

Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities Gazette

Driving the way toward energy independence

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

this issue

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Obama Promotes Energy Blueprint

On March 15, 2013, President Obama announced the second iteration of his *Blueprint for a Clean and Secure Energy Future* at an address at Argonne National Laboratories. The President reiterated his commitment to a sustained “all of the above” energy strategy and urged Congress to take up common sense proposals that will increase domestic oil and alternative fuel production as well as help to transition cars and trucks away from oil.

The Obama Administration is calling on Congress to establish a \$2 billion, 10-year Energy Security Trust that “will support research into a range of cost-effective technologies—like advanced vehicles that run on electricity, home-grown biofuels, fuel cells, and domestically produced natural gas...” The Trust would be funded through mandatory funding from royalty revenues generated by oil and gas development in Federal waters off the Outer Continental Shelf. In addition, the President’s budget proposes to invest more than \$40 million in research to ensure safe and

responsible natural gas production, as part of a \$375 million investment in cleaner energy from fossil fuels.

The President is committed to accelerating the growth of natural gas and other alternative fuel usage in the nations trucking fleets. Specifically, the plan calls for “putting in place new incentives for medium- and heavy-duty trucks that run on natural gas or other alternative fuels, providing a credit for 50 percent of the incremental cost of a dedicated alternative-fuel truck for a five-year period; supporting research to ensure the safe and responsible use of natural gas; and funding to support a select number of deployment communities.”

The Obama Administration Energy Plan can be found at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2013/03/15/fact-sheet-president-obama-s-blueprint-clean-and-secure-energy-future>.



School Districts Operate Propane Fleet

The Metropolitan Omaha Education Consortium and Student Transportation, Inc., (STI) have teamed up to deploy the largest order of propane autogas school buses in industry history. More than 400 Blue Bird Propane-Powered Vision school buses equipped with ROUSH CleanTech propane autogas fuel systems will be transporting students safely while cleaning up the air. The buses will serve Omaha and Millard Public Schools in Nebraska.

According to Omaha Public School's website, the district aims to be "one of the most energy and resource efficient school districts in the country." The order shows their commitment to achieving this goal as these alternative fuel buses reduce carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxide and total hydrocarbon emissions, and virtually eliminate particulate matter, when compared to conventionally fueled school buses. STI estimates a reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by more than 2.3 million pounds a year. The partnership also will save a projected \$300,000 in the first year alone due to lower fuel and maintenance costs.

The Blue Bird Propane-Powered Vision school bus, featuring a 362 horsepower Ford 6.8-liter V-10 engine, meets stringent EPA and California Air Resources Board certification standards. On board the buses, noise levels are decreased by 50 percent when compared to diesel counterparts, giving drivers fewer distractions.

Propane autogas fuels more than 17 million vehicles worldwide. More than 90 percent of the U.S. propane supply is produced domestically, with an additional 7 percent from Canada, resulting in a domestic and secure source of energy.

"This order — the single largest in industry history — proves propane autogas is a perfect fit for school districts or any fleet looking for a clean, domestic and economical alternative fuel solution," said Joe Thompson president of ROUSH CleanTech.

To learn more about these vehicles firsthand, visit ROUSHcleantech.com or email propane@roush.com for more information.

Member Spotlight: Ron Schramm

This month's membership spotlight is Ron Schramm from ProGas. While Ron has only been associated with the Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities (PRCC) for a short time, he has really stepped up to the plate on helping PRCC move propane technology and the use of propane forward in our area. Ron is the President of ProGas. They have locations in Aliquippa, PA, and Zelienople, PA. Ron is participating in the PRCC Training Committee and will be presenting a portion of the PRCC Petroleum Reduction Technologies (PRT) Propane Workshop scheduled for April 26 at CCAC West Hills Center.



Allegheny Front Holds Gathering

The Allegheny Front held a Green Gathering at Baum Blvd Automotive February 23, 2013, from 10:30am to 12:30pm to demonstrate the range of alternative fueled vehicles available to the general public. The Allegheny Front is a radio program covering environmental issue in Western PA.

