



Upcoming Events

Natural Gas Vehicle Infrastructure Conference & Exhibition

January 24-25, 2012
Houston, Texas

www.ngvevent.com/

National Biodiesel Conference & Expo 2012

February 5-8, 2012
Orlando, Florida

www.biodieselconference.org

Renewable Fuels Association Conference

February 22-24, 2012
Orlando, Florida

www.nationaalethanolconference.com

NTEA Green Truck Summit/ Work Truck Show

March 5-8, 2012
Indianapolis, IN

www.ntea.com/worktruckshow/

61st Annual Vehicle Maintenance Management Conference

March 27-29, 2012
Shoreline, WA

www.cm.wsu.edu/ehome/VMMC/44896/

NAFA Fleet Management Assoc. 2012 Institute & Expo

April 21-24, 2012
St. Louis, MO

www.nafainstitute.org/

2012 Alternative Clean Transportation (ACT) Expo

May 14-17, 2012

www.actexpo.com/

Clean Fuel Partnership Hosts Propane for Lawn Equipment Workshop & Exhibition

On November 3, 2011, the Clean Fuel Partnership hosted a workshop and exhibition at the Audubon Park Golf Clubhouse to showcase the benefits of propane-powered commercial lawn equipment. [Read More](#)



Initial EV Network Meeting Kicks Off Dialogue about Electric Vehicles

A diverse cross-section of stakeholders gathered on October 27, 2011, at the inaugural meeting of the Clean Fuel Partnership's Electric Vehicle Network (EV Network). [Read More](#)



The AFDC Turns 20

Clean Cities celebrated a major milestone in September with the 20th anniversary of the Alternative Fuels and Advanced Vehicles Data Center (AFDC) – the program's expansive online collection of information and tools. [Read More](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

ELECTRIC VEHICLE NETWORK MEETING

Date: Wednesday, January 11, 2012
Location: Regional Transportation Management Center
10 Veterans Blvd., New Orleans, 70124
Time: 1:30pm - Sign In
2:00pm - 3:00pm: NEMA presentation
3:00pm - 4:30pm Discussion/Networking
RSVP to: slcfp@norpc.org with "EV Network" in Subject Line

BIODIESEL PLANT TOUR

Date: Friday, February 10, 2012
Location: Golden Leaf Energy Biodiesel Plant
1225 Peters Road, Harvey, LA 70058
Time: 2:00pm - 4:00pm
RSVP to: slcfp@norpc.org with "Biodiesel Tour" in Subject Line



CLEAN FUEL PARTNERSHIP HOSTS PROPANE FOR LAWN EQUIPMENT WORKSHOP & EXHIBITION

On November 3, 2011, the Clean Fuel Partnership hosted a workshop and exhibition at the Audubon Park Golf Clubhouse to showcase the benefits of propane-powered commercial lawn equipment. Over 30 people participated including Audubon Zoo & Park, Audubon Park Golf Course, Jefferson Parish, the Port of New Orleans, Tulane University, and Research & Development Group. The event was sponsored by fuel providers Ferrellgas, Blossman Gas, and AmeriGas, as well as Bergquist, a propane technology provider. Exhibitors included Metro Lawn, Exmark, Blossman and Bergquist. John Alario, Executive Director of the Louisiana Liquefied Petroleum Gas Commission, provided information on incentives and regulations for propane mowers, including their Commercial Propane Mower Incentive which provides an incentive of \$2,500 per mower for the purchase of a new, factory-direct, propane-powered, zero turn commercial mower or up to \$1,500 per mower for the conversion of an existing commercial grade walk behind, belt drive or zero turn commercial mowers with less than 1000 hours of operation. A company can apply for up to four incentives per year, up to \$5,000 total annually.



Participants check out a Zipper propane mower.



Participants test drive propane mowers.

A panel of fuel providers and commercial lawn-cutting equipment providers presented specific information on the use and benefits of propane for lawn equipment. The panel included Casey Baker of Exmark Manufacturing Company, Troy Hicks of Metro Lawn/Heritage Propane, Ralph Poole of Bergquist, Inc., Mark Denton of Blossman Propane Gas & Appliance, Jay Yarbrough of Ferrellgas, and Walter Arceneaux of AmeriGas Propane, Inc. The panel talked about benefits of propane, cost considerations, purchasing incentives, several types and sizes of commercial lawn cutting equipment, dealer support for propane mowers, and the option of converting a gasoline mower to propane.

