

Vermont Clean Cities Newsletter

December 2013



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Welcome to the VTCCC Newsletter:

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

Upcoming Events

Webinar: Anatomy of a Work Truck

December 17, 2014

3:00 pm

[More Info Here](#)

Biomass to Biofuels Course - Spring 2014

January 13, 2014 to April 30, 2014

Meets 9 am to 12 pm

Thursdays and Fridays

[More Info Here](#)

Green Truck Summit at the Work Truck Show

March 4th and 5th

Indiana Convention Center

Indianapolis, IN

[More Info Here](#)

CNG and Propane 1st Responders Training

April 12, 2014, 8 am to 5 pm

Vermont Fire Academy

Pittsford, Vermont

[For More Information Email Michelle McCutcheon-Schour](#)

VTCCC News

The Vermont Clean Cities Coalition is forming an Advisory Board! If you are interested in becoming a member please contact our coordinator Michelle McCutcheon-Schour!

DOE News

Energy Department Announces \$150 Million in Tax Credits to Invest in U.S. Clean Energy Manufacturing

Building on President Obama's Climate Action Plan to continue America's leadership in clean energy innovation, the U.S. Department of Energy announced \$150 million in clean energy tax credits to build U.S. capabilities in clean energy manufacturing.

EPA and DOE Release Annual Fuel Economy Guide with 2014 Models

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Energy are releasing the 2014 Fuel Economy Guide, providing consumers with a valuable resource to identify and choose most fuel efficient and low greenhouse gas emitting vehicles that meet their needs.

Energy Department Releases Grid Energy Storage Report

As part of the Obama Administration's commitment to a cleaner, more secure energy future, Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz released the Energy Department's Grid Energy Storage report to the members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

Vermont News

Northeast Governors Come Together on Renewable Energy Infrastructure

A group of governors in the Northeastern states are coming together on a regional renewable energy infrastructure initiative. The move follows one reported on earlier this year to begin buying energy in bulk, as a region, to save money. The new project will go a step further and will bring together six states on a regional renewable energy agenda.



A Fresh Start for Chittenden County Transportation

The Circ Alternatives Task Forces recently voted unanimously to approve 34 transportation projects that will help a key area of the state move beyond the

"circ" highway, and towards a more efficient, affordable transportation future.

Regional and National News

'Wicked Green Tourz': See Boston by tuk-tuk

Asaf Magen, an entrepreneur with a dream, hopes to squire tourists around Boston in quiet, non-polluting electric vehicles. These small electric vehicles have become increasingly popular in European city tours. He hopes to run a fleet of 20 tuk-tuks around the city.

New Electric Vehicle Battery Can Help Power Buildings Too

Nissan is taking its electric vehicle to the next level, pioneering a new system that will enable companies to regulate their electricity bills by tapping into the electric vehicles their employees drive to work. The "Vehicle-to-Building" technology allows up to six Nissan Leafs to be connected to an office building's power distribution board.



Toyota Signs Wireless Charging Deal with WiTricity

WiTricity, a creator of wireless charging systems, has signed an intellectual property license agreement with Toyota Motor Corp. Under the agreement, Toyota is expected to offer wireless charging stations on future rechargeable plug-in hybrid electric and fully electric vehicles.

International News

TUM to Test Virtual Electric Taxis

A fleet of 130 virtual electric cars is set to commence on the roads of Munich, Germany. Technische Universitat Munchen (TUM) provides participating companies with smartphones that will be installed in taxis and commercial vehicles to track their movements. .



Bhutan Aims High with Renault-Nissan Electric Car Plan

One of the world's most remote capital cities is aiming to become an electric vehicle "hotspot" and a showcase for green technology. Tshering Tobgay, prime minister of Himalayaan kingdom of Bhutan, and other government officials said the plan was to start replacing official government vehicles with the Nissan Leaf by March. Taxis and family cars would gradually be supplanted by locally



assembled electric vehicles.

British Gov't Announces New Infrastructure Plan

The British Government has announced a new national infrastructure plan, expecting an investment of 375 billion pounds for infrastructure from both public and private sectors by 2030. As a component on the National Infrastructure plan, a 5 million pound pilot scheme will trial the conversion of public sector car fleets to electric vehicles in 2014-2015.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Projects to Improve Air Quality at Ports 2013 Diesel Emissions Reductions Act (DERA) Funding Opportunity

EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality (OTAQ) is soliciting proposals that achieve significant reductions in diesel emissions in terms of tons of pollution produced by diesel engines and diesel emissions exposure, from fleets operating at marine and inland water ports. Eligible diesel emission reduction solutions include verified emission control technologies such as exhaust controls and engine upgrades, verified idle reduction technologies, certified engine repowers, and/or certified vehicle or equipment replacement. Please refer to Page 2 for a summary of important funding limits regarding these emission reduction solutions. Eligible diesel vehicles, engines and equipment may include drayage trucks, marine engines, locomotives and nonroad engines, equipment or vehicles used in handling of cargo at a marine or inland water port. Eligible entities include public port authorities with jurisdiction over transportation or air quality at a marine or inland water port. Community groups, local governments, terminal operators, shipping carriers, and other business entities involved in port operations are encouraged to participate through partnerships with eligible port authorities. Applications due 12/11/13. For more information [click here](#) or email [Tyler Cooley](mailto:Tyler.Cooley@epa.gov).