The event was Beyond the Wheel: Options for Greener Driving. With ten alternative fueled vehicles on display, attendees were able to ask about how the vehicles handle, where to refuel, and how to refuel. A common question was how far can you drive this vehicle? All of these questions were answered by folks who either own or drive these vehicles.



The vehicles included a PHEV Chevy Volt, EV Telsa, RAM 2500HD CNG Bi-fuel Pickup, EV Mitsubishi MiEV, CNG Honda Civic, Chevy Hybrid Pickup, Bio-Diesel Pickup, a CNG Bi-fuel 2500 Chevy Pickup, CMU Charge Car sedan, and an EV Toyota.

Chuck Wichrowski, owner of Baum Blvd Automotive, stated that he wanted to show his customers that these vehicles are available and that we can all help in doing our part by being environmentally prudent with what we drive.

Attendees were given rides in the RAM 2500HD Bi-fuel pickup and the EV Tesla with a 275 mile range. The rides were a huge hit at the event.

Travel Center Idle Reduction

Shorepower Technologies has announced that six more truck stops nationwide have added electric plug-in power pedestals to their locations, including one at Sapp Brothers in Clearfield, PA (I-80, exit 120). There are more than 50 locations around the country that have been outfitted by Shorepower Technologies.

These plug in stations provide long haul truckers with an alternative to idling during their mandatory rest periods, which saves an average of 1 gallon of fuel per hour and their associated emissions – a savings of about \$4,000 per truck, per year. At Sapp Brothers, trucks can plug into one of 24 power pedestals - standard 110v and 220v outlets to power heating, air conditioning, and appliances.



Truck Stop Electric Plug-in Power Pedestals

In addition, they have five new 480v receptacles for refrigerated trailers, which can allow operators to save 40-70% in cost over diesel.

During a special promotional period, power service will be free to drivers through the end of March, 2013. At that time, power service will be priced at \$1/ per hour.

Alan Bates, vice president of marketing for Shorepower Technologies, said “It has the potential to save truck operators so much money in fuel costs and wear and tear on their trucks. In cold

weather, truckers can simply plug in a space heater to stay warm, while running their ‘hotel’ loads.”

Giant Eagle Using Electric Ford Transit



In 2012 Giant Eagle purchased two Electric Ford Transit Connects to use as mail delivery vehicles. Giant Eagle had received a grant to purchase 29 natural gas and electric vehicles and 10 electric charging stations from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection Alternative Fuel Incentive Program in 2010. Giant Eagle has installed those 10 stations along with a number of others, and their mail service vans are now able to recharge when they are making deliveries to their offices,

warehouses, and stores. They are currently deploying about 22 compressed natural gas vehicles, hybrids, plug in electric vehicles (PHEV), and bio-diesel vehicles, and have implemented other technologies like anti-idling and technologies on their refrigeration units and trucks. Through this portfolio of approaches, they are reducing the amount of petroleum based fuel required to meet their transportation needs.

DEP Alt Fuel Incentive Grant Program

Approximately \$10 million in grants will be available through the Alternative Fuels Incentive Grant Program for organizations, non-profit agencies, for-profit companies, commonwealth or municipal authorities, and local transportation organizations. The grant funds available will include an opportunity to propose projects which will convert or purchase natural gas vehicles weighing less than 14,000 pounds as well as convert or purchase electric, propane, or other alternative fuel vehicles of any size.

As is done with the heavy-duty NGV grants, applicants interested in purchasing or converting one or

two alternative fuel vehicles will be encouraged to join forces and aggregate into a single application to satisfy the five vehicle minimum required for application. Applications will also be accepted for innovation in alternative fuel transportation, including non-road vehicles, such as natural gas trains or tug boats.

Stay tuned for additional information coming your way, and future postings on DEP's Natural Gas Vehicle Program website:

http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/act_13/20789/natural_gas_vehicle_program/1157504

Star Transportation Group Surpasses 100,000 Gallons of Propane!

