



DELAWARE CLEAN CITIES CONNECTIONS

Spring 2024

Message from the Delaware Clean Cities Director

We are pleased to present the Spring 2024 edition of the Delaware Clean Cities Connections newsletter! With so many opportunities and initiatives happening in the clean transportation space, we hope this quarterly newsletter can serve as a resource for you to get updates about all the great work being done here in Delaware and throughout the country.

As you may recall, the Delaware Clean Cities Coalition was recently up for redesignation. That process was completed on March 22, 2024 and we received a 5-year designation! That means the Delaware Clean Cities Coalition will continue to be a designated coalition through 2029. Congrats to all for your hard work over the last five years in bringing alternative fuel solutions to fleets and residents to help lower our GHG emissions and improve air quality for ALL Delawareans.

- Breanne, DE Clean Cities Director

Federal Funding Opportunities

EPA Clean Heavy-duty Vehicle Grant Program



The EPA has announced a new funding opportunity and anticipates awarding up to \$932 million in competitive grant funding under the 2024 Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Grants Program Notice of Funding Opportunity. The program is soliciting applications nationwide for a grant competition to fund the replacement of existing non-zero-emission Class 6 and 7 heavy-duty vehicles with zero-emission Class 6 and 7 heavy-duty vehicles.

The NOFO is open now! The application deadline is 11:59PM (ET) on July 25, 2024. The EPA anticipates notifying selectees by November 2024 and awarding the grants by February 2025.

Eligible Applicants: States, municipalities, public school districts, nonprofit school transportation associations.

[Learn More](#)

Webinars

Joint Office of Energy and Transportation

May 23, 2024, 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm ET

[Reliability Strategies for Electric Vehicle Charging](#)

NC Clean Energy Technology Center

May 29, 2024, 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm ET

[Evaluating Fueling and Charging Infrastructure Costs](#)

DOT Climate Change Center 2024 Webinar Series

May 30, 2024, 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm ET

[Climate Adaptation and Resilience in Transportation](#)

June 18, 2024, 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm ET

[Climate Change Research and Technology](#)

Delaware Dashboard

DNREC's Clean Vehicle Rebate Program Relaunches

Since 2015, DNREC's Clean Vehicle Rebate Program has provided cash rebates to Delawareans who purchase a qualifying battery electric or plug-in hybrid vehicle. On May 1, 2024, the program relaunched, unveiling changes to the rebate structure and the eligible vehicle list.



The program now includes used electric vehicles, expanding EV accessibility by making them more affordable for more people. The program also follows a tiered approach, providing larger rebates to consumers who purchase more affordable models.

Rebate Amounts as of May 1, 2024:

Type of Vehicle/ Vehicle Technology	Rebate
New Battery Electric Vehicles with a base MSRP below \$40,000	\$2,500
New Battery Electric Vehicles with a base MSRP between \$40,000 and \$50,000	\$1,500
New Plug-in Hybrid Vehicles with a base MSRP below \$50,000	\$1,000
Used Battery Electric Vehicles with a fair market purchase price of \$40,000 or less	\$2,500
Used Plug-in Hybrid Vehicles with a fair market purchase price of \$40,000 or less	\$1,000

With almost fifty vehicle models eligible for rebate,

consumers are more likely than ever to find an electric or plug-in hybrid vehicle that meets both their budget and their needs. Interested in learning more? Click the button below or head to de.gov/cleancars for more information about the program rules and requirements, a list of eligible vehicles, and instructions on how to apply!

[Learn More](#)



Delaware's First Electric Trash Truck

On May 2, 2024, Evergreen Waste Services unveiled Delaware's first all-electric waste collection vehicle alongside two DC fast charging stations on their property.

The truck will service the residents of New Castle County, reducing both noise and air pollution as it makes up to 600 stops a day over a 40-mile route.

The vehicle, manufactured by Mack Trucks, is also capable of bi-directional charging. Evergreen Waste plans to utilize this feature by bringing the truck back to their property before the battery is depleted. They will send the remaining energy to the grid during times of peak electricity demand and charge the truck during the off-peak hours.

By year's end, Evergreen Waste Services plans to have five total EV trucks in service and will install three additional charging stations. With these additions, 10% of Evergreen's fleet will soon be battery electric vehicles.

To learn more about Evergreen Waste Services, please visit their website: [Evergreen Waste Services – of Delaware \(evergreenws.com\)](https://evergreenws.com)



Transportation TidBits

As of May 1st, 2024, the following number of alternative fuel vehicles are registered in Delaware:

- 26,571 hybrid and plug-in hybrid
- 9,424 battery-electric
- 266 propane
- 229 liquified gas
- 124 compressed natural gas

Between May 1st, 2023, and May 1st, 2024, the number of electric vehicles registered in Delaware rose over 50%!

