



Greater Lansing Area Clean Cities Coalition Spring Newsletter 2010

Clean Cities Energy Independence Days Gets Results

In this Issue:

- Earth Day's 40th Anniversary Highlights Clean Transportation.....* 2
- GLACC Begins Second Installment of Educational E-mail Campaigns* 3
- Dean, GLPS, and GLACC - Capital Area Clean School Bus Fleets.....* 4
- NTEA Work Truck Show Features Alternative Fuel Technologies.....* 4
- Michigan Legislature Considers Diesel Emissions Reduction* 5
- GLACC Policy Corner* 5
- Events* 6
- GLACC Members* 6

March 1 began the 2010 Energy Independence Days - an annual outreach and education event organized by Clean Cities coalitions across the country. This event brings local Clean Cities representatives to Washington, D.C. to educate members of Congress on federal policies and programs that benefit Clean Cities work in their districts.

This year GLACC program manager Maggie Striz Calnin attended Energy Independence Days and met with Congressman Mark Schauer, as well as staffers to Congressman Mike Rogers, Senator Carl Levin, and Senator Debbie Stabenow. Our region is fortunate to have elected officials who recognize

the importance of reducing petroleum dependence and increasing access to alternative fuels and vehicles. Congressman Schauer's advocacy for funding an electric vehicle infrastructure project in the capital region is especially of interest (see below article "Hometown Community EV Project").

Energy Independence Days has proven to be critical for growing and solidifying support for the great work of Clean Cities coalitions. If you would like to learn more about Energy Independence Days, contact us at contact@michigancleancities.org. Information on sponsorship opportunities for EID 2011 will be available later this year.

GLACC Meeting Features LBWL Hometown Community EV Project

On March 19, GLACC held the first event in the 2010 Michigan Clean Transportation Series. Key stakeholders in the region gathered to consider the need and the opportunity for electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure in Michigan's capital region. Kellee Christensen from Lansing Board of Water & Light (LBWL) provided the feature presentation on their Hometown Community EV project.

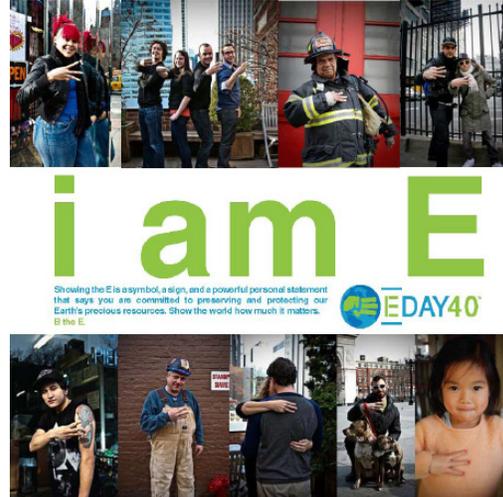
The Hometown Community EV project is being led by LBWL with cooperation from General Motors, and institutions and municipalities in the region. The purpose is to prepare for and test the performance and functionality of advanced electric vehicles entering the market this fall. The project also investigates how these vehicles - particularly vehicle battery charging needs - will *(Continued on next page)*



Earth Day's 40th Anniversary Highlights Clean Transportation

April 22, marks the 40th anniversary of Earth Day - a day for citizens across the country to recognize the importance of a healthy environment. Since that first Earth Day in 1970, our country has begun to understand and appreciate the connection between healthy air, water, and soil quality to our public health. In honor of Earth Day's 40th birthday, GLACC will be participating in Delta Township's Greener Delta event and E-Days Lansing - a three day extravaganza celebrating and educating capital area residents, businesses owners, and the whole community on environmental topics.

Visit the GLACC booth at E-Days on Thursday, April 22 at Lansing City Hall and on Saturday, April 24 at Greener Delta at Lansing Community College West Campus. We'll have prize drawings and information on ways to reduce, replace, and eliminate petroleum consumption.



LANSING EVENTS

EARTH DAY THURSDAY 4.22.10 LEARN for E
State Capitol
Lansing City Hall
LCC Campus

FRIDAY 4.23.10 ART for E
Artists for the Earth
Old Town, Lansing

SATURDAY 4.24.10 B the E
State Capitol
Lansing City Market
LCC Campus



Hometown Community EV Project

Continued from front page

affect the electric power grid. Light and medium duty vehicles will be the focus for this project.

Electric Vehicles are powered by battery packs that need to be plugged into 120-volt or 240-volt outlets to recharge. Hybrid-electric vehicles have a backup power source, either gasoline or diesel engines, that kick on when the battery pack charge is depleted to extend the driving range of the vehicle. Some new vehicles, particularly the Chevy Volt, will have a backup internal combustion engine that will power the batteries to extend the vehicle's driving range, rather than relying on the engine to fully power the vehicle when the batteries are near depletion. This further reduces vehicle emissions.

