
NJCCC April Newsletter

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New Jersey Clean Cities Coalition
- April Newsletter

April 2010



Think Global, Act Local: Clean Cities and Earth Day

The following has been adapted from an article by Shannon Brescher Shea. Shannon is a member of the DOE Headquarters Clean Cities Team

With everyone being “green” these days, the idea of Earth Day almost sounds quaint. Yet without this iconic event, many people would be unaware of our society’s environmental impact. Earth Day’s 40th anniversary on April 22 provides Clean Cities coalitions with a great opportunity to help the public “connect the dots” between alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles and environmental sustainability.

Clean Cities coalitions help stakeholders make smarter decisions about how to acquire and use alternative transportation fuels. Alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles offer a variety of environmental benefits, including lower emissions of both smog-forming pollutants and greenhouse gases. Compared to traditional petroleum based fuels like gasoline and diesel, clean alternative fuels like electricity, natural gas, propane, ethanol, and biodiesel help to reduce harmful emissions such as particulate matter (PM, a pollutant linked to heart and respiratory disease), nitrogen oxides (NOx, a group of major smog-forming pollutants), carbon oxides (CO), and unburned hydrocarbons. All of these fuels also produce fewer greenhouse gas emissions than their petroleum counterparts. A lifecycle analysis from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory found that that using B100 biodiesel produced 78 percent fewer carbon dioxide emissions than petroleum based diesel, because soybean crops reabsorb carbon dioxide as they grow. Similarly, compared to gasoline, electric vehicles (assuming the national average electricity source) lower greenhouse gases by 19 percent, E85 by 17 percent, natural gas by 21 percent, and propane by 21 percent.

Beyond fuels and vehicles, Clean Cities coalitions have an essential role to play in

building sustainability on the community level. Sustainability includes environmental, social and economic health, all of which are rooted in local networks. By linking people together, Clean Cities coalitions allow residents to share knowledge and craft solutions beyond what any one coordinator could do alone.

A wealth of resources exists on Earth Day and sustainability. More detailed emissions information on each type of fuel is available on the Alternative Fuel and Advanced Technology Data Center's Emissions webpage. Whatever you do in your coalition to celebrate Earth Day, take pride in the fact that your coalition is helping make your community more sustainable. In Clean Cities, every day truly is Earth Day!

BJ's Wholesale Club Fundraiser

BJ's will make a donation to the New Jersey Clean Cities Coalition for each BJ's membership sold or renewed to members of the NJCCC! Please take notice that this offer is extended to all employees, friends and family members. This offer is not available online or at store locations. To participate in these savings and extra months, and to help raise funds for the NJCCC, please call Sarina Mulleavey, BJ's Representative, at 201-874-0998. As a 501C3 non-profit corporation, the NJCCC relies on the support of our members to help fund our activities. Please help us out by taking advantage of this great offer!

DOT, EPA Boost Fuel Economy, Set GHG Emission Limits

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) jointly established new federal rules on April 1 that set the first-ever national greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions standards for all new passenger cars and light trucks sold in the United States. The rules, which will significantly increase the fuel economy of the vehicles starting with the 2012 model year, could save the average buyer \$3,000 over the life of a 2016 model year car. Overall, the measures will conserve about 1.8 billion barrels of oil, and reduce nearly a billion tons of GHG emissions over the lives of the vehicles covered.

The final rules, issued by DOT's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and EPA, establish increasingly stringent fuel economy standards under NHTSA's Corporate Average Fuel Economy program and GHG emission standards under the Clean Air Act for vehicles produced in model years 2012 through 2016. The collaboration of federal agencies also allows for clearer rules for all automakers, instead of three standards (DOT, EPA, and a state standard). Starting with 2012 model year vehicles, the rules require automakers to improve fleet-wide fuel economy and reduce fleet-wide GHG emissions by approximately 5% every year. NHTSA has established fuel economy standards that strengthen each year, reaching an estimated 34.1 miles per gallon (mpg) for the combined industry-wide fleet for model year 2016.

