



October 2021 Newsletter

Upcoming October Events

- [EV Fleet Trends Advice from Experts, 10/13 @ 12 PM EST](#)
- [Virginia Clean Energy Summit, 10/18 - 10/19](#)
- [B100 Biodiesel Technology Showcase, 10/21 @ 1 PM EST](#)
- [Technology Happy Hour: VEIC, 10/21 @ 4 PM EST](#)
- [Sustainable Fleet Technology Virtual Conference: Multiple dates and times](#)

Click the events to see more info!

Virginia Welcomes its First Gallons of Renewable Propane



The City of Petersburg's police and shuttle vehicle fleets got an ultra-low emissions upgrade today thanks to the delivery of the first gallons of renewable propane autogas in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Petersburg is the first city in the state to use renewable propane in a vehicle fleet, converting 49 vehicles from gasoline to run on the even cleaner energy source. Representatives from Virginia Clean Cities, [Alliance AutoGas](#), [Propane Education & Research Council](#) (PERC) and the [City of Petersburg](#) attended a ceremonial ribbon-cutting event to speak on the importance of the fuel technology.

"We want to celebrate and acknowledge the leadership that made this move to clean energy possible," said Alleyn Harned, director at Virginia Clean Cities. "Transportation represents Virginia's highest area of harmful emissions and is the costliest energy sector. Renewable propane is a major step forward to reduce emissions and lower the city's fleet operating costs. As a transportation

fuel, renewable propane brings improved energy security for Virginia and the region.”

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ARP and DERA School Bus Rebate Programs are now OPEN

School buses travel over four billion miles each year, providing the safest transportation to and from school for more than 25 million American children every day. However, diesel exhaust from these buses has a negative impact on human health, especially for children, who have a faster breathing rate than adults and whose lungs are not yet fully developed.

The 2021 ARP Electric School Bus Rebates offers \$7 million to eligible school districts and private fleet owners for the replacement of old diesel school buses with new electric school buses. Selected applicants that scrap and replace their old diesel buses with new electric buses will receive a rebate of \$300,000 per bus.

The 2021 DERA School Bus Rebates will offer approximately \$10 million to public and private fleet owners for the replacement of old diesel school buses with new buses certified to EPA's cleanest emission standards. Selected applicants that scrap and replace their old diesel buses will receive a rebate of \$20,000-\$65,000 per bus depending on the fuel type of the replacement bus.

Click the button below to learn more about important dates and how to apply. As always, if you have any questions about funding opportunities please reach out and contact us.

[LEARN MORE](#)



If you are looking to learn more, catch our upcoming Technology Happy Hour with new VCC stakeholder [VEIC](#)! It is on Oct. 21st from 4-5 pm EST. Click the button below to register!

Interested in becoming a featured stakeholder at our next Technology Happy Hour? Technology Happy Hour is a VCC special event where we provide a platform for stakeholders to share their newest technologies with the public!

Email VCC Program Coordinator, Sarah Stalcup, sstalcup@vacleancities.org, for more information about being a featured stakeholder!

If you want to check out our past sessions visit our [YouTube channel](#).

[REGISTER HERE](#)

Governor Northam Celebrates New Virginia Department of Energy



Governor Ralph Northam announced the Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy is now the Virginia Department of Energy (Virginia Energy). The name change was passed by the General Assembly and signed by Governor Northam in April 2021. It became official October 1st, 2021.

“Virginia is all-in on clean energy,” said Governor Northam. “We’ve passed one of the most sweeping clean energy laws in the country, and we are transitioning our electric grid to 100 percent renewable energy. These are exciting changes, and they mean new jobs, new investment, cleaner air, and a stronger economy.”

The agency's name change and reorganization follows the 2020 Virginia Clean Economy Act. The act establishes a mandatory renewable portfolio standard to achieve 30 percent renewable energy by 2030, a mandatory energy efficiency resource standard, and the path to a carbon-free electric grid by 2045. The bill also declares that 16,100 megawatts of solar and onshore wind, 5,200 megawatts of offshore wind, and 2,700 megawatts of energy storage are in the public interest. This provides a pathway for clean energy resources to be constructed, while ensuring that the investments are made in a cost-effective way. The Virginia Clean Economy Act protects customers with a program that helps reduce electricity bills and brings energy efficiency savings to low-income households.

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Light Pole EV Charging Stations Take Off at the Shenandoah Valley Airport



The Shenandoah Valley Airport has something to celebrate! Four new Level 1 electric charger parking spaces were

Propane Puts \$250 Million Back into School Budgets



Earlier this summer, ROUSH CleanTech founder Jack Roush contributed \$1 million to support Eastern Michigan University’s mathematics and automotive programs. As an alum of EMU, Jack is a lifelong learner (and teacher) who has come full circle, from receiving his master’s degree in scientific mathematics to founding and chairing our company that is so heavily committed to technical excellence.

Jack’s passion and vision is our inspiration.

recently designated for electric vehicle (EV) drivers. Pole-mounted EV chargers were integrated into an existing light pole, making installation and use a breeze. EV drivers can now step off the plane and into a fully-charged car, ready to take them to their next destination while enjoying the added benefit of parking in a well-lit parking space!

These pole-mounted chargers demonstrate a growing movement across the country for providing streamlined access to EV infrastructure. Access to city streets and parking lots is necessary to further EV adoption, especially for those drivers that live in apartments without designated residential charging.

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We have assisted over 1,000 school districts deploy more than 17,000 Blue Bird Vision Propane school buses equipped with ROUSH CleanTech propane technology. Our advanced clean technology helps fleet managers meet their primary goal of achieving the lowest possible total cost of ownership in an environmentally friendly manner.

By switching to propane, these school districts have saved over \$250 million that has been redistributed to hire more teachers, pay for books and computers, and even fund some sport and after-school activities that would have been cut due to budget constraints.

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New and Returning Members!



Williams[®]

New Diamond Level Member!

New Diamond Level Member!



Alliance AutoGas
POWERED BY PROPANE

Returning Diamond Level Member!



James City County
Jamestown 1607

Returning Coalition Level Member!

Interested in becoming a Virginia Clean Cities Member? Check out our membership page [here](#) or [contact us](#) with any questions!

Already a VCC member? Send us an [email](#) with any late breaking news

or announcements that you want featured in next months newsletter!

Virginia Clean Cities