Following the presentations, attendees and speakers interacted one-on-one at the exhibition where participants were able to view and test-drive several different propane mowers. After the exhibition, attendees enjoyed lunch which was generously sponsored by Ferrellgas, Blossman, AmeriGas and Bergquist.

Thank you to our event sponsors:





INITIAL EV NETWORK MEETING KICKS OFF DIALOGUE ABOUT ELECTRIC VEHICLES

A diverse cross-section of stakeholders gathered on October 27, 2011, at the inaugural meeting of the Clean Fuel Partnership’s Electric Vehicle Network (EV Network). The EV Network brings together those interested in EVs to build relationships, identify partnerships, share information and collectively address barriers to better prepare our region to support the growing number of EVs. Thirty-two people attended the meeting including vehicle dealers, EV owners, local universities, developers, parking garage operators, environmental groups, business groups, parish governments, electric and solar energy providers, and historic preservation professionals.



Speakers Pat Ricks of Entergy and Jeff Cantin with Solar Alternatives



Pat Ricks of Entergy and Jeff Cantin with Solar Alternatives provided EV information. Mr. Ricks said Entergy believes the EV industry is in the “first movers” stage, with Entergy’s adoption forecast predicting that by 2015, 4,000 – 6,000 EVs will operate in their service area which includes parts of Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas and southeast Texas. His presentation included an overview of residential and commercial charging options and the types of EVs currently or soon-to-be available, including all-electric and hybrid models. He then described the four potential near-term roles for the electric utility in relation to EVs and electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE):

- To educate and inform,
- To monitor change and manage customer challenges,
- To monitor and manage grid impact, and
- Research and development.



In the research & development role and in partnership with Coulomb Technologies, Entergy is currently funding the installation of up to 16 EV Level 2 charging stations* at college campuses in Entergy’s service area through their Environmental Initiatives Fund. The focus of the project is to determine the impact and opportunities associated with EV charging including, but not limited to, amount of time required to charge an EV, what time of day people are charging, and EV charging’s impact on electric distribution facilities. There was a question about Entergy’s ability to adapt their electrical distribution grid to the growing number of EVs. Mr. Rick’s replied that Entergy regularly adapts the grid system to new loads such as when air conditioning became prevalent, when people build an addition to their homes, or when swimming pools are installed. The key is for Entergy to be made aware of charging stations when they’re installed so they can plan accordingly.

Jeff Cantin of Solar Alternatives presented additional information about EVSE, including types of plugs, brands and features, and solar EVSE. He brought along a small charging station for viewing. Mr. Cantin also outlined Louisiana and federal incentives related to EVSE including:



South Coast Solar’s Portable Solar-Powered Generator



- Louisiana Alternative Fuel Vehicle (AFV) and Fueling Infrastructure Tax Credit
 - Refundable tax credit on the purchase or conversion of a vehicle that runs on an alternative fuel, including electricity, for both residential and commercial entities.
 - 50% of the cost to convert a vehicle to run on an alternative fuel, or
 - 50% of the incremental cost difference for purchasing a new alternative fuel vehicle, or
 - 10% of the cost of the new alternative fuel vehicle (up to \$3,000).
 - Also includes a 50% credit on the cost of constructing a fueling station, which includes electric vehicle supply equipment/ EV charging equipment.
- Federal Alternative Fuel Vehicle Refueling Property Credit
 - 30% non-refundable tax credit on the cost of alternative fueling equipment up to \$30,000, including EVSE for equipment placed into service in 2011.
 - Cap on credit for residential equipment is \$1,000.
 - Equipment suppliers can claim the credit when a purchaser is a nonprofit or government entity and then pass the savings on to them.
 - Currently expires Dec. 31, 2011.
 - Non-refundable; commercial credits can be carried back a year or forward 20 years.
 - File with IRS Form 8911 (commercial credit can also use Form 3800).

