



CLEAN CITIES CONNECTIONS

Latest News and Resources

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Central Delaware Habitat for Humanity Goes Natural with CNG

Earlier in the year, Central Delaware Habitat for Humanity (CDHFH) acquired a CNG-only Honda Civic from Chesapeake Utilities. The idea was for CDHFH to have a dedicated vehicle that staff could use when visiting building sites, attending meetings, and



running errands, that was economical to use and projected a positive image for the organization. CDHFH works to transform lives and revitalizes Kent County communities by building quality, affordable homes in partnership with families in need. Since their founding in 1990, CDHFH has built and renovated nearly 60 homes, housing more than 200 adults and children. Through this homeowner partnership, families are able to achieve their dreams of home ownership and break the generation cycle of poverty. "All the staff has been training on how to fill up the vehicle. It's really a lot like a regular gas pump, but without the mess of gasoline" said Tim Bailey, Executive Director of CDHFH, "and we feel good about reducing our impact on the environment as we go about our day to day operations."

What is a Clean Cities Coalition?

Clean Cities Coalitions dates back to the Alternative Motor Fuels Act of 1988 and the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. These laws led the creation of the Alternative Fuels Data Center (AFDC) in 1991. The AFDC's initial objective was to collect, analyze, and distribute data used to evaluate alternative fuels and vehicles. In 1992, the enactment of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (EPAct) required certain vehicle fleets to acquire alternative fueled vehicles (AFVs). Subsequently, Clean Cities was created in 1993 to provide informational, technical, and financial resources to EPAct-regulated fleets and voluntary adopters of alternative fuels and vehicles.

Nearly 100 local coalitions serve as the foundation of Clean Cities by working in communities across the country to implement alternative fuels, fuel-saving technologies and practices, and new mobility choices. Clean Cities coalitions are comprised of businesses, fuel providers, vehicle fleets, state and local government agencies, and community organizations. Each coalition is led by an on-the-ground Clean Cities coordinator who tailors projects and activities to capitalize on the unique opportunities within their communities. Nationwide, nearly 16,000 stakeholders participate in Clean Cities coalitions, and through their collective efforts they are transforming local and regional transportation markets.

SPOTLIGHT: CLEAN CITIES ACROSS THE U.S.

Each issue of the Delaware Clean Cities Connections Newsletter will feature an article or highlight from a sister Clean Cities coalition. This month we will feature an article from the Ohio Clean Cities (Clean Fuels Ohio).

Industry Groups and Leaders Advocate Clean Transportation Priorities as Part of Federal Economic Recovery

by Sam Spofforth, Jason Phillips

Clean Fuels Ohio - May 21, 2020

A diverse collection of clean transportation leaders and industry groups have developed policy priorities related to economic recovery from the deepening recession caused by COVID-19. Clean Fuels Ohio plans to engage with specific partners, especially Transportation Energy Partners (TEP), and focus attention on the Ohio Congressional delegation. "It's important that clean transportation solutions play an important role to drive economic recovery," said Jason Phillips, Policy Director for Clean Fuels Ohio. "This is especially needed in a state like Ohio where vehicle manufacturing, supply chains and logistics are so vital to our economy." TEP's policy agenda prioritizes two policy issues: 1) Funding for the federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program to create state-based streamlined funding channels for advanced vehicles, while simplifying Buy America rules to require all funded vehicles to be fully made or assembled in the U.S.A. 2) Provide \$500 million for vehicles and infrastructure through Clean Cities programs in a package loosely modeled on recovery funding from 2009, but based on more streamlined rules and administration. In addition to the top priorities, TEP has included six other items on its overall agenda. These include funding for refueling and recharging infrastructure through Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), extension of advanced fuel tax credits, funding for the U.S. EPA's clean diesel program, among others. "Clean transportation technologies and energy sources can help drive economic recovery and jobs," said Ken Brown, Executive Director of TEP. "It's going to be important for our stakeholders across the country to strongly deliver this message." Many others have put forth related agendas. For example, National Biodiesel Board is calling on Congress to provide immediate, temporary, direct relief/assistance for biofuel industry through the Department of Agriculture. Based on falling commodity and low fuel demand, many biodiesel and ethanol plants face closure. Calstart has framed out four priorities. These include Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Low/No Emission Bus Deployment, zero emission truck incentives for point-of-sale, infrastructure development, and mobility research, and a competitive grant program for refueling and recharging stations along Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) designated corridors. Calstart is also advocating for funding and temporary simplification of Buy America rules for CMAQ. Over the coming weeks, Clean Fuels Ohio will ramp up efforts to engage the Ohio Congressional Delegation in coordination with industry and other members.

Helpful Resources



Clean Cities stories and alternative fuel news

www.fuelsfix.com



CleanCitiesTV
787 subscribers

Official Clean Cities YouTube channel featuring success stories from coalitions across the U.S.

www.youtube.com/channel/UCekDhe50SU1Mg65iOICjaGw



Clean Cities coalitions have compiled a list of all clean cities hosted webinars (click [here](#)). The webinar list is living document so check back often for updates. Please do not share the document link outside of the Delaware Clean Cities Coalition.

ALT FUELS CORNER - NATURAL GAS

Natural gas is an odorless, gaseous mixture of hydrocarbons, mainly methane, and is domestically produced. It is a lower carbon alternative to petroleum-based fuels and offers environmental, economic and energy benefits.

Natural gas powers about 175,000 U.S. vehicles and is a good choice for high-mileage fleets such as buses, medium and heavy-duty trucks, and refuse vehicles. Natural gas mainly comes in two forms: Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) and Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG). Both are captured from the same resource but the difference is in the way the gas is stored and transported.

- CNG is produced by compressing natural gas to less than 1% of its volume at standard atmospheric pressure then, transporting by pipeline or truck where it is stored and compressed.
- LNG is produced by purifying natural gas and super cooling it to -260°F to turn it into liquid through a process called liquefaction. It is then transported via insulated trucks, rail or ships to LNG stations for use in vehicles requiring longer ranges.

Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) is a biogas or biomethane that is captured as organic waste breaks down.

Harnessed from decaying food and agricultural waste, wastewater, and landfill gas, RNG is fully interchangeable with conventional natural gas and can be used as a transportation fuel.

Natural Gas News

- [Chesapeake Utilities announces next steps in its sustainable renewable natural gas strategy](#)
- [Wisconsin dairy begins production of renewable natural gas](#)
- [Volkswagen, first voyage on world's largest LNG-powered car carrier](#)



Upcoming Events in Clean Transportation



ACT Virtual is a 4-month, education series that will spotlight the trends, policies, and technologies driving the future of fleet transportation. For more information, visit www.learn.act-virtual.com/home#reg



The 2020 Sustainable Fleet Technology Virtual Conference will be a series of 12 webinar sessions on a variety of topics highlighting the leading edge of sustainable fleet practices and alternative fuel opportunities. All sessions are FREE! For more information, visit www.sustainablefleetexpo.com/

The Delaware Clean Cities Coalition is one of nearly 100 coalitions across the U.S. Delaware's coalition is housed in the Division of Climate, Coastal and Energy and is funded by the Department of Energy's Vehicle Technology Office.

For More Information on the Delaware Clean Cities Coalition or to sign-up for the newsletter, visit www.de.gov/delaware-clean-cities-coalition

