## Clean Cities Vermont eNewsletter 4.26.2007

Your clearinghouse for news, programs, and funding related to reducing the consumption of petroleum for transportation in Vermont.

# clean-cities@snellingcenter.org

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# **STATS**

- Petro-Stats
- Announcement: Vermont Clean Cities Coalition website live UVM and the University Transportation Center are now hosting the Vermont Clean Cities Coalition website <a href="here">here</a>. Contents include coalition activities, an online version of the most recent eNewsletter, meetings, opportunities, and reports.
- Announcement: Newsletter online

The Clean Cities Vermont eNewsletter is now available online <a href="here">here</a>. Current issues are available by the end of the week that they are distributed by email.

Announcement: Job opportunities

The new host of the Vermont Clean Cities Coalition, the University Transportation Center, is currently hiring four positions including the Project Coordinator. Among the responsibilities of the Project Coordinator will be to coordinate Vermont Clean Cities Coalition activities. Postings can be found here.

• Fuels: Vermont alternative fuel vehicle data

The Vermont Clean Cities Coalition hosts have posted summary data for the number and type of alternative fuel vehicles in Vermont. The "AFV report Summary" can be downloaded <a href="here">here</a>.

Fuels: Two alternative-fuel vehicle shows

Two events in Vermont recently promoted alternative fuel vehicles: the Clean Car (and more!) Show in Burlington on April 22, and the alternate-fuels car show in South Royalton on April 12. [Sources: <u>Burlington Free Press</u>, Rutland Herald]

- Bike & Ped: Feasibility study underway for Conn. River bridge An engineering and design firm has been commissioned to explore the feasibility of adding a bike and pedestrian path to the railroad bridge which links White River Junction, VT and West Lebanon, NH. The effort is spearheaded by the Upper Valley Trails Alliance. [Source: Rutland Herald]
- Alternative Modes: Rail vs. bus? Vermont Transit is concerned that as the state's only interstate bus service, proposed funding to boost Amtrak's St. Albans to New York City service will hurt its service on the same corridor. [Source: Times Argus]
- Alternative Modes: New bus line proposed: Brattleboro-Jamaica Connecticut River Transit (CRT) is considering adding a new route that would run from Brattleboro up Route 30 through Dummerston, Newfane, Townshed, and end in Jamaica. Park and ride sites still need to be found. CRT would like the potential riders to shape the route's stops and timing, and is encouraging the public to provide feedback: <a href="mailto:cstone@crtransit.org">cstone@crtransit.org</a> or 888-869-6287. [Source: Brattelboro Reformer]
- Alternative Modes: Free Waterbury Shaw's shuttle Green Mountain Transit Agency (GMTA) has started a free weekly shuttle ride toe the Waterbury Shaw's Supermarket for town residents. For route details, call 223-7287. [Source: Burlington Free Press]
- Policy Watch: VT House passes school bus idling ban
  Seventh graders are still watchdogging the legislature's progress to ban
  idling by buses on school grounds. The House has voted 96-46 in favor of
  an amended version of S.13: The Idling of Motor Vehicles on School
  Property. The Senate must now either agree to the stricter House version
  or the two chambers will negotiate a compromise. [Sources: <u>Burlington</u>
  <u>Free Press</u>, <u>Idle-Free VT</u>]
- Policy Watch: Guzzler fee out, seatbelt enforcement in The Vermont House Ways and Means Committee has dropped the proposed gas guzzler fee as a funding mechanism in <u>H.540: Public Transit</u>, citing lack of support. Lawmakers have turned instead to a one-time federal source of money as a replacement, which requires states to allow their police to pull over a motorist for not wearing a seat belt. [Sources: Burlington Free Press, Vermont Legislature Bill Tracking System]
- Policy Watch: Progress of emissions trial

The trial continues in the suit brought by automakers against Vermont's strict emissions standards. Recent headlines and links to the stories are below:

- 4/26: Emissions trial sees wrangle over costs [<u>Burlington Free Press</u>]
- 4/24: Emissions limits put U.S. automakers at disadvantage, witness says [<u>Burlington Free Press</u>]
- 4/21: Expert says new rules would 'devastate' the auto industry [<u>Rutland Herald</u>]
- 4/20: Economist sees unintended consequences in Vt. emissions limits [<u>Burlington Free Press</u>]
- 4/19: Car emissions case today [<u>Burlington Free Press</u>]
- 4/13: DaimlerChrysler says it cannot meet Vt. emissions limits [Burlington Free Press]
- 4/11: Trial begins in suit over emission rules [Times Union]
- Funding Opportunities:
  - Federal: Planning flexible public transportation service strategies for rural and small, medium, and large urban transit

- agencies. Closes 5/2/07. [View]
- Regional: Professional development programs for farmers. Pre-proposal due 5/31/07. [View]
- Federal: Rural cooperative development. Closes 6/8/07.
   [View]
- Federal, R&D: Hydrogen separation and storage. Colleges and Universities eligible. Closes 6/12/07. [View]
- Federal, capital projects: Buses and bus facilities. Government entities eligible. Closes 6/21/07. [View]
- Federal, Planning: Integrating transportation and resources planning to develop ecosystem based infrastructure projects. Closing date TBD. [View]

## Events

| 5/3, Thu<br>Montpelier      | Bike Rodeo Training event for young cyclists. 5:30-6:30, Montpelier Recreation Department Info: 802-223-5141  |  |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| 5/5, Sat<br>Barre           | Bike Rodeo<br>Training event for young cyclists.<br>10:15-1:30 Barre Kiwanis  |  |
| 5/7-11<br>Online            | Biodiesel Training Free webcast for petroleum distributors.  Info: http://www.biodiesel.org/misc/040307.shtm/   |  |
| 5/10, Thu<br>Online         | Biodiesel Training Free webcast for petroleum distributors. Info: http://www.biodiesel.org/misc/040307.shtm/  |  |
| 5/12, Sat<br>So. Burlington | Pedestrian and Bike Summit Charting the future of biking and walking in Chittenden County. 9am-12:30pm. 160 Hinesburg Road. Info: www.ccmpo.gov/BikePed |  |

#### More event listings:

10% Challenge, Vermont Peak Oil Network

# Weekly Petro-Stats

|                          | Gas at the pump, VT [compiled from fuelgaugereport.com] | Crude oil futures<br>[compiled from<br>nymex.com] |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| This week<br>(Apr 18-24) | \$ 2.829/gallon   | \$ 63.558/barrel                                  |
| Last week<br>(Apr 11-17) | \$ 2.792/gallon   | \$ 63.762/barrel                                  |

Clean Cities is a national program, coordinated by local coalitions in states and large cities, committed to advancing "the economic, environmental and energy security of the U.S." through cutting back on "petroleum consumption in the transportation sector". [More at the Clean Cities website].

To unsubscribe, send a blank email to <u>clean-cities@snellingcenter.org</u> with 'unsubscribe' in the subject line.

Best regards, Elaine Wang Snelling Center Intern

Vermont Clean Cities Coalition