



# Virginia Clean Cities



## Stakeholder Newsletter

2013 Volume 4- July

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### Diamond and Platinum Level Stakeholders



## Virginia Clean Cities Reaches 1,000 Vehicles Converted to Propane Autogas

Virginia Clean Cities is proud to announce that 1,000 vehicles have been successfully converted to run on propane autogas through the Southeast Propane Autogas Development Program (SPADP). The Program is supported by funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and the U.S. Department of Energy's Clean Cities Program. The vehicle conversions in this program take ordinary vehicles that run on gasoline and certify them to run on both gasoline and propane. This bi-fuel approach is enticing to fleets because it provides them flexibility to fuel on both gasoline and propane.

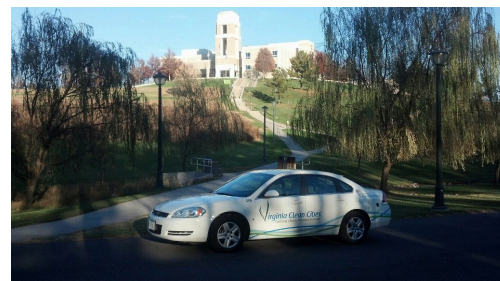
All 36 fleets – nine of which are based in Virginia – have benefitted directly from their involvement in SPADP. At its completion, the Program's 1,200 propane cars will help businesses and municipalities across 12 states save significant dollars at the pump. The cost of autogas is generally \$1.50 cheaper than gasoline. The project also implemented fueling stations for each fleet, displacing 1.2 million gallons of gasoline each year, eliminating more than 2,000 tons of airborne pollutants annually and saving fleets \$1.8 million a year while creating American jobs.

"This represents a significant mark with 1,000 vehicle conversions successfully fueling and driving on cleaner and less expensive domestic propane," said Alleyn Harned, Executive Director of Virginia Clean Cities. "This milestone is the result of years of hard work and collaboration with project partners and Clean Cities Coalitions throughout the country."

Propane autogas, also referred to as propane or liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), is the most widely used alternative fuel in the world, with more than 17 million autogas vehicles on the road globally. The fuel is cleaner than gasoline, 90 percent domestic, inexpensive and widely available. Propane's high octane rating (104 to 112 compared with 87 to 92 for gasoline) and low carbon and oil contamination characteristics have resulted in documented engine life of up to two times that of gasoline engines. Because the fuel's mixture (propane and air) is completely gaseous, cold start problems associated with liquid fuel are reduced.

The development of new light- and medium-duty propane vehicles has surged in recent years for fleet use. Propane vehicles can either be conversions from gasoline vehicles or purchased from original equipment manufacturers. Using propane as a vehicle fuel reduces U.S. dependence on foreign oil, increases energy security, provides convenience and performance benefits, and improves health and the environment. The fuel is non-toxic and presents no threat to soil, surface water, or groundwater.

SPADP is managed and administered by the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy and Virginia Clean Cities at James Madison University. Visit [www.usepropaneautogas.com](http://www.usepropaneautogas.com) for more information.



## Seven More Stations Power Up on Electric Plug-in Power Pedestals

As temperatures heat up for the summer, truckers will have more places to plug in and stay cool. Shorepower Technologies has announced seven more truck stops added electric plug-in power pedestals to their locations from March to mid-June.

The seven truck stops are located in Maryland, Michigan, New York, Texas, Virginia, and Washington State. Five of the seven locations are also offering connections providing 480-volt power for hybrid refrigerated trailers.

