

### AGZA GREEN ZONE® CERTIFICATION Features and Benefits



AGZA Green Zone<sup>®</sup> Certification establishes municipalities, academic institutions, school districts, and private industry as models of low-impact land care for their communities. Certification also strengthens environmental leadership and sets examples for clean, quiet, and sustainable landscape maintenance practices in their regions and beyond. AGZA collaborates with the nonprofit organization, Quiet Communities, to implement the Green Zone<sup>®</sup> program.

#### Why Low-Impact?

Low-impact lawn and garden operations improve a community's quality of life and benefits worker and community health by reducing localized noise and air pollution.

#### **Benefits of Certification**

- Independently verified and certified transition
- Long term commitment to low impact operations
- Operations orientation, training, equipment recommendations, charging infrastructure, certification
- ELF<sup>®</sup> (Environmental Landscape Footprint) reports documenting beneficial reductions in health- and environment-related impacts
- Economic analyses
- Lead-by-example opportunity
- Communicating and celebrating success
- Battery re-purposing and recycling guidance

# Certification Levels

Phase out all twostroke operations for routine maintenance

## LEVEL 2

Phase out all gas operations for routine maintenance

## LEVEL 3

Phase out all gas operations for routine maintenance, heavy tree work, seasonal workloads, and incorporation of best practices

### LEVEL 4

Phase out all gas operations for routine maintenance, heavy tree work, seasonal workloads, and incorporation of best practices, organics for pest, weed control, and fertilizing

\* Note: Gas allowances for levels 1 & 2 for heavy tree work, and seasonal workloads

#### **Case Study**

In 2016, the American Green Zone Alliance certified South Pasadena as the first AGZA GREEN ZONE® city in the nation.

## Quieter low-impact electric grounds maintenance transformed this community.

This milestone capped six years of collaboration between AGZA and the city. AGZA consulted on the technology, features, and performance of the latest commercial battery electric equipment, and conducted hands-on training, safety, and field maintenance.



AGZA also facilitated a **try-before-you-buy period** with the top manufacturers of commercial grade battery electric equipment. The transition from conventional gas to lower impact operations immediately reduced noise and ground level emissions. Reductions in carbon dioxide (CO2), carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen oxides (NOx), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and fine particulate matter (PM 2.5) were achieved. This resulted in healthier environments for workers and quality of life enhancement for the community.

## Establish an AGZA Certified Green Zone® and make an enduring and responsible change for your community!