After the formal presentations, attendees introduced themselves and their particular interest and/or concerns relative to EVs. This is the crux of the network- facilitating relationships between those interested in EVs. Each meeting will allow time for participants to provide updates on their projects, request insight on overcoming barriers, and share their experiences and information.

The group was able to view two EVs owned by fellow participants. Steve St. Angelo displayed his Nissan Leaf, purchased in Texas, one of the first states to roll out the Leaf. The Leaf is expected to come to the New Orleans market sometime in 2012. Will Hegman, owner of Mississippi Solar, showed off his electric Tesla. Mr. Hegman commended the state of Louisiana for its proactive role in encouraging alternative fuels through incentives that mirror federal incentives.

Dialogue will continue with stakeholder gatherings hosted by the SLCFP on a quarterly basis. Contact Maggie Woodruff at slcfp@norpc.org to be added to the meeting notification distribution list.

***Level 2 Charging Stations:** Level 2 equipment offers charging through a 240 V, AC plug and requires installation of home charging or public charging equipment. Based on the battery type and circuit capacity, Level 2 adds about 10 to 20 miles of range per hour of charging time, depending on the vehicle. (http://www.afdc.energy.gov/afdc/vehicles/electric_charging_equipment.html#level2)

Acronyms used in this article:

- **EV:** Electric Vehicle
- **EVSE:** Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (commonly referred to as “charging equipment”)



Will Hegman with his Tesla



Steve St. Angelo with his Nissan Leaf



THE AFDC TURNS 20!

Clean Cities celebrated a major milestone in September with the 20th anniversary of the [Alternative Fuels and Advanced Vehicles Data Center \(AFDC\)](#) – the program’s expansive online collection of information and tools. Developed in response to the Alternative Motor Fuels Act of 1988, the AFDC was launched in 1991 as a repository for alternative fuel vehicle performance data. Since that time, the AFDC website has evolved to become a premier resource for information about alternative fuels and advanced vehicles.

“Two decades ago, the AFDC was a stack of papers on my desk,” said Wendy Dafoe of the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). “Now it’s a one-of-a-kind, publicly accessible website that provides robust, intuitive tools, data, and information.”

In the AFDC’s early days, it functioned as a dial-up computer network that allowed users to submit data and access results. Users could also order technical reports and other documents through a telephone hotline. NREL created the AFDC in 1995, providing easier access to those resources. The site, as well as the data behind it, has expanded over the years, establishing the AFDC as an indispensable source of information for fleets, fuel providers, policymakers, consumers, and others seeking to reduce petroleum use in transportation.



“I use the daily,” said Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Coordinator Mindy Mize, who works with the North Central Texas Council of Governments. “And it’s not just me who’s using it. We have a big air-quality staff that takes advantage of AFDC resources on a regular basis.”

The AFDC’s data sets include transportation-related laws and incentives, models and specs for light- and heavy-duty alternative fuel vehicles, and alternative fueling station locations. Each data set is updated and reviewed according to a strict schedule, to ensure accuracy and timeliness. And because the data sets reach back many years, it’s possible for users to accurately map trends and histories, in addition to finding reliable information about present-day transportation options. Drawing from its rigorously vetted data sets, the AFDC features an ever-expanding offering of calculators, interactive maps, and informational tools. In 2009, the AFDC launched its first mobile tool, the Mobile Alternative Fueling Station Locator. The AFDC’s next additions, the Vehicle Cost Calculator and widget, will allow users to project and compare fuel costs and emissions among thousands of models of alternative fuel vehicles, electric drive vehicles, and conventional vehicles.

“The assortment of tools has grown impressively over the years, continually keeping pace with technological innovations in the marketplace,” National Clean Cities Director Dennis Smith said. “The AFDC takes a lot of the guesswork out of a fleet’s efforts to implement new technologies, switch over to an alternative fuel, or employ other strategies to reduce its gasoline and diesel use.”

Visit the Alternative Fuels and Advanced Vehicles Data Center (AFDC): www.afdc.energy.gov/afdc/

Article source: Clean Cities Now, October 2011 Issue, Page 3 (www1.eere.energy.gov/cleancities/newsletter.html)
Photos by Warren Gretz, NREL/PIX 19520 (above right) and Pat Corkery, NREL/PIX 19586 (above left).