EVs and other alternative vehicles are critical advancements as we work to reduce, replace, and eliminate petroleum dependence. By preparing now, and understanding how best to incorporate EVs into our region's transportation infrastructure, the LBWL Hometown Community EV project will allow us to hit the ground running as these vehicles become more commonplace.

Watch for information on future GLACC Clean Transportation Series events. Check our website for event updates: www.michigancleancities.org.



GLACC Begins Second Installment of Educational E-mail Campaigns

During 2010 GLACC has been issuing educational e-mail campaigns focusing on Petroleum Reduction, Idle Reduction, and Advanced Vehicle Technologies. This month GLACC will bring the first installment of our educational e-mail campaign to a close.

GLACC began the first campaign in January, detailing the ins and outs of petroleum reduction. Topics included the implications of petroleum reduction and national security, economic impacts of petroleum reduction, non-motorized transportation options, and energy security and its relationship to petroleum reduction. GLACC is proud to have these campaigns picked up by the nationally syndicated Alternative Fuels and Vehicles (AFVi) Newsletter.

Beginning in April and running through June, GLACC will issue our second installment focusing on Idle Reduction. Every two weeks we'll take an in-depth look at the economic and environmental impacts of idle reduction and what drivers can do to reduce their own idling habits. If you don't already receive our updates, email program manager, Maggie Striz Calnin to get on the list contact@michigancleancities.org.



Economic Health and Petroleum Reduction

Core to Greater Lansing Area Clean Cities' mission is an effort to reduce mid-Michigan's petroleum consumption. Our aim is to improve air quality and diversify transportation fuel options on a local level. We promote alternative fuel and vehicle usage, fuel economy practices, and connect you with opportunities to make a difference. It's easy to forget that what we do individually, as communities, and regionally impacts the nation as a whole. Our region's dependence on petroleum has local implications as well as national economic consequences.



Fueling a Brighter Tomorrow Today!



[We're on Facebook](#)



[Follow us on Twitter](#)

This issue of Greater Lansing Area Clean Cities' Clean Transportation Awareness Campaign will give you some food for thought on how cleaner fuels and vehicles, as well as non-motorized transportation options, can improve our local and national economy.

[Learn More](#)

Where does the money we spend on gas and diesel go? In 2008 the top suppliers of oil to the U.S. were Canada, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, Nigeria, and Iraq. The year before, when oil prices were lower than in 2008, Michigan spent an estimated \$20.4 billion on petroleum products (source: *Moving Beyond Oil*, 2009, Frontier Group, et al.)

Join **GLACC** in actively reducing the amount of petroleum we use!

Become a Clean Cities Member Today!

Join Your Regional Clean Cities Coalition – As part of the U.S. Department of Energy's Clean Cities Program, Greater Lansing Area Clean Cities (GLACC) facilitates connections and promotes local efforts to advance alternative fuels and vehicles usage. Members include public and private fleets, corporations, nonprofit organizations, governments, utilities, and others with an interest in pursuing the latest in clean transportation technology.

www.michigancleancities.org



Dean, GLPS, and GLACC - Capital Area Clean School Bus Fleets

School fleets in the capital region, and a number of buses operating in west Michigan, will be running cleaner and more efficiently thanks to a Recovery Act grant awarded to GLACC. GLACC partnered with Dean Transportation and Grand Ledge Public Schools to replace older, less efficient and higher emitting buses with cleaner, more efficient buses. This project also includes installing diesel emission reduction equipment on nearly 300 buses.

As of April 1st, this project has installed emissions controls on over 50 buses and has ordered ten new buses, four of which are hybrid electric. The emission controls alone will reduce particulate matter by 20%, hydrocarbons by 50%, and carbon monoxide by 40%

per bus. These reductions are critical for protecting children's health. Over 215,000 children in Michigan have asthma and ground level diesel exhaust is a major aggravator for respiratory health problems. GLACC and our partners are proud to be taking steps to reduce children's exposure to diesel exhaust.

Want to learn more about diesel emissions and respiratory health, heart disease, and cancer and what you can do about it? Contact GLACC at contact@michigancleancities.org.



NTEA Work Truck Show Features Alternative Fuel Technologies

This year GLACC Executive Director, Rachel Kuntzsch attended the NTEA Work Truck Show, held in conjunction with the Green Truck Summit. This event brought together industry leaders across the country to see new products, participate in more than 40 intensive training programs and browse hundreds of industry exhibits.

