

Clean Cities Vermont eNewsletter 2.28.2007

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

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].

Weekly Petro-Stats

	Gas at the pump, VT [compiled from fuelgaugereport.com]	Crude oil futures [compiled from nymex.com]
This week (Feb 21-27)	\$ 2.302/gallon	\$ 61.068/barrel
Last week (Feb 14-20)	\$ 2.253/gallon	\$ 58.363/barrel

NEWS & INFO BY SECTOR

- Fuels
 - Compressed Natural Gas
 - Biodiesel: Vermont Municipalities
 - Biodiesel Plant Planned in Hampton, NY
- Alternative Modes
 - Park & Ride improvement in St. Johnsbury
 - Park & Ride call for St. Albans
 - Telecommuting

ON THE HORIZON

- Policy Watch
 - Fuel surcharge bill does not include transportation fuels
 - Idling bills update
- Event Invitation: Clean Car (and more!) Show
- Funding Opportunities

- Fuels: Compressed natural gas

The University of Vermont has brought two compressed natural gas buses online as part of its campus area transportation fleet. It will add four more by the fall of next year. Senator Patrick Leahy, the Federal Transit Administration, the City of Burlington, and Vermont Gas Systems Inc. helped make this possible. Pollution reductions are projected to be 100 times lower for particulate matter, and 50% less nitrogen oxides than from a typical bus. [Source: [UVM](#)]

- Fuels: Vermont municipalities go biodiesel

Among other fleet owners, at least 12 municipalities throughout Vermont have made the switch to biodiesel and are reporting good results. These include Brattleboro, Brownsville, Burlington, Danville, Enosburg, Enosburg Falls, Groton, Hartford, Manchester, Norwich, Thetford, West Brookfield. We are updating this list so please let us know if you are aware of others. [Source: [Eagle Times](#), Clean Cities Alternative Fuel Vehicles Report (forthcoming)]

- Fuels: Biodiesel plant planned for Hampton, NY

A New York-based start-up company has purchased property in New York along the Vermont border in order to build a biodiesel plant. A Vermont Rail-operated rail line crosses through the property and project owners anticipate shipping raw materials and finished product via this line. [Source: [The Post Star](#)]

- Alternative modes: Telecommuting

For several reasons, telecommuting is not an option that many Vermont employers offer their workers. Paucity of broadband and the importance of workplace coordination are two reasons sometimes cited. A recent

letter to the editor discusses some of its benefits. [Source: [Rutland Herald](#)]

- **Alternative modes: Park & Ride improvements in St. Johnsbury**
Planning is underway to improve the Park & Ride lot in the western outskirts of St. Johnsbury. Current issues include security concerns, unsightliness, and a poor entrance. 50 vehicle-capacity is anticipated post-renovation. Questions and suggestions about the proposed project are being actively solicited by the project manager. [Source: [Caledonian Record](#)]

- **Alternative modes: Park & Ride call for St. Albans**
Senator Dick Mazza is looking for a suggested location in the Islands for a Park & Ride. Suggestions can be made to him or the Champlain Islands Chamber of Commerce at 372-8400. [Source: [Champlain Islander](#)]

- **Policy Watch: Fuel surcharge bill does not include transportation fuels**
Senate bill S.94 proposes to levy a surcharge on fuels to help Efficiency Vermont expand its program to include thermal efficiency assistance. The surcharge would be on home heating fuels only, and not include transportation fuels. [Source: [Times Argus](#)]

- **Policy Watch: No idling bills update**
The Vermont senate school bus idling bill, S. 13, has been passed in the Senate. The companion house bill, H.58, has not yet passed. [Source: [Idle-Free VT](#)]

- **Event Invitation: Clean Car (and more!) Show**
If you or your organization has an alternatively fueled vehicle and love talking about it, this is the event for you. The 3rd annual Clean Car (and more!) Show will be on April 22nd on Church Street in Burlington. Interested? Email Elaine at ewang@10percentchallenge.org to sign up.

- **Funding Opportunities:**

- UVM Transportation Center Graduate Fellowships: Graduate students are eligible. [View](#)
- UVM Transportation Center Research Grant. Small faculty grants. Close 3/15/07. [View](#)
- UVM Transportation Center Research Grant. Signature research projects. Faculty are eligible. Close 4/15/07. [View](#)
- Federal R&D, technology: E85 optimized engine. Closes 3/15/07. [View](#)
- Federal R&D, technology: Enabling technologies for fuels and lubricants. Closes 3/15/07. [View](#)
- Federal R&D, technology: Efficiency, clean combustion and fuels co-development. Closes 3/15/07. [View](#)
- Federal: Rail operation improvement research. Non profits are eligible. Closes 3/23/07. [View](#)
- Federal: Value Pricing Program participation. Governments or public authorities are eligible. Closes 4/30/07. [View](#)
- Federal: Congestion mitigation technologies. Governments and public sector agencies are eligible. Closes 4/30/07. [View](#)

USEFUL CALENDARS

[10% Challenge](#)

[Vermont Peak Oil Network](#)

We strive to provide you with useful information, and welcome your comments, items, and ideas at clean-cities@snellingcenter.org.

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Best regards,
Elaine Wang
Snelling Center Intern

Vermont Clean Cities Coalition