## Vermont Clean Cities Newsletter

Hosted at the UVM Transportation Research Center

### **July 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.



## Check Out Our New Website!



# VTCCC is now on Facebook!

## Like us on Facebook

Follow Vermont Clean Cities on Twitter!



## Learn more about Clean Cities!



U.S. Department of Energy

### **Upcoming Events**

# Natural Gas Vehicles - The Here and Now Technology, One Day Workshops

September 10, 2014, Lincoln, RI, <u>click here to</u> register

October 2, 2014, Concord, NH, <u>click here to</u> register

#### **Alt Energy Summit**

September 13-14, 2014 Mt. Washington Auto Rd, Gorham, NH For more info click here

#### **National Drive Electric Week at UVM**

Thursday, September 18, 2014 10:00 AM-3:00 PM University of Vermont's Davis Center For more info please email: Michelle McCutcheon-Schour

#### **Barre EV Cruisin'**

Thursday, September 18, 2014 Barre, VT For more info click here

#### **National Drive Electric Week at U-Mall**

September 20, 2014 University Mall South Burlington, VT For more info click here

#### <u>Odyssey Day - National Alternative Fuel</u> Vehicle Day

October 17, 2014 Church Street, Burlington, VT For more info email: Michelle McCutcheon-Schour

#### **DOE News**

# <u>Energy Department Makes Additional \$4 Billion in Loan Guarantees</u> Available for Innovative Renewable Energy and Efficient Energy Projects

The Department of Energy has issued a loan guarantee solicitation, making as much as \$4 billion in loan guarantees available for innovative renewable energy and energy efficiency projects located in the U.S. that avoid, reduce, or sequester greenhouse gases. This program will support the deployment of innovative, clean energy technologies at commercial scale in the U.S.

#### EV Everywhere Workplace Charging Challenge

Vermont Clean Cities is pleased to support the Workplace Charging Challenge, a U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) initiative aiming to achieve a tenfold increase in the number of U.S. employers offering workplace charging in the next five years. The Workplace Charging Challenge is helping fill the current infrastructure gap for plug-in electric vehicles. Employers involved in the Workplace Charging Challenge range in size, industry, and geography but strive for a common goal to advance the nation's economic, environmental, and energy security by supporting electric vehicle technology and cutting petroleum use in transportation. For more information on how your business can get involved please click here or contact Michelle McCutcheon-Schour.

#### Vermont News

### A Fill Up For Five Bucks, But Only If You Drive An Electric Vehicle

This month State officials celebrated the arrival of Vermont's newest electric vehicle charging station at the Red Hen Bakery. The charging station installed in Middlesex is part of a "Green Energy Corridor" that will, once completed, have enough charging stations for motorists to travel from Boston to Montreal on electric-only vehicles.



#### A Biodiesel Business Opening in Plainfield

Vermont's first 100% biodiesel (B100) fueling station Black Bear Biodiesel, located in Plainfield, VT opened its doors to pump its first high-grade recycled vegetable oil fuel this month!



# Vermont Plug-In Vehicles Buyers Get \$500 Incentive

Drive Electric Vermont is offering a 500-dollar incentive to purchase a totally electric, or plug in hybrid vehicle, this summer.

The discount can be applied at one of seven dealerships from across the state anytime between now and August 15.



### **Regional and National News**

### **BMW Previews Wireless Charging for EVs**

BMW may soon unveil a way to eliminate cumbersome cables and currently working on wireless inductive charging for electric cars, which could, one day, allow EV drivers to charge their vehicles without plugging them in. charging stations for electric vehicles (EVs).



# Seneca Energy II Landfill Gas-to-Renewable Natural Gas Facility Opens at Seneca Meadows Landfill

Seneca Energy recently commissioned an operational renewable natural gas facility, which will produce the equivalent of 25,000 gallons of vehicle fuel per day. The new renewable natural gas facility treats and refines landfill gas from the Seneca Meadows Landfill and converts it to pipeline quality renewable natural gas (RNG).

# <u>California Energy Commission Advances The Construction of Hydrogen Refueling and Electric Vehicle Charging Stations</u>

The California Energy Commission recently approved \$50 million in construction projects to advance the consumer market for zero-emission electric vehicles. Grant awards have been approved for hydrogen refueling and electric charging construction projects.

#### The next BIG Thing, The Three-Wheel Car

A sleekly designed three-wheeled two-passenger vehicle from start-up manufacturer Elio Motors in Troy, Mich. is planned for introduction sometime during 2015 that promises up to 84 mpg on the highway and a sticker price starting at just \$6,800.



#### **International News**

#### Audi E-Tron Offers a Bright Spark Among EV Rivals

When Audi's new A3 e-tron is launched in New Zealand next year, it will almost certainly be compared with the Nissan Leaf, Holden Volt, Mitsubishi Outlander PHEV and BMW i3: an elite little group of three-pin pioneers.



#### UNSW's Sunswift Solar Car Smashes A World Land Speed Record

The Sunswift eVe solar car, put together and maintained by the University of New South Wales' dedicated engineering team, has just smashed a 26-year-old electric land speed record at a track in Victoria, Australia.



#### **FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

## Vehicle Technologies Alternative Fuels Vehicle Deployment Initiatives Funding Opportunity Announcement

The objective of this FOA is to create and implement high impact and highly innovative approaches to increase the acceptance and deployment of Alternative Fuel Vehicles (AFVs). This will be accomplished in part by funding three different Areas of Interest (AOI) which focus on: AFV-use demonstrations via hands-on experiences, safety-related training, and emergency preparedness.

EERE anticipates that many different projects will be proposed and encourages new and innovative approaches that are projected to have a high impact. The alternative fuel types to be addressed under this FOA are provided <a href="https://example.com/here.">here.</a>. For more information click here.

#### **Vermont Electric Vehicle Incentive**

Now is the time to buy or lease an electric car in Vermont. Drive Electric Vermont is offering a **\$500 incentive** to consumers at point of purchase, made possible through a grant from VLITE, a public benefit, nonprofit corporation. This pilot program has **funding for 75 participants**, so each dealership will have a very limited quantity available. This is a great opportunity for Vermonters to save on a plug-in vehicle that will continue rewarding owners with reduced gasoline and maintenance costs. Shop early for your best chance to participate! For more information <u>click here.</u>

## VFDA Electric Vehicle Charging Station Loan Program (Natural Gas Refueling Stations are also Eligible)

This program is funded through the State Infrastructure Bank (SIB), which is operated by the Vermont Economic Development Authority in conjunction with the Vermont Agency of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration. Electric vehicle charging stations and natural gas refueling stations available for public use are eligible for SIB financing. For more information about electric vehicles and electric vehicle charging station technology, please visit www.driveelectricvt.com. Drive Electric Vermont is a project of the Vermont Energy Investment Corporation (VEIC) in partnership with the State of Vermont and a broad array of stakeholders advancing electric vehicle technology. 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). 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** 

Gas at the Pump, VT Current \$3.52 /gallon \$102.06 /barrel

\$3.68 /gallon One Month Ago \$107.26/barrel One Year Ago \$3.634 /gallon \$93.58 /barrel

Sources: Fuel Gauge Report, NYMEX

Crude Oil Futures



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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