

Central Texas Clean Cities

Reducing our nation's reliance on foreign oil



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Around the corner

Exciting changes are happening here at CTCC.

Stay tuned for updates from a very different CTCC!

More information to come.

April 2012

Dear Stakeholders,

① Thank you to those fleets who turned in their Annual Report, formerly known as the Annual Survey. The DOE has assessed an annual 17% reduction goal and your report tells us how we are doing. The results will be out early this summer. Seventeen fleets responded with their information.

② Since January, CTCC organized two (2) Moving Texans With Propane Roadshow events in Temple and Tyler. This is part of our contract with the Railroad Commission of Texas to promote propane across the state. These Roadshow stops bring propane industry partners to a single location, and fleets from the surrounding area are invited to attend a lunch program and a ride 'n drive/demo. There, fleet managers can see propane mowers, trucks and buses, and talk to industry reps. The Roadshow program has been successful having met with over 100 fleet representatives since last summer. Our next Roadshow stop will be in San Marcos. The date is not set.

③ Natural Gas is a big consideration right now, especially with the drilling taking place south of San Antonio. We are answering an increasing number of calls from local and regional fleets curious about how to convert their vehicles to natural gas. The greatest obstacle is infrastructure – the lack of it. Both Ford and GM have CNG vehicles now available. And the Honda Civic GX sedan remains a natural gas constant.

④ On the renewable fuels front, biodiesel and ethanol are slow to be offered publicly. The City of Austin is the largest fleet user of both fuels, operating hundreds of light duty vehicles on e85, and all diesel vehicles and equipment run on B20. Sac 'n Pac Convenience Stores have added a public e85 pump at their new location on Hwy 21 just outside of San Marcos, giving that chain three e85 pumps - 2 in San Marcos and one in Bastrop. The renewable fuel standard helps get more ethanol and biodiesel into our fuel tanks, but it will take some effort to bring those fuels abundantly to our corner convenience stores.

⑤ Battery electric vehicles (BEV), plug-in electric hybrids (PEV) and hybrid electric vehicles (HEV) appear to be the fastest growing segment of our alt fuels portfolio and this is mainly due to the general public. There are three (3) substantial initiatives promoting these technologies and charging infrastructure across the state including the Texas River Cities (a DOE Clean Cities joint effort with San Antonio and Austin), the Texas Triangle effort (DFW-HGAC-San Antonio and Austin), and the Electric Vehicles-Transportation and Electricity Convergence (EV TEC). CTCC is directly involved in these efforts.

Upcoming activities include continued involvement with the EV sector, participation in the Alamo Area Natural Gas Fuels consortium and the Heart of Texas Green Expo in Bastrop. As always your interest and participation is always welcome.

Sincerely,

Stacy Neef, coordinator,
Clean Cities Central Texas

VICE model helps fleet managers assess CNG fuel transition costs

The Clean Cities Alternative Fuels and Advanced Vehicles data Center has a new resource for fleet managers who are considering using natural gas in their truck fleets.

This resource, the Vehicle and Infrastructure Cash-Flow

Evaluation (VICE) Model, allows users to enter specific data into an Excel spreadsheet to determine whether the costs make switching an attractive option.

In addition, Clean Cities has published a PDF

called “Business Case for Compressed Natural Gas in Municipal Fleets” which describes the VICE model in detail to help fleet operators determine if CNG is a viable alternative fuel option for their needs.

Links:
[VICE model](#)
[Business Case for CNG in Municipal Fleets](#)

Gasoline and petrodiesel emissions and operational cost calculator

A vehicle’s price tag is only part of its true cost. Just as important to the initial price of any vehicle is the price to maintain the engine and fill up the gas tank. With recently built cars routinely achieving useful life spans of over 200,000 miles, it is now more important than ever to calculate the annual cost differences between conventional gas and alternative fuel powered engines.

Use the DOE’s Vehicle Cost Calculator to find the total lifetime ownership costs, including fuel use and maintenance, of your vehicle.

The easy-to-use online tool, available here, compares the thousands of vehicles on the market today and provides side-

by-side comparisons of available car models that have conventional fuel, alternative fuel, and electrically powered engines.

Normal Daily Use

Average daily driving distance: 34 miles

Days per week: 5

Weeks per year: 49

Percent highway: 45

Other Trips

Annual mileage: 3536 miles

Percent highway: 30

Annual Driving Distance: 13936 miles
City Distance: 5303 miles
Highway Distance: 8625 miles

Get Results

Links:
[DOE vehicle cost calculator](#)

Four major firms join national clean fleets partnership

DOE announced on March 5 that four new corporate partners—Best Buy, Johnson Controls, Pacific Gas and Electric, and Veolia—are joining DOE’s National Clean Fleets Partnership, a broad public-private partnership that helps the largest fleet operators reduce how much gasoline and diesel they use.

