

SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA
CLEAN FUEL PARTNERSHIP



PUTTING THE PIECES TOGETHER FOR CLEANER FUEL
A STRONGER ECONOMY - A HEALTHIER COMMUNITY

Clean Fuel Newsletter

December 2014

www.CleanFuelPartnership.org

Upcoming Events

[Click Here for Upcoming Webinars](#)

National Biodiesel Conference & Expo

January 19-22, 2015
Fort Worth, Texas

www.biodieselconference.org/2015

The Work Truck Show

March 4-6, 2015
Indianapolis, Indiana

www.ntea.com/worktruckshow

NAFA 2015 Institute & Expo

April 15-16, 2015
Orlando, Florida

www.nafainstitute.org

International Biomass Conference & Expo

April 20-22, 2015
Minneapolis, MN

www.biomassconference.com

ACT Expo

May 4-7, 2015
Dallas, TX

www.actexpo.com

Save the Date!

Louisiana Alt Fuels Conference & Expo

May 21-22, 2015
Baton Rouge, LA

New Resources from the US Department of Energy (USDOE):

USDOE posted several new resources related to cleaner transportation including the 2013 USDOE Clean Cities Annual Metrics Report, an Alternative Fuels IQ Quiz, the 2015 Fuel Economy Guide (in partnership with EPA) and an interactive CNG fueling animation now available online! [Read More](#)



Funding Opportunity: Incentive for Propane Mowers Increased through December 2014:

The Propane Education & Research Council (PERC) offers incentives for the purchase or conversion of qualified propane mowers. Through December 2014, the incentive amounts are **DOUBLED!** [Read More](#)



Clean Cities Question of the Month: How can I determine whether an alternative fuel conversion system or other aftermarket device claiming to improve fuel economy or reduce emissions has been appropriately certified or verified? [Read More](#)



Get Ready to be included in the Clean Fuel Partnership's 2014 Clean Fleet Awards!

In January and February, the Clean Fuel Partnership will be collecting information from our Clean Fleets on their use of alternative fuels and fuel saving strategies in 2014. Fleets that submit their information by February 27, 2015 will be recognized at our annual **Clean Fleet Awards!**

Information we'll be requesting includes:

- Number & Type of Alternative Fuel Vehicles
- Alternative Fuel Used
- Amount of Alternative Fuel Used or Number of Miles Driven and Miles per Gallon
- Fuel Economy Improvement Projects



If you know of a fleet using clean transportation that has not been included in our past Clean Fleet Awards, please let us know: slcfc@norpc.org.

10 VETERANS BOULEVARD · NEW ORLEANS, LA · 70124

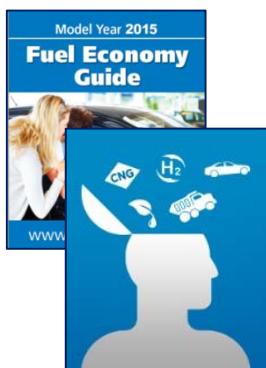
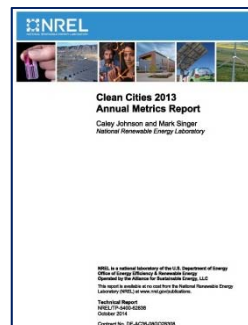
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New Resources from the US Department of Energy:

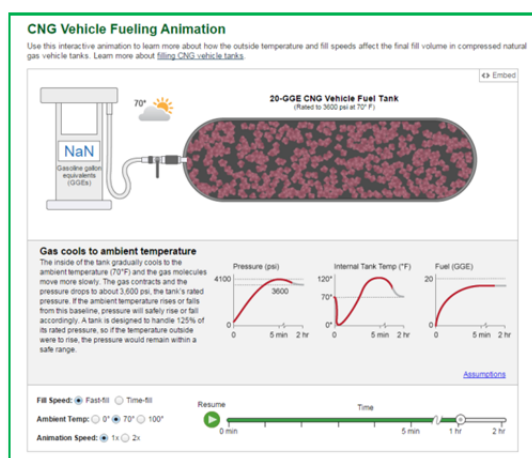
[2013 USDOE Clean Cities Annual Metrics Report](#): The U.S. Department of Energy's (USDOE) Clean Cities program advances the nation's economic, environmental and energy security by supporting local actions to cut petroleum use in transportation. A national network of nearly 100 Clean Cities Coalitions, **including the Southeast Louisiana Clean Fuel Partnership**, brings together stakeholders in the public and private sectors to deploy alternative and renewable fuels, idle-reduction measures, fuel economy improvements and new transportation technologies as they emerge. Each year, Coalitions report their activities and accomplishments to USDOE for the previous calendar year including a range of data that characterize the membership, funding, projects, and activities of their coalitions. They also submit data about sales of alternative fuels, deployment of alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs) and hybrid electric vehicles (HEVs), idle reduction initiatives, fuel economy activities, and programs to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT). NREL analyzes the data and translates them into petroleum-use reduction impacts, which are summarized in [Clean Cities 2013 Annual Metrics Report](#). Fleet managers and clean transportation stakeholders can use the report to identify industry trends. The [Clean Cities 2013 Annual Metrics Report](#) documents the first time Clean Cities Coalitions and their stakeholders, including our Clean Fleet Leaders, reduced U.S. petroleum consumption by more than 1 billion gallons in a single year!



