Three Ways to Electrify Your Lawn Care

Spring is finally here and the smell of freshly cut grass is in the air. If you’re in the market to upgrade your lawn care equipment, you may want to consider electric (or battery-powered) options. Gas-powered lawn mowers and trimmers may be your go-to, but times they are a changin’. Electric lawn care equipment options are becoming more popular than ever, offering consumers faster charging times, longer battery life and quieter, greener products compared to their gas-powered counterparts. Here are three ways you can electrify your lawn care this spring.

Electric Lawn Mowers

Electric lawn mowers have come a long way over the last few years. Early models required corded connections, which were tricky to manage—but the cord has been cut. Newer cordless electric mowers are certainly more expensive than gas-powered mowers, but much of the upfront cost can be recovered since electricity is a less expensive fuel than gas, and electric engines generally require less maintenance than gas engines. Cordless electric mowers typically range from $200 to $500. Electric mowers are suitable for most lawn care needs, with batteries that typically require about one to two hours to fully charge, and most batteries can run for a full hour. That said, if you have a large yard (half an acre or larger), a gas-powered option may be best to suit your needs.

Electric Trimmers

Cordless electric string trimmers are a great option for most lawns. Traditionally, like lawn mowers, string trimmers have typically been powered by gas. But new versions of electric trimmers are improving and are now considered worthy competitors of gas-powered models. Cordless electric trimmers are much quieter and easier to use, but most batteries last about 30 to 45 minutes. So, if you have a lot of space to trim, you may want to consider a back-up battery or plan to work in short bursts. If you’re interested in purchasing an electric trimmer, the main factors to consider are the battery’s life, charge time and power. Costs can vary depending on your needs, but you can find a quality version for about $100.

Electric Leaf Blowers

After cutting and trimming your lawn, you’ll need to clear off those walkways and patios for the finishing touch. If you don’t want to deal with the maintenance of a gas-powered blower or the restraints of a corded blower, a cordless electric version is a great option. Cordless electric leaf blowers are lightweight and easy to maneuver, but they don’t offer quite as much power as gas-powered and corded blowers. If your leaf blowing and clearing needs are minimal, a cordless electric leaf blower can get the job done. Costs for a cordless electric blower vary depending on power and battery quality, but you can purchase a dependable model for about $150 and up.

If you’re looking to electrify your lawn care equipment, be sure to do your homework. Search online for the latest reviews, and check trusted websites like ConsumerReports.org. With a little research, you’ll be well on your way to Lawn of the Month—with less maintenance, hassle and noise (and your neighbors will thank you!).
May is Electrical Safety Month!

Read the safety tips below to complete the crossword puzzle.

1. ACROSS: Keep all liquids away from _________, like TVs, computers and gaming consoles.
2. DOWN: Never overload electrical _________. This creates a greater risk of fire.
3. DOWN: Never use electrical _________ that feel warm to the touch or are damaged in any way.
4. ACROSS: Smoke _________ should be installed in every bedroom, outside each sleeping area and on every level of your home.
5. ACROSS: Don’t run electrical cords under rugs. This creates potential fire _________.

ANSWER KEY
1. electronics
2. outlets
3. cords
4. alarms
5. hazards

Holiday Closing
The offices of Craighead Electric Cooperative will be closed Monday, May 25th, in observance of Memorial Day.

Have a safe and happy Memorial Day.

WILLIE WIREDHAND SAYS

Do the Five

1. HANDS  Wash them often
2. ELBOW  Cough into it
3. FACE    Don't touch it
4. SPACE   Keep a safe distance
5. HOME    Stay if you can

HELP STOP COVID-19 SPREAD