The new partners join 14 other major national companies in committing to improve the fuel economy of the commercial fleets and inte-

grate alternative technology vehicles such as natural gas trucks and electric vehicles into their fleets. National Clean Fleets Partners operate more than a million commercial vehicles nationwide, accounting for more than 12% of all commercial vehicles on U.S. roads.

Under the partnership, DOE experts provide each company with specialized resources, technical expertise, and support in developing a comprehensive strategy to

reduce fuel use and achieve greater efficiency and cost-savings. DOE also helps connect partners with clean fuel providers and equipment manufacturers where their fleets operate.

The new partners have already begun taking action to develop and implement fuel-efficiency projects in their fleets. click the link below to read more.

Links:
[National Clean Cities news](#)

New EV handbook for fleets

A new generation of plug-in electric vehicles (PEVs) is hitting the road, and Clean Cities is helping fleet managers take full advantage of their potential to reduce petroleum use and emissions.

The newly published Clean Cities PEV Handbook for Fleet Managers provides information on vehicles, maintenance, safety, emissions, charging equipment, and more. The handbook also points fleet managers to a host of resources and information that can help them incorporate PEVs and charging infrastructure into their operations.

Available on the Clean Cities Publications page, this 20-page guide is the second in a series of four Clean Cities PEV handbooks, each tailored to meet the needs of one of four key stakeholders in PEV deployment: consumers, fleet managers, public charging station hosts, and electrical contractors.

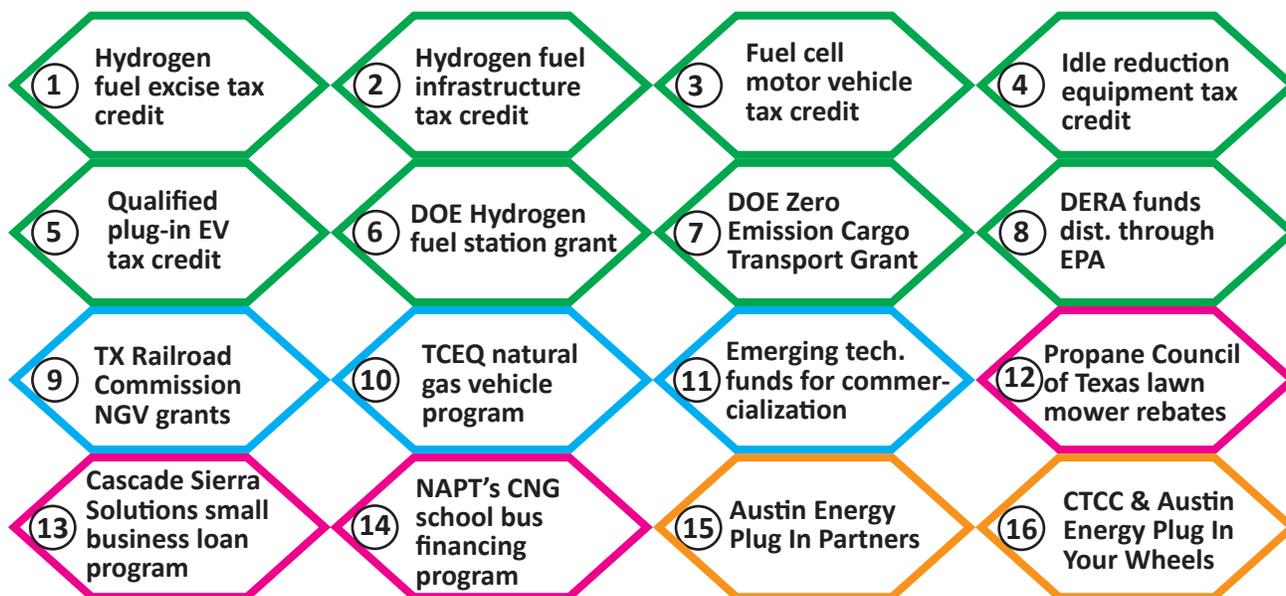
Links:
[EV Handbook](#)
[Cost Calculator](#)
[Clean Cities Publications](#)



Pecan Street, Ford’s showcase new EVs

Ford recently came to Austin on May 3 at Mueller Lake Park. Promoting their latest fuel economy technologies, Ford now has 10 vehicles that can get 40+ mpg. This event featured the new CMax Hybrid, the CMax Energi Plug in Hybrid, available Fall 2012, and the all electric Ford Focus (110+ mpg) available now through special order. Ford is creating the future of electric vehicles with its development of plug-in hybrid and all-electric vehicles and this new lineup is state of the art in electric vehicle technology.