The Green Truck Summit, held in conjunction with the NTEA Convention, featured hybrid and alternative fuel technologies, applications for commercial vehicles and results of real-world deployment in fleet operations. The Green Truck Summit is a two-day intensive program that offers real-world deployment and application of green technologies and how they impact commercial trucks including: technology deployment,

fuel utilization, fleet and vehicle integration, and cost justification.

The Green Truck Ride and Drive showcased the latest hybrid technology and alternative fuel applications including hybrid electric vehicles, propane and natural gas vehicles, all electric drive vehicles and hydraulic hybrid vehicles.



Michigan Legislature Considers Diesel Emissions Reduction

As a service to our members, GLACC works to help you understand how regional, state, and national policy decisions impact your operations. As leaders begin to take action on curbing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, diesel vehicles are coming under scrutiny. Driving this push for limiting diesel exhaust emissions are public health concerns such as childhood asthma, and environmental health concerns related to petroleum dependence.

A coalition of groups called the Michigan Diesel Clean Up Campaign has come together around the need to reduce diesel emissions among medium and heavy duty diesel fleets. GLACC's mission - to reduce, replace, and eliminate petroleum as our main transportation fuel source - directly fits with this endeavor. GLACC is proud to have signed on in support the Michigan Diesel Clean Up Campaign. As a part of this coalition, GLACC is working to communicate the strides the fleet community has made in reducing diesel emissions and petroleum

usage and to help fleet managers understand how this legislation might impact their operations.

The legislation being advocated for by the Michigan Diesel Clean Up Campaign would put Michigan in the company of at least 23 other states with requirements for engine idle time and/or installation of emissions controls. States including Illinois, Arkansas, Delaware, Florida, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, and California limit idling and emissions or provide incentives for public and private fleets to comply.

This legislation has not yet been introduced in the Michigan House and Senate. Final details of the bills are being worked out by members of the Legislature. GLACC is committed to helping capital region fleets get the information and resources necessary to succeed in their clean transportation goals. Watch our website and news updates for more information about this and other clean transportation policies.

GLACC Policy Corner

Federal Policy Updates:

H.R. 3488 - Clean Cities Authorization Bill would allow for more stable federal funding for local Clean Cities Coalitions, like GLACC. Though U.S. DOE established the Clean Cities program in 1993, Congress has not officially authorized the program. This bill would authorize the program for five years.

H.R. 4213 - Known as the "Jobs Bill", this legislation includes a measure to extend, retroactively the biodiesel blenders tax credit. This credit had been instrumental in boosting biodiesel use and the expiration of the credit has led to price increases for this fuel. On March 10, the bill was passed by the U.S. Senate; the U.S. House of Representatives has yet to pass the measure as of April 1st.

H.R. 1835 and S. 1408 - Natural Gas Act would result from these mirror bills, which would create incentives for natural gas vehicles and fuel. The legislation would provide an 80% credit on the incremental cost of a natural gas vehicle, 50% of the incremental cost of a "bi-fuel" or "dual-fuel" natural gas vehicle, and provides tax credits for conversions of vehicles to use natural gas.



Events:

E-Day Lansing

April 22- 24, Lansing, MI
www.earthdaylansing.com/

NAFA Institute and Expo

April 24 - 27
www.nafa.org/

Greener Delta

April 24, Lansing, MI
www.greenerdelta.org/

AFVi Conference & Expo

May 9-12, Las Vegas, NV
www.afv2010.com/

GLACC Members

Gold

Corn Marketing
Program of Michigan/
Michigan Corn Growers
Association
Meijer Logistics

Bronze

Blodgett Oil
Consumers Energy
Cummins Bridgeway
Michigan Propane Gas
Association
Michigan State University
Working Bugs
Kuntzsch Business
Services
DTE Energy / MichCon

Supporters

State of Michigan
CATA Clean Commute
Options
Delhi Township
Delta Township
Meridian Township
Tri-County Regional
Planning Commission
City of East Lansing
Lansing Board of Water
and Light

Individuals

David Kuntzsch
Don Walcheski
Rachel Kuntzsch
Margaret Striz Calnin
Jim Pitts
John Auld
Ray Lawrence

Silver

Dean Transportation

About Greater Lansing Area Clean Cities

Greater Lansing Area Clean Cities (GLACC) is a coalition of stakeholders working to achieve cleaner air and energy security in mid-Michigan through alternative fuel and vehicle usage, and fuel economy practices. Stakeholders include fleets, corporations, nonprofit organizations, utilities, local governments, and individuals – anyone interested in ways cleaner fuels, vehicles, and practices can improve our air quality and energy security.



Greater Lansing Area Clean Cities

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