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## Lafayette e-lending program allows residents to try induction cooktops or electric leaf blowers

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From left: Anna Tolle, Maria Gastelumendi, Ashley Louisiana, Brenna Shafizadeh, Nancy Hu, Jonathan Katayanagi, and Colleen McCormick  
Photo provided

Are you interested in using an induction cooktop or an electric leaf blower? Now you can thanks to a new e-lending program offered by the City of Lafayette's Environmental Task Force. Items can be borrowed by Lafayette residents for up to two weeks.

Induction cooktops offer increased health benefits, and greater precision in cooking. And they are available in all price points, from portable units under \$100, to high-end models. But for residents who would like a "try before you buy," the city is lending, free of charge, induction cooktop kits that include a portable induction cooktop, a pan, and a magnet with which to test your other pans. Induction cooking heats food via magnetic induction, and so you can tell which of your pans might work by testing them with the magnet. If you are a Lafayette resident (over age 18) and would like to sign up to borrow an induction cooktop, visit [www.lovelafayette.org/cooktop-lending](http://www.lovelafayette.org/cooktop-lending)

Electric leaf blowers offer a cleaner, quieter, and less destructive option compared to gas-powered leaf blowers, which emit high levels of toxic pollution, as well as noise pollution. Ironically, gas-powered leaf blowers can be harmful for the long-term health of a garden in that they are destructive to the topsoil, which is an important component for healthy soil and plants. For these reasons and more, gas leaf blowers will no longer be sold in California as of Jan. 1, 2024. If you are a Lafayette resident (over age 18) and would like to sign up to borrow an electric leaf blower, visit [www.lovelafayette.org/leaf-blower-lending](http://www.lovelafayette.org/leaf-blower-lending)

Rebates may be available if you purchase an induction cooktop or an electric leaf blower:

for rebates on induction cooktops, go to <https://switchison.org/>

for rebates on electric leaf blowers for professional use, go to <https://californiacore.org/equipmentcatalog/>

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