The Star Transportation Group received a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Alternative Fuel Incentive Grant Program in 2009 to up-fit 30 of their ACCESS Vans to propane. "The first propane used was in late 2010, and we are happy to announce we just passed 100,000 gallons," stated Steve Madsen, Controller.



"I know that the Star Transportation Group is using all kinds of alternative fuel and technologies in their fleets," stated Rick Price, Executive Director of Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities.

The Star Transportation group is made up of Classy Cab, Cranberry

Taxi, Air Star Transportation, Star Limousine, and Veterans Taxi, which is the newest taxi service in Pittsburgh and is using compressed natural gas (CNG). They are doing so well that in November Motor Week came into Pittsburgh and did a segment on the company. To see the article go to http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pzLTQASWPP4&feature=youtube_gdata



DEP extends AFV with additional \$1.5M

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) will extend the Alternative Fuel Vehicle Rebate program once it reaches its milestone of awarding 500 \$3,500 rebates for large-battery system plug-in hybrid electric vehicles and battery-electric vehicles.

“As we approach this milestone, DEP and this administration remain committed to seeing this alternative fuels market grow. Because of this commitment, this agency will offer \$3,000 rebates for the next 500 vehicles, which represents an impressive total investment of \$3.35 million toward electric vehicles since 2011,” said DEP Secretary Mike Krancer.

Large-battery vehicles that have battery system capacity equal or greater than 10 kWh, including models such as the Nissan Leaf, Ford Focus and Chevy Volt, are eligible for the highest rebate

amount. DEP also offers rebates of \$1,000 for large-battery system plug-in hybrid electric vehicles and battery-electric vehicles with battery system capacity less than 10 kWh, including models such as the Toyota Prius plug-in and Ford C-Max Energi.

Rebates of \$1,000 are offered for natural gas, propane, hydrogen or fuel-cell vehicles. A \$500 rebate is available for electric motorcycles and scooters.

DEP provides these rebates as incentives to assist Pennsylvanians with the incremental cost of purchasing an alternative fuel vehicle. To qualify, the vehicle must be registered in Pennsylvania, operated primarily in-state and be purchased no more than six months before the rebate application is submitted.

Phase I of the 376 EV Corridor Complete

Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities has completed the first phase of the 376 EV Corridor project under a grant issued by the PA DEP Alternative Fuel Incentive Grant Program. “Under this phase, PRCC partner organizations installed nine (9) Level II Electric Charging Stations,” states Rick Price, Executive Director of PRCC. The stations are located at (1) Bayer Material Sciences in Robinson, at (2) Eaton, Cherrington Way, (2) Eaton Warrendale, (2) UPMC Presbyterian Hospital Garage, and (2) UPMC Montifore Garage.

Rick added, “While Phase II of the 376 EV Corridor is underway with sixteen (16) stations already completed, we are expecting another five or six to be completed by June of this year. This will bring the number of EV charging stations to about 75 in western Pennsylvania. This, along with what is being installed by other companies in the area and along the PA Turnpike, should show folks that there will be enough infrastructure to support additional use of EV and PHEV.”



PRCC Speaks at Gateway High School

Rick Price, Executive Director of Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities, was requested by Science Teacher Joe Vigo to bring an alternative fueled vehicle for his classes to see. Last year Rick and Dr. Lutitia Clipper of Peoples Natural Gas spoke to a class about the Compressed Natural Gas Honda Civic. The vehicle was on loan to PRCC to use as a demo in Western PA. Then later in the year Rick was able to bring a Plug-in Electric Vehicle (PHEV) Chevy Volt for the students to see.



This year Mr. Vigo had two new Freshman Science classes that were able to see the new RAM 2500HD B-fuel CNG pickup which was on loan from Chrysler. "I was able to show the students how the components differed between the gasoline version and this new bi-fuel vehicle," Price stated. In addition to the vehicle, Mr. Price was able to show the classes a video about CNG from the Petroleum Reduction Technologies (PRT) Workshop series. The students are currently engaged in a project to show different types of hybrid style vehicles including EV, PHEV,

Alt. Fuel Station Coming to Brookville

Natural Fuel Gas Distribution Corporation (National Fuel), a longstanding regional natural gas utility, and "O" Ring CNG Fuel Systems, L.P., a Pennsylvania leader in the compressed natural gas (CNG) industry, have announced that the two companies are in the process of structuring an agreement to partner in a cooperative venture to install a CNG vehicle fueling station off the Interstate 80 exit in Brookville, PA, early next year. "O" Ring CNG Fuel Systems will own and operate the facility with National Fuel providing funding support. The station will be operated by the subsidiary of "O" Ring CNG, CNG Motor Fuels of Jefferson County.