Advancing Clean Vehicle Technologies in New York

The New York Truck - Voucher Incentive Program (NYT-VIP) is a \$19 million 'first come - first served' incentive program funded through the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) that aims to accelerate the deployment of alternative fuel vehicles and diesel emission control devices (DECDs) for medium to heavy duty commercial fleets in New York. NYT-VIP comprises of three unique funds that will be administered in different stages throughout the three-year program. By promoting the use of advanced vehicle technologies, NYT-VIP will help reduce diesel emissions and promote a more fuel independent New York. Vendors (dealers) that market and sell alternative fuel vehicles and DECDs can apply for a voucher incentive to reduce the cost to the Vehicle Purchaser. Once the Vehicle Purchaser receives the new vehicle or DECD at the discounted rate, the vendor will be redeemed the full voucher amount. For more information [click here](#).

Propane Mower Incentive Program

The Propane Mower Incentive Program offers up \$1,000 for qualifying original equipment propane mowers and \$500 for qualifying propane conversions. A list of the qualifying equipment is available on the website. All conversions must be EPA and/or CARB certified. The applicant must agree to provide PERC with a season's worth of mower performance and fuel usage data in exchange for the incentive. For landscape contractors, fuel costs play a huge role in profitability. With the Propane Mower Incentive Program, we'll give you \$1,000 per qualifying new mower purchase or \$500 per qualifying mower conversion to help us document the cost savings and benefits that propane-fueled mowers can deliver. In return, you'll provide feedback and performance data for one mowing season. For more info contact [Alison Dimond](#) or [click here](#).

FREE 8-Hour First Responder Safety Online Training for Electric Drive Vehicles

Not all firefighters are able to participate in classroom-based training due to location, cost, and time constraints. Because of this, the National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium (NAFTC) is excited to announce a limited number of firefighter scholarships to obtain FREE online Electric Drive Vehicle First Responder Safety Training. The NAFTC's award-winning Electric Drive Vehicle First Responder Safety Training online course will equip firefighters with the knowledge they need to safely respond to automotive incidents involving electric drive vehicles, including:

- Hybrid Electric Vehicles
- Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles
- Battery Electric Vehicles
- Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles

Participants in the self-paced, eight-hour Electric Drive Vehicle First Responder Safety Training online course will learn about different electric drive vehicle configurations and their built-in safety systems, how to identify an electric drive vehicle at an accident scene, battery technologies, electric vehicle systems, and how to approach, assess, and secure advanced electric drive vehicles. Participants will also complete online modules for personal protective equipment and gear, crash and fire, and extrication. For more information [click here](#).

Go Vermont Grassroots Grants For Energy Committees

The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) Public Transit Section is offering grants to municipalities to assist in building a statewide outreach and advocacy network for the Go Vermont Program (www.connectingcommuters.org). VTrans will provide a \$500 grant to participating municipal energy committees. Go Vermont is a web-based clearinghouse for all transportation modes in Vermont, featuring an automated carpool, vanpool and public transit matching service, a vanpool program, information for State Park and Ride locations, and a link to "511" traffic conditions. The project objectives are as follows:

- Broaden Go Vermont outreach efforts
- Build relationships with local committees and advocates
- Identify local and regional transportation priorities and activities
- Increase traffic to the Go Vermont website and tools (www.connectingcommuters.org)
- Focus regional and local initiatives and advocacy efforts.
- The ultimate goal of this program is to increase program awareness, carpool registrations, numbers of van-pools and general activity on the Go Vermont website.

For more information contact [Ross MacDonald](#) or [click here](#).

Weekly Petro-Stats

	<u>Gas at the Pump. VT</u>	<u>Crude Oil Futures</u>
Current	\$3.52 /gallon	\$97.29 /barrel
One Month Ago	\$3.43 /gallon	\$92.95 /barrel
One Year Ago	\$3.54 /gallon	\$89.47 /barrel

Sources: Fuel Gauge Report, NYMEX



Best Regards,

Michelle McCutcheon-Schour

Coordinator, Vermont Clean Cities Coalition

Funding for the Vermont Clean Cities Coalition is provided by the US Department of Energy.

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