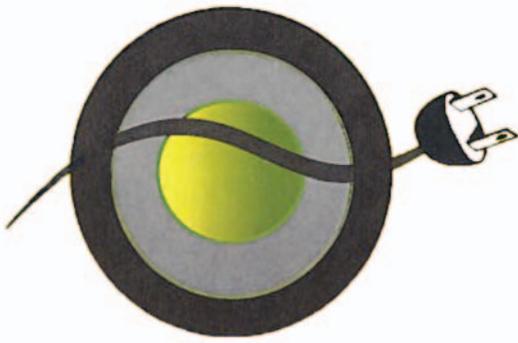
Offset the added costs of alternative fuel, vehicles and infrastructure with these **Federal, Texas, Private** and **Austin** incentives



- ① Tax credit of \$0.50 per gallon for liquefied hydrogen sold for use or used as a fuel to operate a motor vehicle. Entities must be registered with the IRS. Expires Sept. 30, 2014.
- ② 30% of the cost of hydrogen stations placed in service since 2006. Expires Dec. 31, 2014.
- ③ Tax credit of up to \$4,000 for the purchase of qualified light-duty fuel cell vehicles. Credit amounts are based on vehicle weight. Expires Dec. 31, 2014.
- ④ Qualified on-board idle reduction and other retrofits are exempt from the heavy duty vehicle federal tax. For eligible products and more information, go the EPA's SmartWay website. Ongoing for equipment sold after Oct. 4, 2008.
- ⑤ Tax credit for the purchase of qualified plug-in electric vehicles that meet certain requirements. The credit amount depends on the weight of the vehicle. For vehicles purchased after Dec. 31, 2009, Expires Dec. 31, 2014
- ⑥ DOE is accepting new applications to test, demonstrate, and validate hydrogen technologies in real-world environments.
- ⑦ DOE funding to accelerate the introduction and penetration of electric transportation technology into the cargo transport sector.
- ⑧ DERA funds dist. through EPA
- ⑨ See TX Railroad Commission on next page for more detailed information.
- ⑩ Expected to open to fleets in the summer of 2012
- ⑪ Ongoing; No deadline
- ⑫ The propane council of texas has reopened its incentive program, offering \$1,000 per mower with a limit of 5 per fleet.
- ⑬ Ongoing; No deadline
- ⑭ Ongoing; No deadline
- ⑮ ⑯ See Plug In Partners and Plug In Your Wheels information on next page

Click on any of the numbered boxes to get more detailed information on that incentive.

Visit www.afdc.energy.gov/afdc/laws to browse all incentives. Always consult with your tax advisor to determine your eligibility for any incentive.



PLUG IN YOUR WHEELS

With Electric Vehicle Incentives

Incentives are available when you buy a qualifying all-electric motorcycle, low-speed vehicle, scooter or bicycle. Driving all-electric vehicles means 98% fewer pollutants in the air than gas powered vehicles. It also means more money in your pocket - a full charge costs 50 cents or less for an electric vehicle, and as little as three cents for an electric bicycle.

More benefits include:

- No gas needed, low maintenance requirements.
- Reduced dependence on foreign oil
- Zero emissions for cleaner air to breathe
- Ideal for driving needs at a work campus, parks, universities and downtown commutes.

AE electric Vehicle Incentive Amounts

Offers incentives for qualifying models of all-electric low-speed vehicles, motorcycles, scooters and bicycles ranging from \$100 - \$500.

Since 2006 AE has awarded over \$65,000 to participating utility customers.

Links:

[CTCC plug in your wheels information](#)

Plug-in Partners: Austin Energy's offers EV rebate to research smart charging



CTCC stakeholder Austin Energy is preparing for an anticipated spike in Austin's electricity demand as more and more people switch to plug in electric vehicles. In exchange for a rebate of up to \$1,500 for the purchase and installation of a charging device, PEV owners will agree to tell Austin Energy how they use their cars and help the utility develop ways to manage PEV demand on Austin's electric system.

