News **EarthBeat**

by Peter McLoughlin

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You know those little two-gallon plastic gas cans for filling a lawn mower or walking down a highway to a gas station if you run out of gas? I've always found those things annoying: hard to fill, leaky, smelly, and, just in general, a pain. So, when my seven year-old gas snowblower bit the dust and the repair guy told me my options, leaving the world of those gas cans was very appealing. Of course, the bigger reason was the chance to leave 'gas-powered' behind in favor of a battery-powered model. With its rechargeable batteries drawing on our home's renewable-sourced electricity, the machine feels virtuous. It works fine (quieter even). And now I have a plastic gas can to pass on for re-use or recycling. Peter McLoughlin lives in Arlington, Ma. and is the author of Season of Creation Daily.



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