[2015 Fuel Economy Guide](#): The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Energy recently released the [2015 Fuel Economy Guide](#), providing consumers with a valuable resource to help them choose fuel-efficient and low greenhouse gas emitting vehicles, including alternative fuel vehicles, that meet their needs. The guide includes a comparison tool to compare costs and emissions between vehicles.

[Alternative Fuels IQ Quiz](#): How much do you know about alternative fuels and advanced vehicles? Take the [IQ quiz](#) posted on USDOE's Alternative Fuel Data Center to assess your knowledge and learn more!

[Interactive CNG Fueling Animation](#): Have you ever wondered, “Why can't I get a consistent, full tank from my CNG dispenser?” The answer depends on fill rate and temperature, among other variables. To help make sense of this complicated phenomenon, watch this [interactive animation](#) on USDOE's Alternative Fuel Data Center that lets you see what's going on inside a CNG tank at various fill rates and temperatures, and allows you to vary these parameters as you watch.





Funding Opportunity: Incentive for Propane Mowers Increased through December 2014

The Propane Education & Research Council (PERC) offers [incentives](#) for the purchase or conversion of qualified propane mowers. Through December 31, 2014, the incentive amounts are **DOUBLED!** Fleets, landscape companies, and other eligible entities can receive **\$2,000 per qualifying new propane mower purchase or \$1,000 for each propane mower conversion**. A single company or organization may receive incentive payments for the purchase of up to 25 eligible mowers per year.

A limited number of incentives are available, so PERC recommends applying for participation in the program before making a purchase. For the application and additional information, visit the Propane Mower Incentive Program website:

www.propane.com/commercial-landscape/programs-and-incentives/propane-mower-incentive-program/

An additional incentive is offered by the Louisiana Propane Gas Association:

www.louisianapropane.com/rebateprogram.php.

What do propane-powered commercial mowers offer?

- Lower operating costs.
- Proven performance.
- Fewer emissions.
- Easy on-site refueling and less downtime.
- Reduced fuel spills and pilferage.
- Abundant fuel supply produced in the United States.



Funding Available for Public Fleets!

The Clean Fuel Partnership's Clean Fuel Transition Fund for Public Fleets is currently accepting applications. This funding offsets costs for public fleets in **Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard and St. Charles Parishes** to incorporate cleaner fuels and idle reduction technologies into their operations. Please contact Rebecca Otte, RPC's Clean Fuel Partnership Coordinator for more information: (504) 483-8513 / rotte@norpc.org

Timeframe	Proposals accepted by RPC on an ongoing basis. Current project years: 2014 – 2017
What the Grant Funding can be Used For	<p>Grant Funding: This funding opportunity will reimburse public fleets for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 80% of the incremental cost difference when purchasing a new vehicle fueled by an alternative fuel (natural gas, propane, electric or hybrid-electric). ▪ 80% of the cost to convert an existing vehicle to an alternative fuel. ▪ 80% of the cost of installing idle reduction technologies to existing or new vehicles. <p>All vehicles/ conversions/ idle reduction technologies must be EPA-certified.</p> <p>Match Requirement: Participating fleets will provide a minimum 20% match.</p> <p>Note: <i>The Public Entity must own the vehicles</i></p>
Contact	For additional information on this funding opportunity, contact: Rebecca Otte, RPC's Clean Fuel Partnership Coordinator: (504) 483-8513 / rotte@norpc.org



Clean Cities Question of the Month:

How can I determine whether an alternative fuel conversion system or other aftermarket device claiming to improve fuel economy or reduce emissions has been properly certified or verified?



To ensure an aftermarket system or device is legitimate, the system needs to be properly examined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). There are a number of ways fleets can confirm that the system has been certified by EPA, described below.

Certified Conversion Systems

Always request documentation! Conversion system manufacturers should be more than willing to provide a copy of their EPA-issued Certificate of Conformity upon request. For vehicles falling into EPA's "intermediate age" and "outside useful life" categories, the manufacturer should be able to prove the company has satisfied demonstration and notification requirements.

You can consult [EPA's Alternative Fuel Conversion website](#) for files listing "[EPA-Compliant Conversion Systems](#)." All conversion systems listed on this website comply with EPA's conversion regulations (Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Part 85, Subpart F). Keep in mind that each system is designed for a specific group of vehicles. Since conversion systems are only listed on this page at the request of system manufacturer, there may be other certified systems as well. Contact the EPA Compliance Information Hotline for more information (734-214-4343; complianceinfo@epa.gov).