The pilot program will be in place until Austin Energy develops a smart charging system. The program offers Austin's early adopters a personal charging station to go along with the more than 100 public EV charging stations in the Austin area.

Links:

[Austin Energy Plug-in Partners web site](#)

TX Railroad Commission establishes new round of grant funds for CNG vehicles courtesy of NGV America

On Friday, the Texas Railroad Commissioners announced that the Commission has about \$700,000 available in grants to help public fleets, such as those operated by school districts, cities and counties, purchase new, ultra-low-emission natural gas vehicles. The grant funding, which the Commission originally received to use for propane vehicles, has now been expanded to NGVs and can be used to offset some or all of the incremental costs of a natural gas fuel system on a new or retrofitted vehicle.

Matching funds for the purchase of the vehicles must come from non-federal sources. Public fleets statewide are eligible to apply for these grants regardless of the fleet location's air-quality classification.



This story originally appeared in NGV America's April 23 newsletter. NGV America is a CNG trade association. [Click here to visit their website](#)

Links:

[NGV America](#)
[Texas Railroad Commission](#)



Plug-In 2012: plug-in hybrids and EV transport

Registration is now open for the Plug-In 2012 Conference. The fifth annual international conference, organized by the Electric Power Research Institute, will take place July 23-26, 2012, in San Antonio, Texas. The agenda will include the conference, workshops, a ride-n-drive, more than 20 confirmed exhibitors plus breakout sessions with working experts in three tracks: cars, charging and community. To register or reserve a booth for the event, visit

www.plugin2012.com.

THERE'S ONLY ONE THING YOU NEED TO WORRY ABOUT...



**SELECT THE AMERICAN,
ALTERNATIVE FUEL YOU WANT TO USE...**

AND USE IT.

NATURAL GAS - ETHANOL - ELECTRICITY - PROPANE - BIODIESEL

**DON'T WASTE ANYONE'S TIME BY DECRYING ANOTHER
ALTERNATIVE - SELECT YOURS, USE IT, AND JOIN IN LOCAL
EFFORTS TO MOVE THAT ALTERNATIVE FORWARD.
HELP AMERICA TRULY CHANGE!**

**BROUGHT TO YOU BY AMERICANS FOR CLEANER AMERICAN FUELS, JOBS AND ENERGY
INDEPENDENCE, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS YOUR LOCAL CLEAN CITIES COALITION.**

Fuel Corner

<i>Gulf Coast Fuel Prices</i>			
	<i>Q1 2012</i>	<i>Q4 2011</i>	<i>Number of data points</i>
<i>Gasoline</i>	\$3.15	\$3.23	20
<i>Petrodiesel</i>	\$3.77	\$3.65	18
<i>Biodiesel B20</i>	\$3.91	\$3.74	7
<i>Biodiesel B90/B100</i>	\$3.50	\$3.73	1
<i>CNG</i>	\$1.89	\$1.75	8
<i>Propane</i>	\$2.89	\$3.05	29
<i>Ethanol</i>	\$3.05	\$3.04	32

Average prices for alternative fuels on the Gulf Coast are shown in the table above. As this table illustrates, alternative fuel prices relative to conventional fuels vary considerably, with some (biodiesel) higher and some (CNG, E85, and propane) lower.

Relative to the last report from October 2011, the average prices for most of the fuels included in this price report have increased slightly, while the

remaining fuel prices decreased by as much as 9 cents. It should be noted that the price changes could be attributed both to an actual change in price and to a slightly differing sample of prices (both location and quantity). Click here for the latest quarterly alt. fuels price report.

Links:

[Q1 2012 DOE Clean Cities Alt. fuels price report](#)

U.S. Natural Gas reserves at record high levels

courtesy of NGV America

The American Gas Association has released a reported titled Preliminary Findings Concerning 2011 Natural Gas Reserves, which estimates that U.S. natural gas producers found and replaced more gas reserves than was consumed in 2011. In short, the gas reserve estimate continues to grow. Natural gas reserves are those quantities of natural gas estimated to exist as the result of drilling and completion of existing wells. Natural gas resources, assessed by groups such as the Potential Gas Committee, represent a broader definition of all natural gas in place that may be considered as future supply, including gas yet to be discovered. Future natural gas supply estimates are a combination of the two,

which is 2,100 trillion cubic feet (Tcf) or greater. That represents about 100 years of supply at current gas production rates. The previous domestic reserves record of 293 Tcf was recorded in 1967. AGA estimates that proved U.S. reserves may be as high as 300 Tcf, today, a new reserves record.