Below is a full list of the seven truck stops now offering shore power for trucks and 480-volt power for hybrid refrigerated trailers:

**Flying J - Elkton, MD:** 24 plug-ins and 5 refrigeration unit connections (480V).

**Detroit Travel Center - Woodhaven, MI:** 24 plug-ins and 6 refrigeration unit connections (480V).

**Champlain Truck Center - Champlain, NY:** 24 plug-ins and 2 refrigeration unit connections (480V).

**21B Travel Plaza - West Coxsackie, NY:** 24 plug-ins and 6 refrigeration unit connections (480V).

**Flying J Travel Plaza - Dallas, TX:** 12 plug-ins.

**Flying J - Ruther Glen, VA:** 24 plug-ins and 5 refrigeration unit connections (480V).

**George Truck Stop - George, WA:** 12 plug-ins.

Even if you don't have a shore power-compatible APU or integrated HVAC system, a heavy-duty 12-gauge or larger extension cord and a 110-volt alternating current (AC) air conditioning unit is all you need to stay cool, Bates said. Adding a power strip can let you power other personal appliances, a laptop or a microwave. Shorepower's pedestals offer 120-volt or 208-volt power sources, at \$1 per hour.

Fleets and owner-operators can tell Shorepower Technologies where they want power by filling out a quick poll on the [shorepowerconnect.com](http://shorepowerconnect.com) web site. Shorepower Technologies is also offering a try-it-free offer for new users. The first night is free with any new registration. For more information, call 888-841-3137 or visit [shorepowerconnect.com](http://shorepowerconnect.com). Be sure to use the promo code - SPTNEW1.

## TFC Recycling's Hank Brown Wins Award at Waste Fleet Conference

The staff at Virginia Clean Cities would like to recognize Hank Brown of TFC Recycling on the award he received at the Waste Fleet Conference in Indianapolis. Brown is a recipient of the Driven to Excellence Award for the work he has done by integrating compressed natural gas (CNG) into his recycling fleet. Mr. Brown's award was mentioned in Waste Recycling News' "Curbside Live" report as a highlight of the 2013 Waste Fleet Conference. The link to the video report can be found on the Waste Recycling News [website](http://www.waste-recycling.com).

## Virginia Alternative Fuel Tax Update

Virginia divides fuels into two categories: motor fuels and alternative fuels. Motor fuels include gasoline, diesel fuels, blended fuels, and aviation fuels. Alternative fuels are defined as combustible gases, liquids, or other energy sources that can be used to generate power to operate a highway vehicle and are not motor fuels. Alternative fuels include propane (LPG), compressed natural gas (CNG), liquefied natural gas (LNG), and hydrogen (H<sub>2</sub>). Suppliers, importers, blenders, providers, retailers, and bulk users of alternative fuel are subject to taxes paid to the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

Fuel Type	Rates per Gallon Prior to July 1, 2013	Rates per Gallon Effective July 1, 2013
Gasoline and Ethanol	\$0.175	\$0.111
Diesel and Biodiesel	\$0.175	\$0.202
All Other Alternative Fuels	\$0.175	\$0.111 per GGE*

\*Before reporting for Virginia state taxes, all alternative fuels must first be converted to gasoline gallon equivalents, or GGEs. GGEs are the amount of alternative fuel it takes to equal the energy content of one liquid gallon of gasoline. They allow consumers to compare the energy content of competing fuels against a commonly known fuel: gasoline.

Unsure of how to calculate GGEs for your alternative fuel? Visit the Virginia DMV page for a [GGE calculator](http://www.dmv.virginia.gov/gge-calculator).

## Alternative Fuel Vehicle Insurance Information

The Simple Dollar (TSD), featured on websites like WiseBread, MSN Smart Spending, and Forbes, offers practical advice on the frustrating topic of alternative fuel vehicle insurance. TSD founder Trent Hamm founded the website in 2006 because he was frustrated with how dense and misleading the available information about finance, insurance, and retirement was. His website gives tips on how to find a good insurer for your alternatively fueled vehicle and encourages drivers of AFVs to discuss available AFV discounts, as well as establishing your AFV's final value before an accident and coming up with a "true value" for your vehicle. More tips can be found on the TSB [website](http://www.thesimpledollar.com).

## THE SIMPLE DOLLAR

### Fast Charging for Electric Vehicles Event

On June 28th, VCC hosted an event at the Virginia Science Museum in Richmond in order to educate public and private entities across the Commonwealth on the benefits of fast charging for electric vehicles. The event included networking opportunities, presentations, demonstrations, and a panel discussion from Fuji Electric Corporation of America, Eaton Corporation, and Nissan Motor Company representatives. Event attendance was high and attendees came from all over Virginia, indicating the strong possibility of fast charging vehicle station in the Commonwealth's future. Presentations from the event can be found on the Virginia EV [website](http://www.virginiaev.com).





