



Central Florida Clean Cities Coalition Newsletter

**Building Partnerships to Reduce Petroleum
Use in Transportation**

Jan - June 2013

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Central Florida Clean Cities Launches New Face of Organization

by Glenn C. Scorza

Stakeholders! We are proud to
announce the launch of the

Greetings!

The Central Florida Clean Cities Coalition is a leader in our territory in helping organizations achieve their petroleum replacement goals. Central Florida Clean Cities Coalition has multiple resources to help our stakeholders achieve success. Program resources range from the Department of Energy, the National Renewable Energy Lab, and Argonne National Laboratories, which give us the tools to affect change at the local level. Please take the time to read about some of our 2013 successes.

Advancing Alternative Fuel Markets In Florida

by Colleen Kettles



The Florida Solar Energy Center (FSEC), host organization of

organization's new [website](#).



The website is a complete overhaul of the organization's previous website design.

The Coalition realized the need to create a tool our stakeholders could use to easily find information. We hired a web designer, [DaBiri Designs](#), to help us create the site.

Stakeholders will be able to more efficiently find information pertinent to them. There are sections on alternative fuels, mass transit projects, and fleet optimization measures.

The events calendar is easy to use and more importantly easier for Coalition staff to update.

Information on our technology committees can also be found. *(Be sure to see the article on the creation of the electrification committee in this newsletter.)*

We automated the membership process along with the process for getting added to our email list.

the Central Florida Clean Cities Coalition, was awarded a Department of Energy contract to advance alternative fuelmarkets in Florida. A total of 20 such awards were made to Clean Cities Coalitions around the country. The Central Florida coalition has partnered with the South Florida, North Florida and Tampa Bay Clean Cities Coalitions to implement this project.

The project objective is to target and remedy obstacles to alternative fuel vehicle (AFV) adoption and use on a statewide basis. This will be done by identifying the barriers to AFV deployment and recommending initiatives to overcoming those barriers; providing opportunities for technical and safety training of stakeholders; and conducting market development and outreach activities with a broad base of constituents.

Some of the key actions to be undertaken include the convening of technology working groups to address the particular needs of each alternative fuel; providing first responder training; conducting virtual stakeholder workshops to elicit broad input on barrier identification and resolution; identifying best practices and policies for potential adoption in Florida; and, the coordination of regional and statewide networking events for stakeholders.

Electrification Committee Established

by
Glenn C. Scorza



Electricity can be used to power [all-electric vehicles](#) and [plug-in hybrid electric vehicles](#). These vehicles can draw electricity directly from the grid and other off-board electrical power sources and store

We also provided a complete list of tools from the Department of Energy to assist stakeholder research.

There is a section for current news articles. Some articles are Coalition specific, and other articles may be National news.

We ask our stakeholders to spend some time on the site and discover all of the new features.

Please feel free to share your input. We love feedback and since this is your site, we want to make it as relevant as possible.

Quick Links

[Our Website](#)

[Upcoming Events](#)

[Clean Cities Program](#)

[Alternative Fuel Data Center](#)

[Fuel Economy](#)

[Join Our Mailing List!](#)

Drivers Can Compare Gasoline and Electric Fuel Prices with eGallon

-

it in batteries. Hybrid electric vehicles use electricity to boost fuel efficiency. Using electricity to power vehicles can have significant energy security and emissions benefits.

Central Florida Clean Cities Coalition has partnered with Get Ready Central Florida to establish a Coalition Electrification Committee. Get Ready Central Florida board members will act as the electrification arm of the Coalition. With this strong group of professionals leading the charge, we are confident the future success of EV deployment in the Central Florida region is secure.

Get Ready Central Florida is a collaborative group of businesses, governments, utilities, and non-profits striving to increase vehicle use of electricity as an alternative to fossil fuels. By doing so, the group aspires to stimulate the economy while improving air quality in a region bordering on non-attainment status.

In just two years, Get Ready Central Florida has emerged as one of thirteen groups recognized, by the Rocky Mountain Institute, as a nationwide leader in electrification efforts.

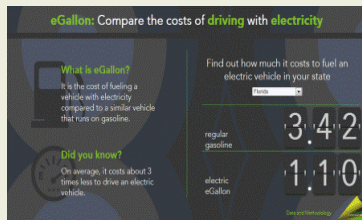
For more information about the Electrification Committee please send requests to info@centralfloridacleancities.com Or visit our websites at www.centralfloridacleancities.com and www.PlugAndGoNow.com.