The station, located at the old USA gas station next to Plyler's restaurant, will have a natural gas education center located inside, in place of a convenience store. The center's focus will be to promote the natural gas industry and compressed natural gas in particular. In addition to selling CNG, the station will also offer traditional gasoline and diesel to accommodate both bi-fuel and dual-fuel traffic as well as traditional vehicles who have not yet made the switch to alternative fuels.

Brookville residents and other local consumers should expect some good "sticker shock," as the price of CNG will be similar to what Americans paid for gas 30 years ago. The Brookville station will sell CNG at a rate of \$2.25 per gas gallon equivalent (GGE) for the foreseeable future. The amazing price for fuel alone will be a great incentive for fuel consumers to convert to natural gas. But there are other compelling incentives as well:

Compressed natural gas, or CNG, is an increasingly popular form of vehicle fuel in the United States. As a significantly cleaner, safer, less expensive, and indigenous fuel source in America, there is literally no downside for our nation to convert to natural gas vehicles. For Pennsylvanians in particular, the opportunities for economic growth through the natural gas industry and CNG are extensive.

Pennsylvania sits atop the 2nd largest natural gas play in the world: the Marcellus Shale play. With improvements in technology that have led to efficient deep gas drilling into this play, Pennsylvania now has access to enough natural (cont. next page)

Brookville Alt. Fuel Station (cont.)

gas to power every combustion engine in North America for 150 years, by most estimates.

That translates into an enormous opportunity for a positive economic shift in Pennsylvania and even the United States overall. As the largest oil consumer in the world, the United States quenches its thirst for oil at an extremely costly rate of approximately \$1,000,000 per minute – every minute of every day of the year. As our national deficit continues to increase at astronomical rates, taking control of our economical situation is not a luxury but a necessity.

Properly utilized, Pennsylvania's natural gas has the potential to turn the economic tide. The ripple effect that occurs from saving millions of dollars spent on foreign oil combined with the increased regional jobs and fuel savings for working Americans, adds up to a triple benefit for the Pennsylvania and United States economies. Natural gas could be just the economic boost our nation needs while simultaneously reducing our dependence on foreign oil and reducing our national deficit.

Local entrepreneur, Robert Beatty, President of "O" Ring CNG Fuel Systems, L.P., has been using CNG in his fleet of vehicles for 8 years, ever since he built his first natural gas fueling station. "I can personally attest to the great economic benefit natural gas has provided for me and my company. Converting to natural gas literally cut our monthly

fuel bills in half, which provides so much extra working capital to hire employees and generally keep a successful business running." Beatty currently owns and operates 3 CNG fuel stations in Coolspring, Punxsutawney, and Rimersburg, PA. "I am thrilled to be opening our CNG station and educational facility on the boulevard in Brookville. As our 4th CNG station and our first CNG educational center, I think this will be a central flagship for our operations. We plan to keep expanding outward in our region."

National Fuel Gas Company will take part in the project by supplying natural gas to the site, as well as utilizing and promoting the educational center. Education regarding the natural gas industry is critical, as many Americans do not understand the increased safety, environmental, and economic benefits of using natural gas. The center will be used to show citizens how safe the drilling and hydraulic fracturing processes are, how much cleaner and more efficient natural gas is in comparison to petroleum-base fuels, and how the ripple effect of using our own natural resources can improve our local and national economies significantly.

To learn more about the increased safety, economic, and environmental benefits of using CNG, please refer to www.oringcng.com.

