

Upcoming Events

Ann Arbor Earth Day Festival

April 24, 2005, Ann Arbor Farmers Market, noon to 4:00 pm

This annual community celebration features a host of environmental, nonprofit, and governmental organizations. The event showcases alternative fuel vehicles and technologies. If you are interested in displaying an alt fuel vehicle/technology, contact Sean Reed, (734) 994-4780.

11th Annual Clean Cities Conference & Exposition

May 1-4, 2005 in Palm Springs, California

If anything is happening in the alternative fuels/advanced transportation technologies community, it will have a presence at the Palm Springs conference. To learn more and register for the Conference, go to: www.afvi.org

Save the Date: Ann Arbor Green Fair

June 17, 2005, Main Street, 6 pm to 9 pm

UPS, DaimlerChrysler, and EPA Launch Fuel Cell "Sprinter"

In a promising industry-government partnership, senior executives from **UPS** and **DaimlerChrysler** joined with the **EPA** to launch the nation's first medium-duty fuel cell delivery vehicle. Since February 2004, UPS has been using DaimlerChrysler's smaller "F-cell" vehicle to deliver packages in Ann Arbor.. The program's recently enacted second phase has placed a full sized "Sprinter" fuel cell van into commercial use on our local streets! By putting this larger vehicle into commercial service, the partners can evaluate fuel cell performance and durability under real world conditions, including ways to safely and effectively fuel the vehicles. The EPA's Ann Arbor lab hosts the only generally accessible hydrogen refueling station in what is expected to be a network of stations across the Midwest. This initiative responds to the national challenge set out by the President to move the country toward greater use of hydrogen as a fuel of the future. Hydrogen fuel cell vehicles help reduce U.S. dependence on foreign oil.

the numbers

- 67 EPA combined (city and highway) fuel economy of 1986 Chevrolet Sprinter
- 55 EPA combined fuel economy of 2005 Toyota Prius
- 57 Average combined fuel economy of 1986's top 10 fuel efficient vehicles
- 44 Average combined fuel economy of 2005's top 10 fuel efficient vehicles

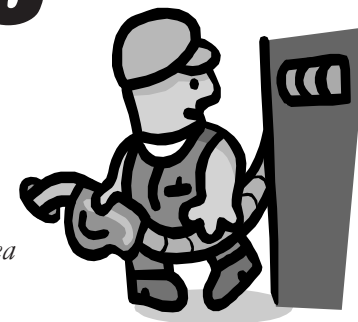


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CLEAN FUELS NEWS

Winter 2005

*Up-to-the-minute news
and information on
alternative fuels and
vehicles brought to you
by the Ann Arbor Area
Clean Cities Coalition*



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Clean Fuels News is a quarterly publication of the Ann Arbor Area Clean Cities Coalition (AACC). Editors are David Konkle and Sean Reed.

For more information on AACC, contact Sean Reed at (734) 994-4780 or sreed2@ci.ann-arbor.mi.us

Remember: The cleanest fuel is one you never use!

Union of Concerned Scientists Ranks the Greenest Automakers

Honda increased its lead over its competitors in the biennial race for the title of "Greenest Automaker" awarded by the **Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS)**. **General Motors**, which had the least polluting vehicles of the Big Three automakers just six model years ago, fell behind **DaimlerChrysler** into last place. *Automaker Rankings 2004: The Environmental Performance of Car Companies* is the third installment of the only comprehensive



ranking of the automakers' environmental performance. The report analyzes the smog-forming pollution and heat-trapping emissions of the six largest automakers in the U.S. market, which together account for nine out of every 10 vehicles sold in the

United States. The report encourages consumers to purchase the cleanest, most fuel-efficient car or truck that meets their needs. Fuel economy is a core Clean Cities program area. A rundown of the rankings (1) Honda (2) Nissan (3) Toyota (4) Ford (5) DaimlerChrysler (6) GM. To download the full report, go the Union of Concerned Scientists website: www.ucsusa.org