HB 579: Natural Gas Motor Fuel Bill

The Florida Legislature enacted a broad ranging energy bill intended to promote greater use of natural gas in vehicles. Governor Scott signed the bill into law June 14th.

The bill repeals the decal fee program for motor vehicles powered by alternative fuels, repeals the sales tax on alternative fuels, establishes a new fuel tax structure for motor vehicles powered by natural gas, and creates a natural gas fuel fleet vehicle rebate program. Specifically, the bill:

- Creates part V of ch. 206, F.S., entitled "Natural Gas Fuel."
- Repeals the current decal fee program for motor vehicles powered by alternative fuels effective January 1, 2014.
- Establishes a fuel tax structure for natural gas used as a motor fuel, beginning January 1, 2019.
- Relocates statutory provisions relating to licenses for retailers of alternative fuel and related reporting requirements and provides penalties for acting as a retailer without a license.
- Provides exemptions from the tax and refunds of the tax on



The Energy Department on June 11 launched the eGallon - a way for consumers to compare the costs of fueling electric vehicles versus driving on gasoline. The current national average eGallon price is about \$1.14, meaning that a typical electric vehicle could travel as far on \$1.14 worth of electricity as a similar vehicle could travel on a gallon of gasoline.

On Energy.gov/eGallon, consumers can see the latest eGallon price for their state and compare it to the price of gasoline. Over time, consumers will notice that the eGallon price will be far more stable and predictable than gasoline prices. That's because the eGallon price depends on electricity prices, which historically are very stable; gasoline prices depend on the global oil market, which can be very unstable and are often influenced by unpredictable international events.

The eGallon provides a metric that is easily comparable to the traditional gallon of unleaded fuel. That comparison is made by calculating how much it would cost to drive an electric vehicle the same distance a similar conventional vehicle could travel on a gallon of gasoline. For example, if gasoline costs \$3.60 per gallon in your state and the eGallon price for your state is \$1.20, that means that for \$1.20 worth of electricity you can drive the same distance as you could for \$3.60 worth of gasoline. The eGallon price varies from state to state based on the price of electricity. See the Energy

natural gas fuel when used for specified purposes.

- Revises the distribution of the proceeds of the taxes imposed on natural gas.
- Expands the definition of "energy efficiency improvement" to include "installation of systems for natural gas fuel" under uses authorized by the Local Government Infrastructure Surtax.
- Exempts natural gas and natural gas fuel placed into the fuel supply system of a motor vehicle from sales tax.
- Directs the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) to complete a report reviewing the taxation of natural gas fuel used to power motor vehicles by December 1, 2017.
- Creates a natural gas fuel fleet vehicle rebate program within the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (DACS) and appropriates an annual \$6 million from General Revenue for FY 2013-2014 - FY 2017-2018 to fund the program.
- Requires DACS to provide an annual assessment of the rebate program.
- Requires OPPAGA to release a report reviewing the fleet vehicle rebate program by January 31, 2016.

Note: Propane autogas is a natural gas fuel, therefore is part of this bill.

For more information, please visit this website:
<http://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2013/0579>

Central Florida Clean Cities Supports 5th Annual Green Symposium

by Glenn C. Scorza



The [Central Florida Clean Cities Coalition](http://www.cfcleancities.org) supported the [5th Annual Green Symposium](#) held April 26th at Stetson University. The Symposium, a [Green Volusia](#) program event, in partnership with Stetson University, Volusia County and the City of DeLand, is an annual sustainability event focusing on a wide range of topics, including transportation. Carisse LeJeune, the Assistant City Manager from the City of Boynton Beach, spoke about their award winning sustainability action plan, a [landmark document](#).

Department [press release](#).

Annual Report Success Story

by

Glenn C. Scorza

In 2011, the Central Florida Clean Cities Coalition was ranked dead last in petroleum displacement compared to all of the Clean Cities chapters nationwide. Despite the poor rating we knew Central Florida was performing at a much higher level than what was being reported each year.

Colleen, seeing the need for some help in this area, took advantage of a DOE program for an intern. Colleen's application was awarded and Thron Crowe began working for us.

To bridge the gap between what was going on in our Coalition area and what was being reported to DOE, Colleen made Thron's first job to revamp our annual reporting tool.