## VCC in the News

VCC would like to share with you some exciting news pieces that we have recently been a part of. This edition's news is focused on VCC's Southeast Propane Autogas Development Program's milestone of converting 1,000 vehicles to propane autogas and the VCC Executive Director's article on the future of alternative fuels in Virginia. If you have an idea for a news story or press event, please contact Ryan Cornett at [rcornett@vacleancities.org](mailto:rcornett@vacleancities.org).



### [Virginia Clean Cities Reaches 1,000 Vehicle Conversions to Propane](#)

**Market Wired, Richmond - June 12**

*The largest propane deployment project in U.S. history reached a significant mark by successfully converting 1,000 vehicles to run on propane autogas. Many of these vehicles are located in Virginia and include Groome Transportation, Virginia Premier Health Plan, the City of Newport News, Spotsylvania County, and the sheriff's offices in Augusta, Culpeper, and Frederick Counties.*

*At SPADP's completion, over 1,200 vehicles from 36 fleets in 12 states will be converted to run on propane autogas. It will also implement fueling stations for each fleet, displacing 1.2 million gallons of gasoline each year, eliminating more than 2,000 tons of airborne pollutants annually and saving fleets \$1.8 million a year while creating American jobs.*



### [Harned and Roberts: A new future for the Old Dominion](#)

**TimesDispatch.com, Richmond - June 11**

*VCC Executive Director, Alleyn Harned, and the Director Sustainable Technologies at the Environmental Defense Fund, Jackie Prince Roberts, discussed the future of alternative fuels in Virginia. Alternative Fuel Vehicles and the bipartisan state efforts to use domestic fuel can help our energy, economic, and environmental security.*

## Task-Oriented Electric Vehicle Event

VCC and Dominion Electric Vehicles are hosting a task-oriented electric vehicle open house on July 18th in Harrisonburg. Electric utility vehicles are the least expensive AFVs on the market. They can easily be incorporated into nearly any type of fleet, including security, facilities management, housekeeping, recycling, tours, personal transportation, and mail delivery. For more information on the event and to register, please visit the event page on VCC's [website](#).



## GreenTech Automotive Introduces New Sedan

GreenTech Automotive has launched a new all-electric five-passenger sedan, called the Rejoice. The sedan has a 19 kWh battery, a driving range of over 100 miles on a single charge, and takes 6-8 hours to recharge. The year 2013 will be a pilot year for the GTA vehicle, with only 2,000 Rejoice models on the market in North America and Europe, but the company has already achieved distribution agreements for the sale of over 30,000 of the sedans over the next three years. GTA currently employs 100 people, but plans to open another assembly facility for the Rejoice and anticipates the creation of 200 to 300 American jobs.

GTA is an automotive manufacturer based out of Northern Mississippi, but has offices in Virginia, Europe, and China. They are dedicated to developing and producing environmentally friend, energy-efficient vehicles, with a focus on green technology, affordability, and job creation. You can see the car on display at our July 18th EV demo event at JMU!



## Dominion's Solar Purchase Program

Dominion Virginia Power is launching a five year pilot program for customers that install solar PV systems. Customers will be charged \$0.15 per kWh and must sign a five year contract. Participants in the program generate and sell electricity directly to Dominion. The program is designed to help customers cover the cost of installing solar generation while also promoting more local solar energy production. Interested customers may apply to the program by filling out an [online application](#) and will be enrolled on a first-come, first-serve basis. Visit Dominion's [website](#) to learn more about the Solar Purchase Program.

## Electric Vehicle Video

Virginia Clean Cities recently collaborated to release a new video highlighting Richmond's progress on electric vehicles, and how City residents are already benefiting from these clean advanced technology vehicles. The video was filmed at Virginia Clean Cities' DC Fast Charging event recently held at the Science Museum of Virginia in Richmond. The Science Museum has installed EV chargers that are featured in the video.