NGVAMERICA
Natural Gas Vehicles for America

This story originally appeared in NGV America's April 23 newsletter. NGV America is a CNG trade association. [Click here to visit their website](#)

BAF gets CARB cert. for 2012 CNG Ford vans and pickups

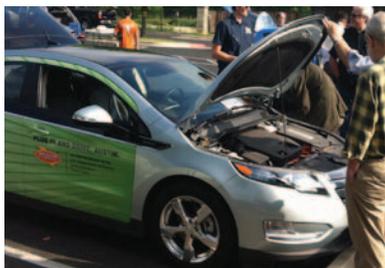
courtesy of NGV America

Last month, BAF Technologies announced that it had received a California Air Resources Board (CARB) Executive Orders for its CNG-powered 2012 Ford F-Series 250/350 pickups and E-Series 250/350 vans. The CARB Executive Orders allow the vehicles to be sold and operated in California, the state with the most stringent emissions control rules, effective immediately, as well as in sixteen other states that follow CARB rules. In effect, the Ford F-Series 250/350 pickups and E-Series 250/350 vans with BAF conversion systems will now be available in all 50 states.

In addition to the F-Series 250/350 pickups and E-250/350 vans, BAF has CARB certs for the 2012 F-450/550/650 utility body, the F-53/59 commercial chassis, the E-450 shuttle, and the Ford Transit Connect. Also for 2012, BAF has EPA certifications for all of these vehicles as well as the bifuel CNG E-250/350 vans and F-250/350 pickups.

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Natural Gas Vehicles for America

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'April Fuels Day' shows off alternative fuel cars.

At the beginning of April, the First Unitarian Universalist church of Austin near Hyde Park held its first ever April Fuels Day, an opportunity for people to get hands on testing of most of the alternative fuel cars now available on the market. CTCC stakeholders Austin Energy and Texas Gas Service showed off electric and natural gas vehicles alongside Austinites who brought along their Nissan Leafs, Toyota Priuses, electric golf carts and even a Tesla roadster. CTCC exhibited at the event.

Heart of Texas Green Expo, June 8-9, 2012 Bastrop Texas

The City of Austin and Central Texas Clean Cities are sponsoring the first Heart of Texas Green Expo in Bastrop Texas this June. The Goal of the Green Expo is to help people envision a more sustainable, greener future by exploring topics such as green building, sustainable energy sources, organic gardening, and vehicle technologies. Central Texas Clean Cities is organizing the Advanced Vehicle Technologies area where attendees can kick the tires, get under the hood and even ride in the latest natural gas, electric, hybrid and high fuel economy vehicles on the market. Several CTCC stakeholders are participating in this first annual event!

The newest Toyota Dealership in Central Texas, and the only LEED Gold certified building, Lost Pines Toyota, will have their latest line of Prius family vehicles on display including the new Prius 3rd Generation, the Prius C, Prius V and the Prius Plug in. General Motors and Ford will have new vehicles on location, all boasting fuel efficiency without sacrificing comfort and room.

Exhibiting how to charge your new all-electric and Plug in Hybrid, ECOTality and EATON will display their charging stations. Event goers will get up close and personal with these chargers see just how functional and easy these chargers to operate, how seamless the charging process, and how little it costs to operate an electrically charged vehicle.

Ever wondered about biodiesel? CTCC's Diesel Green Fuels will not only exhibit but participate in the ongoing speaking sessions through out the 2 days of activities.

The Texas Natural Gas Utilities, promoting natural gas as a vehicular fuel will exhibit the Honda Civic GX, Chevy Impala, and Dodge Ram CNG vehicles plus the Phill home refueling demo.

One of CTCC's newest stakeholders Rocket Electrics in Austin will bring their really cool electric bikes so people can test drive and see how much fun they are.

The event will feature 40 speakers, a variety of demonstrations and in-depth workshops, plus about 50 vendor/exhibitors, including Central latexes Clean Cities. Live music and family-friendly activities will round out the event.

For more information on this event go to www.heartoftexasgreenexpo.org

Contact Central Texas Clean Cities

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Upcoming events

June 8-9, 2012:

Heart of Texas Green Expo sponsored by CTCC and the City of Austin in Bastrop. [Click here to register.](#)

June 18-20, 2012:

Government Fleet Expo & Conference 2012. [Click here to register.](#)

June 18-20, 2012:

Planning under the New CAFE and anticipated Tier 3 standards. [Click here to register.](#)

July 23-26, 2012

Plug-in 2012 conference in San Antonio. [Click here to register.](#)