Thron worked with our email marketing program, Constant Contact, and developed a way to send out questionnaires that were more applicable to the individual stakeholder. Constant Contact uses skip logic in its survey application which allowed Thron to accomplish this.

The result? We had a four fold increase in displaced petroleum than the previous year!

Building on this success, Clean Cities staff and board members are

The document acknowledges the foresight of city leaders in addressing the biggest challenges of this century - sustainability, energy and climate change. The City's Climate Action Plan (CAP) provides an integrated approach to the full spectrum of government services including buildings and facilities, water and wastewater, vehicle fleet, solid waste, procurement, land use and development, and community engagement.

The following is an excerpt from the CAP as it pertains to transportation.

Reducing vehicle miles traveled by increasing active forms of transportation such as walking, bicycling and using transit produces significant community health and economic benefits as well as achieving the goal of reducing GHG emissions.

Land use planning and transportation funding decisions greatly influence transportation-related emissions. Similarly, commercial transportation is strongly influenced by the location and availability of inter-modal options. For that reason, transportation emissions reductions depend critically on coordinated land use policies and the development of infrastructure for low-carbon modes of transportation.

Coordination with the Palm Beach County Metropolitan Planning Organization is also critical to success.

Along with more available infrastructure, individuals will make daily choices to walk, bicycle, take transit or carpool whenever these options are practical. The CAP proposes an approach for targeting community-wide reductions in this emissions sector comprised of increasing the connectivity of existing transportation systems, increasing the energy efficiency of transportation infrastructure and facilitating greater use of alternatively fueled vehicles.

Through the use of improved bicycle and pedestrian modes of transportation, "greening" of transportation infrastructure such as increasing the facilities needed to serve alternatively fueled vehicles, the City is prioritizing quantifiable and visible transportation strategies. The objective measure of these programs is reduction in personal vehicle miles traveled (VMT), but achieving all the recommendations should be the ultimate measure of success.

The City of Boynton Beach has certainly taken a comprehensive approach to reducing VMT and, in-turn, greenhouse gas emissions.

SunRail Presents at Central Florida Clean Cities Stakeholder Meeting

by

currently meeting to determine how we make the reporting process even easier for our stakeholders this year.

Finally, we at Central Florida Clean Cities would like to thank our Stakeholders. Without your participation this increase would not have been possible.

Be sure to complete the surveys this year and get recognized for your efforts!

Energy Whiz Olympics

by

Thron Crowe

On May 4th, the Central Florida Clean Cities Coalition worked with the Florida Solar Energy to hold the 14th annual EnergyWhiz Olympics. This event encourages children from kindergarten to high school to get involved with renewable energy, alternative fuel, and their useful applications. Solar powered derby cars, solar thermal ovens, hydrogen-powered kinetic devices, and unique photovoltaic-powered innovations were all challenges endured by students from all over the state, including Key West, and even North Carolina. Over five hundred students participated.

Glenn C. Scorza



Most people think alternative fuel when they think about the Clean Cities Program. What most people do not realize is that our organization supports any project which reduces vehicle petroleum use in this country. Mass transit is one such project. As such, we reached out to the [SunRail](#) folks and asked them to speak to our stakeholders about the project and what to expect from SunRail once it comes on line.

The meeting, held at the DeLand Historic Courthouse, helped to address many questions held by stakeholders. Bill Land, a Public Involvement Specialist for the SunRail Project was our guest speaker.

Bill explained that Phase I of the project is on schedule to be completed in 2014. SunRail trains will arrive at each station every 30 minutes during peak service times when traffic on the roads is typically at its worst. During non-peak periods, trains will operate every two hours. Initially, there will be no service on the weekends.

SunRail's route for Phase I includes 12 stops, DeBary, Sanford, Lake Mary, Longwood, Altamonte Springs, Maintland, Winter Park, Florida Hospital, Lynx Central Station, Church Street, Orlando Health/Amtrak, and Sand Lake Road. SunRail has estimated that up to one entire lane of traffic can be removed from I-4 if the service is used to its potential. What a win, win! The system is scalable as are most of the current train platforms.

Phase II is in the planning stages and includes additional stations at DeLand, Meadow Woods, Osceola Parkway, Kissimmee and Poinciana.

The good folks at SunRail have been working hard to make intermodal transportation as convenient as possible for their customers. SunRail has developed partnerships with LYNX and VOTRAN systems. Both LYNX (in Orange, Osceola and Seminole counties) and VOTRAN (in Volusia County) will provide traditional bus service to and from SunRail stations, offering passengers seamless transfers and discounted fares.