EPA Develops "Clean" Diesel

The **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's National Vehicle and Fuel Emission's Laboratory (NVFEL)** in Ann Arbor, in collaboration with **Ford Motor Company**, has developed a new cleaner burning diesel technology that could spark a new generation of diesel trucks and cars. **Clean Diesel Combustion (CDC)** technology, which was developed and patented by the EPA, holds the promise of meeting stringent EPA tailpipe emission standards while providing the performance, durability, and fuel efficiency diesel engines are known for. Although today's diesel vehicles are typically 25 to 40 percent more efficient than gasoline vehicles, and are a different breed from the dirty diesels of the sixties and seventies, pollution, particularly nitrogen oxide (NOx), still remains a problem. CDC technology achieves EPA NOx standards through a new diesel combustion process that does not produce NOx during fuel combustion, thus avoiding the need for NOx controls in the exhaust system. Although currently less than one percent of passenger vehicles in the United States are powered by diesel engines, the potential impact of CDC is massive: if one-third of America's cars and trucks were converted to the lab's new technology, the nation would save 1.4 million barrels of oil each day or about the same amount we import from Saudi Arabia. Put some biodiesel in those vehicles and we would save even more!

Clean Fuels Riddle

You drive a gas-guzzling SUV that gets a whopping 10 miles per gallon (mpg). Your spouse drives a sleek and efficient hybrid that gets 100 mpg. Both of you drive the same distance each year. Your spouse sees an ad for a new super-duper hybrid that gets 200 mpg and is lobbying to trade in the old, wasteful 100 mpg hybrid for the new 200 mpg model; thinking that getting this new hybrid to replace the old one will really improve the average miles per gallon of your household.



On the horns of a dilemma, you seek out the one person you trust with questions automotive: your mechanic, Crusty! "What can I do," you ask, "to improve our household's miles per gallon without buying this new hybrid?" Crusty says, "Well, if we tune up your old SUV, and inflate your tires correctly, and remove that four inches of accumulated bird poop on the roof, I'm pretty sure we can get you all the way up to 11 miles per gallon."

What should you do? That's the question. Under which scenario would your household see the biggest improvement in miles per gallon: by getting the new hybrid, or by tuning up the old SUV? The answer can be found on the homepage of the AACC website, www.aaccleancities.org. This riddle appeared on NPR's Cartalk and is credited to Rabbi Jeff Glickman.

Random News Roundup



GM and **Daimler Chrysler** have signed a nonbinding memorandum of understanding to work jointly on the development of a hybrid propulsion system.



According to the **U.S. Department of Energy**, Energy Information Administration's *2005 Annual Energy Outlook*, U.S. petroleum demand is set to grow 37% by the year 2025. Oil imports are projected to comprise 68% of U.S. petroleum needs.



The **Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers**, comprised of Ford Motor Co., DaimlerChrysler, General Motors, and six other car and truck companies have joined with a group of California car dealers in filing a lawsuit opposing California's new air quality regulations. The regulations are the nation's first attempt to lower greenhouse gas emissions.



Member Spotlight: University of Michigan

The **University of Michigan** has been a member of the Ann Arbor Area Clean Cities Coalition since its designation by the U.S. Department of Energy five years ago. To say that the U of M *supports* alternative fuels would be an understatement. By most accounts, the U of M has the largest alternative fuel vehicle fleet of any organization in the state of Michigan: with 465 vehicles operating exclusively on E-85 (ethanol), 109 vehicles running on B-20 (biodiesel), and a few electric vehicles to boot! U of M has taken a comprehensive approach to petroleum reduction by sponsoring vanpooling for its faculty and staff since the 1970's and by providing free bus service. In August 2004, the U of M initiated the joint M-Ride program with the **Ann Arbor Transportation Authority** (another Ann Arbor Clean Cities Coalition member). M-Ride allows U of M students and staff to ride fixed route AATA buses without paying a fare.

Funding Update: 2005 SEP

The U.S. Department of Energy's State Energy Program (SEP) "Special Projects" solicitation for FY 2005 will include a total of approximately \$4 million for the following Clean Cities program areas: (1) Projects that promote the acquisition of commercially-available AFVs that maximize alternative fuel use, especially medium and heavy-duty highway vehicles; (2) projects that promote AFV infrastructure development; (3) projects that promote idle reduction technologies; (4) projects that promote acquisition of heavy-duty hybrid electric vehicles; (5) projects that promote the acquisition of AFV school buses and refueling infrastructure; and (6) projects that support coalition activities. **The Clean Cities program is all about partnerships, if you have a project that you are interested in pursuing, please contact Sean Reed at (734) 994-4780.**



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