Data provided by the Department of Transportation, Division of Motor Vehicles.

Stakeholder Highlight



Sharp Energy, a Delaware Clean Cities and Communities stakeholder, has provided propane service on the Delmarva Peninsula for more than 40 years. In addition to serving commercial and residential customers, Sharp's AutoGas operations currently provide propane to fuel over 1,300 vehicles. These efforts displace approximately 3.6 million gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel and significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector.

Sharp Autogas currently operates 18 public AutoGas stations within Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, and North Carolina. Expanding the impact of their emission reduction efforts, Sharp Energy is planning to construct new AutoGas stations in Wilmington, North Carolina, Shallotte, North Carolina, Jacksonville, Florida, and DeBary, Florida throughout the next year.



Fueling vehicles with propane not only reduces emissions but allows customers significant savings too. Displayed in the chart below is a comparison of propane prices versus gasoline prices.

PROPANE VS. GASOLINE PRICES			
Market	Propane Prices	Gasoline Prices	Price Difference
Delaware	\$1.86	\$3.69	\$1.83
Florida	\$1.95	\$3.22	\$1.27
Maryland	\$2.03	\$3.63	\$1.60
Pennsylvania	\$2.10	\$3.43	\$1.33
North Carolina	\$1.92	\$3.21	\$1.29

*Gasoline prices via Gasbuddy.com as of 4/25/2024

Helpful Resources and Events

[Fuels Fix](#)

Fuels Fix features stories about alternative fuels and



**AUGUST 13-15
DURHAM, NC**

Register by Friday, June 28 to
save with early bird pricing!

[LEARN MORE](#)

[SUSTAINABLEFLEETEXPO.COM](https://www.sustainablefleeteexpo.com)

Save the date! The Sustainable Fleet Technology Conference showcases the latest and greatest in advanced vehicles, fuels, and technologies — including data-driven solutions. This conference is a source of on-the-ground experience for increasing fleet efficiency and sustainability, while reducing emissions and costs.

Tuesday, August 13, 2024 - Thursday, August 15, 2024

Have questions? Contact Heather Brutz, hnbrutz@ncsu.edu

Secure your full conference pass today! [Register Now](#)

advanced vehicle technologies successes in the United States. The site is powered by news from the US DOE Clean Cities Program as well as our working partners in the alternative fuels industry.

[On-the-Go Podcast](#)

On the Go is a podcast on alternative fuels, advanced vehicles, and emerging transportation technologies that are transforming mobility as we know it.

[EV Hub Live Podcast](#)

EV Hub Live is a first-of-its-kind video podcast recorded live and distributed for free to the public policy community working to advance transportation electrification.

Alternative Fuel Highlights



1,200-Mile School District Field Trip Proves Propane School Bus Success

In an impressive demonstration of the viability of alternative fuel transportation, a school district in Minnesota recently completed 1,200-miles roundtrip for an out-of-state robotics competition with a propane school bus.

While many districts opt to use diesel buses for long-haul trips, strategic plotting of fuel stops and thorough driver training ensured smooth travel and confidence, according to the district Transportation Director, Kay Cornelius.


Cornelius, a firm advocate for propane, not only sees the fuel as reliable, but less expensive to maintain, seeing substantial savings in fueling and maintenance costs since the district began converting to a propane fleet 10 years ago.

For a deeper dive into this story and the benefits experienced by this Minnesota school district, click the button below.

Article by Todd Mouw from ROUSH CleanTech.

[Read More](#)

Coalition Spotlight: Drive Clean Colorado

In March 2024, clean transportation leaders  gathered at Pro Auto Care in Denver, Colorado to celebrate the success of an innovative EV Technician Training Pilot Program.

This program, launched by Drive Clean Colorado with funding from the City and County of Denver and the Colorado Department of Transportation, aimed to equip local technicians with the skills needed to maintain and repair electric vehicles and meet the growing demand for EV services.

The pilot program, launched in 2023, trained 20 technicians in EV maintenance and safety, 15 of which are employed by Pro Auto Care. Pro Auto Care also installed four EV chargers and purchased an EV fleet vehicle for customer use during extended repairs.

Drive Clean Colorado's EV Technician Training Pilot Program underscores the importance of a skilled workforce to support the rapid growth of EVs and the overall clean energy transition. This initiative not only enhances safety standards but fosters job creation and industry expertise.

To learn more about Drive Clean Colorado, please visit their website: [Drive Clean Colorado](#).



Delaware Division of Climate, Coastal and Energy
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