

# Vermont Clean Cities Newsletter

## January 2014



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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

#### Vermont Clean Cities Annual Survey

Please help VTCCC collect data on petroleum reduction projects in Vermont.

**Click here** to take the survey and add your activities on fuel efficiency, alternative fuel use, anti-idling, VMT reduction, and more.

#### Green Truck Summit at the Work Truck Show

March 4th and 5th  
Indiana Convention Center  
Indianapolis, IN  
[More Info Here](#)

#### NAFA 2014 Institute & Expo

March 5-7 2014  
Minneapolis, Minnesota  
[For More Info Click 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](#)

#### Alternative Clean Transportation (ACT)

May 5 - 8th  
Long Beach, California  
[For More Info Click Here](#)

## DOE News

### **Secretary Moniz Announces Nearly \$50 Million to Advance High-Tech, Fuel Efficient American Autos**

At the Washington Auto Show today U.S. Energy Secretary Ernest Moniz announced nearly \$50 million to accelerate research and development of new vehicle technologies that give drivers and businesses more transportation options and protect the environment in communities nationwide.

### **EV Everywhere: America's Plug-in Electric Vehicle Market Charges Forward**

The EV Everywhere Grand Challenge is the Energy Department's 10-year vision to enable the U.S. to be the first nation in the world to produce plug-in electric vehicles that are as affordable for the average American family as today's gasoline powered vehicles by 2022.

## Vermont News

### **CCTA Embraces Green Initiatives to Advance Mission**

The Chittenden County Transportation Authority (CCTA) strives to incorporate green practices into its daily operations as it helps residents, employees, and visitors in its service area make sustainable transportation choices.



### **Massachusetts, Vermont transportation officials to hold public meetings on passenger rail service along Boston-Montreal Corridor**

Massachusetts and Vermont transportation officials are scheduled to hold public meetings in Springfield and White River Junction, Vt., to discuss the possibility of more frequent and higher speed passenger rail service along the Boston-Montreal corridor passing through Western Massachusetts and the Green Mountain State.

## Regional and National News

### **Biodiesel makes a Splash in the Big Apple**

New York City is big. It's big business. It's big buildings. And, as of late, it's big on biodiesel.

### **Blue Bird: School Fleets Report Solid Propane Bus Performance**

Blue Bird Corp., manufacturer of the propane-autogas-powered Vision school bus and other alt-fuel vehicles, says the student-services fleets that were running propane buses during the recent "polar vortex" reported no problems starting or operating their vehicles.

## **Hatboro Biz Unveils PA's 1st Compressed Natural Gas Truck**

Earlier this year, Delaware Valley Concrete Company rolled out its first Ready Mixed Concrete mixer truck powered entirely by Compressed Natural Gas.

## **International News**

### **'Vending Machine' Rents Electric Cars Hourly (Video)**

A company in China rents electric cars out of a vending machine style garage.

### **Inventors hope to get Green Light for Electric Highways**

A TEAM of inventors is hoping to collaborate with a Scottish university to develop a radical green transport concept which would see cars run on electrified highways.



### **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**

### **Low or No Emission Vehicle Deployment (LoNo Program) DOT/Federal Transit Administration**

Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA): Solicitation of Project Proposals for the Low or No Emission Vehicle Deployment Program (LoNo) Program. The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announces the availability of \$24.9 million of Fiscal Year 2013 funds for the deployment of low or no emission transit buses. Of that amount, \$21.6 million is available for buses and \$3.3 million is available for supporting facilities and related equipment. The main purpose of the LoNo Program is to deploy the cleanest and most energy efficient U.S.-made transit buses that have been largely proven in testing and demonstrations but are not yet widely deployed in transit fleets. The LoNo Program provides funding for transit agencies for capital acquisitions and leases of zero emission and low-emission transit buses, including acquisition, construction, and leasing of required supporting facilities such as recharging, refueling, and maintenance facilities. Closing date for applications March 10, 2014.

For more information [click here](#).

### **FY2014 Vehicle Technologies Program Wide Funding Opportunity Announcement**

The Vehicle Technologies Office supports a broad research, development, and deployment technology portfolio focused on reducing the cost and improving the performance of a mix of near- and long-term vehicle technologies including advanced batteries, power electronics and electric motors, lightweight and propulsion materials, advanced combustion engines, advanced fuels and lubricants, and other enabling technologies. Specifically, activities are aimed at meeting the goals and objectives of the President's Electric Vehicle Everywhere Grand Challenge as well as improvements in other vehicle technologies such as powertrains, fuel, tires, and

auxiliary systems and Vehicle Technologies Office. Investment in advanced vehicle technologies, like vehicle electrification, lightweighting, and combustion engines will yield benefits to conventional vehicles, as well as yielding the technologies necessary for alternative fuel vehicles. This Funding Opportunity Announcement contains a total of 14 areas of interest in the general areas of advanced light-weighting; advanced battery development; power electronics; advanced heating, ventilation, air conditioning systems; and fuels and lubricants. The full Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) is posted on the EERE eXCHANGE website at <https://eere-exchange.energy.gov>. Applications must be submitted through the EERE eXCHANGE website to be considered for award. Information on where to submit questions regarding the content of the announcement and where to submit questions regarding submission of applications is found in the full FOA posted on the EERE Exchange website. Closing date for applications April 1, 2014. For more information [click here](#).

### **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](http://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](http://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	\$3.43 /gallon	\$96.99 /barrel
One Month Ago	\$3.49 /gallon	\$97.29 /barrel
One Year Ago	\$3.55 /gallon	\$96.27 /barrel

Sources: Fuel Gauge Report, NYMEX



**Best Regards,**

Michelle McCutcheon-Schour

Coordinator, Vermont Clean Cities Coalition

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