LYNX and VOTRAN riders on a feeder bus route to any SunRail station can transfer free within one County by swiping their bus fare media card at any SunRail ticket vending machine. Transferring passengers that need to travel multi-county would need to pay \$1.00 upgrade for crossing each county line on SunRail.



The Central Florida Clean Cities Coalition was proud to coordinate two battery-powered vehicle contests: the BAT (battery assisted transportation) Mobile Challenge, and the Electrathon.

Middle school students built and raced their own lithium-powered derby cars for the BAT Mobile Challenge. The idea was to encourage children to realize the potential for vehicles that run on electricity, rather than more traditional fuels. Fifteen unique teams raced each other down a 20 meter track, with the record time coming in under seven seconds.

While adult teams also participate in Electrathon, brought to Cocoa by the Electrathon of Tampa, high school teams also build and race their own electric go carts. Twelve teams raced their lead-acid and lithium-ion battery cars for two one-hour endurance races around FSEC's quarter-mile parking lot track. Amazingly, all were able to make the trek, clocking in at around 30 mile per hour.

Of course, next year will certainly bring more fresh faces and perhaps even more events for them to participate in. You are invited to

Customers might be surprised by all of the money they could save as well. The annual costs for gas, maintenance, and potential in reduction in insurance premiums adds up to be quite a bit of money. SunRail has a cost calculator on their website so you can run the numbers before you make the switch.

Central Florida would like to thank Bill Land and the SunRail team for a wonderful presentation.

PERC Offers \$1,000 Incentive to Propane Mower Customers

PROPANE

EXCEPTIONAL ENERGY®

As the summer mowing season begins to heat up, lawn and landscape professionals can trim both their costs and their carbon footprint by investing in a new, dedicated propane mower with help from the Propane Education & Research Council (PERC). For a limited time PERC is seeking participants in the Propane Mower End-User Incentive Program that puts \$1,000 back in the pocket of customers who purchase eligible new, dedicated propane mowing technology.

PERC's \$1,000 incentive helps cover the incremental cost of a new, dedicated propane mower with a 60- to 72-inch cutting deck size. Customers accepted into the program can purchase up to 10 mowers with incentives. To further increase customer savings, this incentive can also be combined with any other original equipment manufacturer (OEM) rebate and any existing state Propane Gas Association rebate for which the customer may be eligible.

Not familiar with propane as a mower fuel? Propane is an environmentally friendly alternative fuel produced right here in the United States. It's the same fuel you trust to heat your home and cook hamburgers on your grill. When used as a fuel for mowers, propane can save customers money and time compared to gasoline-fueled mowers due to lower fuel costs, reduced fuel lost to theft or spillage, and less downtime as a result of on-site fuel delivery and approved operation on ozone action days. Propane is normally available at prices significantly less expensive than gasoline, so end-users also benefit from savings on fuel.

Propane-fueled mowers can reduce carbon monoxide emissions by more than 80 percent and can reduce harmful greenhouse gas emissions by nearly 50 percent when compared with gasoline-powered mowers. Mowers fueled by propane also meet or exceed all current emissions requirements established by the Environmental Protection Agency and, if sold in the state of California, by the

join in the clean-energy fun!

California Air Resources Board.

"Propane mowers offer many advantages to commercial mower users including lower costs and better environmental performance," said Mark Leitman, director, business development and marketing for PERC. "We hope this incentive program will encourage more lawn and landscape professionals to purchase propane-fueled mowers and experience these benefits firsthand."

Mower customers who are accepted into the program will sign a commitment to provide feedback about mower usage throughout the mowing season, helping PERC to acquire a variety of performance data that will be used to further advance the market for propane-fueled commercial mowers.

The Propane Mower End-User Incentive Program complements PERC's Propane Mower Dealer Demonstration Program, which will place 300 propane-fueled commercial lawn mowers as demonstration units in select dealerships throughout the U.S., and provide those dealers with training about propane mowers. This demonstration program will give mower end-users the opportunity to try out a propane mower and experience its benefits in their everyday work. Participating dealers in the Propane Mower Dealer Demonstration Program are currently being selected.

For more information on the Propane Mower End-User Incentive Program, including eligibility guidelines and applications, please visit [this website](#).