SmartWay and Other Emission Reduction Technologies

Ask manufacturers of other emissions- and fuel-saving devices whether their products have been reviewed by [EPA's SmartWay® Program](#). The

SmartWay Program is a public-private initiative between EPA, large and small trucking companies, rail carriers, logistics companies, commercial manufacturers, retailers, and other federal and state agencies. Its purpose is to improve fuel efficiency and the environmental performance (reduction of both greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution) of the goods movement supply chains. SmartWay aims to accelerate the availability, adoption and market penetration of advanced fuel efficient technologies and operational practices in the freight supply chain, while helping companies save fuel, lower costs and reduce adverse environmental impacts. EPA helps SmartWay Partners move more goods, more miles with lower emissions and less energy.

EPA evaluates the fuel-saving benefits of devices such as idle reduction devices, aerodynamics technologies, and low rolling resistance tires. The [SmartWay Verified Technologies website](#) provides information about specific products and models. EPA verifies and approves diesel retrofit technologies for use in its engine retrofit programs and provides information about emissions reductions. It is important to note that EPA does not endorse these or any other commercial products.

EPA's [Aftermarket Retrofit Device Evaluation Program](#), also called the "511 Program," evaluates aftermarket retrofit devices that claim to improve automobile fuel economy and/or reduce exhaust emissions in cars and light trucks. (Note: The most recent test report from this voluntary evaluation program is dated 2005.)



State Programs for Alternative Fuel Vehicle Conversions

In Louisiana, the [Louisiana Department of Natural Resources' Office of Conservation](#) has regulatory authority over CNG safety, including the installation of conversion equipment in a vehicle. Vehicles equipped for, and capable of operating on, liquefied petroleum gas (propane) must have passed a safety inspection from the [Louisiana Liquefied Petroleum Gas Commission](#).



Additional Resources

For more information on aftermarket system and device evaluation, see the following resources:

- [AFDC Vehicle Conversions](#)
(www.afdc.energy.gov/vehicles/conversions.html)
- [Fact Sheet: Devices and Additives to Improve Fuel Economy and Reduce Pollution - Do They Really Work?](#)
(www.epa.gov/otaq/consumer/420f11036.pdf)
- [Federal Trade Commission Consumer Information: "Gas-Saving" Products](#)
(www.consumer.ftc.gov/articles/0057-gas-saving-products)



Information for this article provided by
Clean Cities Technical Response Team
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New Clean Cities Publications & Upcoming Industry Webinars

Please Note: Webinar and publication notices are provided for informational purposes only. Neither the Southeast Louisiana Clean Fuel Partnership nor the Regional Planning Commission is responsible for the information presented in the announcements, webinars, conferences or publications themselves. Please contact hosts for additional information on specific presentations.

New Clean Cities Publication Available

Fuels Fix, produced by the nationwide network of Clean Cities Coalitions, highlights fleets that have successfully executed clean transportation projects and provides technical information and resources for fleets interested in exploring clean transportation options. The [Fuel Fix Fall 2014 Edition](#) includes articles on:



- **Southeast Louisiana's Clean Fleet Leaders**
- Carolina Blue Skies Initiative expands Asheville's Alt Fuel Use
- Alabama "It Starts With Us!" Propane School Bus Campaign
- University of Louisville First in Kentucky to Take Workplace Charging Challenge
- Oregon Celebrates Mt. Hood's First DC Fast Charger
- Fleet Managers Learn How To Remain "Ride On Track"
- Plus much more!



[Costs Associated with Compressed Natural Gas Fueling Infrastructure Report](#)

This report prepared by the US Dept. of Energy includes background information and cost ranges on natural gas fueling infrastructure, as well as relevant examples of successful projects. The [accompanying webinar](#) includes presentations by the Dept. of Energy's Mark Smith; John Gonzales with the National Renewable Energy Lab; Phoenix Energy's Jeremy Talbot; and ANGI Energy System's Graham Barker.

Upcoming Webinars

Webinar Series on Natural Gas Vehicles: Role of Government – Policymaking and Strategy Process

Host: Dr. Jeffrey Seisler

Date: Monday, December 15, 2014

Time: 12 pm CT

To join the webinar (no pre-registration required):

Audio: Dial **877-951-7311** and enter passcode **3319370**.

Web: [Join the webinar directly](#) or

[Log in to MyMeetings](#) (www.mymeetings.com/nc/join/)

Conference Number: **PW9081297**

Passcode: **3319370**.

For more information, contact [Sandra Loi](#): sandra.loi@nrel.gov.

This webinar looks at policy choices that have led to the success (or impediment) of natural gas vehicle (NGV) market development in various nations and includes examples of infrastructure concepts and strategies to expand the natural gas fueling network (fossil and biogas) as well as strategies that have potential applicability to the future of NGVs in the United States using lessons learned elsewhere.

Please be sure to visit this link in advance of the webinar to make sure all the necessary plug-ins are installed so that your computer can access the webinar software properly:

www.mymeetings.com/global/en/mslm_download.php