*Richmond VA Goes Electric* was produced by Dominion in cooperation with Virginia Clean Cities and is a project of the Richmond Electric Vehicle Initiative (REVI). The video tells the local story of Richmonders experiencing substantial benefits in efficiency, economics, dependability and driving experience associated with electric vehicles. With any city driving, electric vehicles are part of the solution for reducing dependence on foreign oil and helping the environment!

You can view the video by clicking [here](#). You can also visit our YouTube page for this and other VCC videos at [youtube.com/VirginiaCleanCities](http://youtube.com/VirginiaCleanCities)



## VCC Staff Updates



VCC is proud to announce a recent addition to our staff! Matthew Wade joined Virginia Clean Cities in May as a Program Coordinator. Matthew earned a Masters of Public Administration from James Madison University in 2007. He spent the next 6 years working in executive administration, finance, and public works for Augusta and Rockingham Counties as an Administrative

Intern and a Financial Analyst. In that time he has specialized in working across departments to achieve meaningful and positive goals for the citizens of each County. He's an Eagle Scout who in his spare time enjoys recreational activities ranging from camping and hiking to gardening and golf. He appreciates the fascinating blend of city-life and friendlier, quieter country-town vibe that Harrisonburg and the Shenandoah Valley offer.

## Clean Cities 20th Anniversary

The U.S. Department of Energy's Clean Cities program is marking two decades of progress in the deployment of alternative fuels, advanced vehicles, fuel economy improvements, and other local strategies to cut petroleum use in transportation. DOE launched the national program in 1993, and Virginia Clean Cities has been a part of the program since it's founding in 1996 as the Hampton Roads Clean Cities Coalition. Since then, VCC has grown to represent the entire state, built strong partnerships that still exist today, and grown in terms of size and impact at a rate that is unique in this program.

Nationwide, Clean Cities activities have saved more than 5 billion gallons of petroleum and averted more than 34 million tons of greenhouse gas emissions over the course of the program's history. Virginia Clean Cities and our stakeholders have led the charge here in the Commonwealth, and we will continue to help fleets learn more and deploy alternative fuel vehicles in the future.

Clean Cities advances the nation's environmental, economic, and energy security by supporting local actions to cut petroleum use in transportation. A national network of nearly 100 Clean Cities coalitions 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.

You can learn more about Clean Cities at [cleancities.energy.gov](http://cleancities.energy.gov) and learn how to get involved with Virginia Clean Cities [vacleancities.org](http://vacleancities.org).



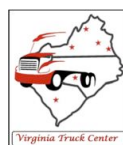
## New and Renewing Stakeholders



**Sonny Merryman** is a premier Thomas Built, MyBus, El Dorado Coach, Startrans and Braun dealer throughout Virginia and the Mid-Atlantic. Many Virginia localities and agencies depend on Sonny Merryman for transit and shuttle buses. Sonny Merryman is also a premier sales and service choice for school buses.



**Werres** Since 1935, Werres Corporation has been providing material handling equipment, customized engineering systems and forklift equipment to clients throughout Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Washington D.C. and the Federal Government worldwide.



**Virginia Truck Center** strives to meet your commercial truck sales needs, heavy truck parts demands and truck service needs in a timely manner. Virginia Truck Center has locations in Roanoke, Weyers Cave, Richmond/Chester, and Virginia Beach.

*If you are considering becoming a stakeholder, please visit our membership page at*

[www.vacleancities.org/get-involved/join-us/](http://www.vacleancities.org/get-involved/join-us/).

## Upcoming Events

- 7/16: Workplace Charging Webinar
- 7/18: Neighborhood and Utility EV Showcase Event, Harrisonburg
- 8/6: CNG Stakeholder Call
- 8/7: Tesla Demonstration Event, Richmond
- 9/10: LPG Stakeholder Call
- 10/13-15: VML State Contracting Discussion, Arlington

Please visit [www.vacleancities.org](http://www.vacleancities.org) for the latest information about all Virginia Clean Cities events.

**Thank you for reading!**

*This, and past issues of the Stakeholder Newsletter are available on our website.*

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