: New program.	
Candidate measure: <u>Measure:</u> Develop a program – “green star” – to give recognition to landscape operations that voluntarily use low emitting equipment and minimize engine use, especially on air quality alert days. Examples of equipment: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Use equipment that meets Phase 2 EPA Emissions standards for Small Off-Road Spark Ignited Engines;- Use compliant Portable Fuel Containers (PFC). See VOC002: Portable Fuel Container Amendments, and NA002 (& NA006): Increasing the Rate of Small Engine Turnovers and Portable Fuel Container Turnovers through the Use of Incentive-Based Initiatives.- Use non-powered or electrically operated equipment. Modified operations: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Customer contract language committing to minimize or eliminate use of trimmers and leaf blowers on high ozone or particulate days and minimizing use on other days;- Single-pass turf mowing only (does not give lawn a checker pattern, cuts mowing emissions in half);- Anti-idling pledges to be included in customer contracts. Implementation: This measure would require New Jersey to work with landscape businesses to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- define the requirements of the “green star” program (age of equipment or emissions or both) by defining equipment standards and operation standards;- discuss how landscape operations can modify their practices in response to air quality alert days;- design the certification and renewal process to minimize the administrative burden for the landscape operations, by possibly taking advantage of the Department’s web capabilities;	A hypothetical “typical landscape trailer” mobile lawn care contractor scenario that would utilize 2 mowers, 3 blowers and 3 trimmers that are typical technology during 2002, if exchanged completely under the principals of this recommendation, would result in a daily VOC benefit of 1.4 pounds per day.

Disclaimer – The recommendations contained within this white paper do not constitute official state decisions nor reflect any pending regulatory or nonregulatory actions. The NJDEP welcomes public feedback on this (or any other) white paper.

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">- discuss strategies for informing the media, issuing press releases, recognition on websites, etc. for recognizing the “green star” businesses.- discuss issuing logos/signs to the businesses to use at work sites for recognition, etc. <p>There will be some administrative work by the Department required of this program. Resources will also be needed for the development of materials and an outreach campaign. The volunteering contractor may experience an economic impact if equipment upgrades are necessary.</p> <p>Timing of Implementation: Summer months, as early as 2007</p> <p>Implementation Area: Statewide</p>	
<p>Recommendation: This voluntary program will reward those landscape operations that agree to follow the recommended practices of using low emitting equipment; minimizing engine use and engaging in practices that align with the goals of the department with positive recognition. This may also raise the awareness of the general public regarding the use of the types of landscape equipment that have the least emissions, and the operation of that equipment that results in minimizing emissions.</p>	
<p>Brief Rationale for Recommended Strategy: This control measure is one of the most promising of the many suggestions offered for reducing emissions from landscape operations. Many of the other suggestions were outright bans of certain types of equipment on air quality action days, or curtailing the use of certain types of equipment. This control measure may have the added advantage of educating the general public about reducing emissions.</p>	