Upcoming Events

Please join the NJCCC at our upcoming events:

- The NJCCC is coordinating an alternative fuel and advanced technology **vehicle fair** at the Center for Advanced Infrastructure and Transportation (CAIT) at Rutgers University Busch Campus on April 24 from 10 to 4 (rain or shine). We have about a dozen vehicles registered already and several other poster presentations. Please help spread the word and plan to stop by!
- The 34th Annual New Jersey State Transportation Conference & Expo will be held on April 28, 29, 30, 2010 at the Tropicana Hotel, Casino & Conference Center. Each year, more than 1,000 people (from more than 22 states and Canada) attend this Conference & Expo. A panel discussion on **Alternative Fuels Deployment in NJ** will be presented at the conference on April 29. Panelists include NJCCC members: Chuck Feinberg of Greener by Design & the NJCCC; Joe Biluck of the Medford (NJ) School District; Brain Keelan of Air & Gas Technologies; and, Paul Heitman of eTec. For additional information and registration applications, please visit <http://www.njtransactionconf.com>.
- the NJCCC is co-sponsoring, along with Government Fleet Magazine, and Clean Cities coalitions in NY and Connecticut, a presentation by **The 100 Best Fleets in North America™** entitled, "Implementing Best Business Practices: Proven Strategies for What Smart Leaders Do in Difficult Times". This one-of-a-kind seminar will be held April 15 at the Division of Motor Maintenance in Long Island City, NY.
- **Alternative Fuels & Vehicles 2010...** In its sixteenth year, AF&V 2010 is THE industry event representing all fuels, vehicles and technologies that provide an alternative to petroleum. This fuel and technology neutral Conference brings industry experts, transportation leaders and policy makers together to help fleet managers and other decision makers sort through which fuels and vehicles make the most sense for them. AF&V 2010 showcases natural gas, ethanol, biodiesel, propane, electricity, and hydrogen, and their companion vehicles. The Conference embraces advanced technologies that result in fuel efficiency, petroleum displacement and emissions improvements. Chuck Feinberg will participate on a panel on Wednesday, May 12 to discuss regional Clean Cities ARRA grant projects which will yield more than 500 new vehicles and 20 plus refueling stations to include hydrogen, CNG, electric vehicle charging, B20 and LNG in Connecticut, New Jersey and New York. For more information see <http://t.ymlp118.com/ejatamesafawjsqiaieym/click.php>.

- New Jersey Natural Gas (NJNG) is holding two **Green Energy Forums** highlighting ways to save energy and money in municipal operations. The events, which are intended for municipal officials and their staff, will highlight recent changes to Sustainable Jersey™ and address programs and services that may help you achieve your energy-efficiency and conservation goals. The first forum will be held on May 13, 2010 at NJNG Headquarters, located 1415 Wyckoff Road in Wall. Registration and networking begin at 7:30 a.m. and the panel discussion will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. A continental breakfast will be provided and guests will have an opportunity to discuss available resources following the presentation. Experts in the fields of operational efficiency and alternative energy will share information and answer your questions. A representative from New Jersey's Clean Energy Program will discuss the elimination of upfront cost requirements in the Local Government Energy Audit program, generous rebates and special financing available through Direct Install and ways to combine these incentives with federal funding to make your dollars go even further. The New Jersey Clean Cities Coalition will be represented by Chuck Feinberg and will provide information related to the development and use of alternative fuels and vehicles, as well as the related infrastructure. Information about a variety of free programs, including NJNG's Conserve to Preserve® and SAVEGREEN Project™, will also be available throughout the morning and Hutchinson Mechanical Services will be on hand to answer any questions related to Direct InstallPlease. RSVP by May 7 to Janice Cleary at 732-938-1487 or via e-mail to jcleary@njng.com. A second forum is planned for Morris County in July.

NJ CLEAN CITIES COALITION is a 501(c)3 nonprofit dedicated to the advancement of alternative fuels and advanced vehicle technologies in order to increase domestic energy security, enhance economic development and improve regional air quality. We rely on membership fees and sponsorships to carry out our activities.

Please help support our activities!

www.njcleancities.org