RAM 2500 HD Pickup on Loan to PRCC

Chris Meyers from Chrysler loaned the new RAM 2500HD Pickup to Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities (PRCC) to loan to fleet managers and municipalities in Western Pennsylvania. "I was able to get the vehicle to a number of fleets for a couple of days each as well as take the vehicle to a number of events," stated Rick Price, Executive Director of PRCC. "You need to get these vehicles into fleet operators' hands and let them drive them. Then they can see there is basically no difference in how they drive on CNG. This is an important way that we can help to educate the public about using CNG

as a transportation fuel. I was even able to get the vehicle to a number of the DOE Clean Cities Program Managers and let them drive it."

"As more and more stations become available in our area and as Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) start making more models available, we will start to see this market take off. The reinstatement of the tax incentives through the end of this year will move it even faster," stated Rick.

PRCC Question of the Month

Question of the Month: Where can I find information specific to alternative fuel and advanced vehicles in Pennsylvania?

Answer: The Alternative Fuels Data Center (AFDC) State Information portal (<http://www.afdc.energy.gov/states/>), one of the many resources found on the AFDC Tools page (<http://www.afdc.energy.gov/tools/>), is a great source for state-specific information on alternative fuels and advanced vehicles. Each state page is a “one stop shop” with specific information about incentives and laws, locations of alternative fueling stations, truck stop electrification (TSE) sites, fuel prices, and Clean Cities coalitions.

As an example, the Pennsylvania state page <http://www.afdc.energy.gov/states/PA>) contains:

- A list of Pennsylvania laws and incentives recently added to the AFDC Laws and Incentives website (http://www.afdc.energy.gov/laws/state_summary/PA) and links to the appropriate Web page for more information. Once on the AFDC Laws and Incentives page, use the Advanced Search options to identify information on current incentives and laws pertaining to alternative fuels and advanced vehicles. You can identify specific incentives in your state by fuel type, incentive/law type, and user type.
- A count of the total number of Pennsylvania alternative fueling stations in the AFDC Alternative Fueling Station Locator (<http://www.afdc.energy.gov/locator/stations/>), broken down by fuel and access type (public and private). Clicking on the link for each fuel type will bring you to the Station Locator results page and a map of the appropriate stations.
- A list of the Pennsylvania Clean Cities coalitions, as well as Coordinator contact information and a link to Regional Manager information.
- Links to TransAtlas (<http://maps.nrel.gov/transatlas>) and BioFuels Atlas (<http://maps.nrel.gov/biomass>).
 - The TransAtlas tool contains information on alternative fuel vehicle (AFV) density and biofuel production facilities. To access state specific data in TransAtlas, select “Find Location” at the top of the screen and type in “Pennsylvania” to see the desired information for this state.
 - The BioFuels Atlas tool includes data on the use and potential production of biofuels, including feedstock availability and bioenergy plans. To access state specific information in BioFuels Atlas, select “Pennsylvania” under the drop-down menu at the top of the screen for “State View.” This will generate a summary of the state at the bottom of the page.
- A count of the total number of Pennsylvania TSE sites in the AFDC TSE Locator (<http://www.afdc.energy.gov/afdc/locator/tse/>) and a link to the Locator.
- A link to the Pennsylvania Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy in My State page (http://apps1.eere.energy.gov/states/state_home.cfm/state=PA). This page provides renewable energy information for Pennsylvania, including statistics, renewable resource maps, policies and incentives, U. S. Department of Energy projects and activities, and relevant news.

In addition to the AFDC, state-specific information can be found on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s State and Local Climate and Energy Program page (<http://epa.gov/statelocalclimate/>), which provides case studies, greenhouse gas emissions inventories, and climate action plans for select states. Specifically, the transportation page (<http://epa.gov/statelocalclimate/state/topics/transportation.html>) provides information on federal transportation partnership programs as well as ways states have promot-

Natural Gas Filling Stations

PRCC and our partners throughout Western Pennsylvania are working hard to construct natural gas vehicle infrastructure throughout the region. Below is a list of actual and proposed natural gas filling stations throughout the region.

Public

Lehigh Gas -Exxon

3180 College Ave
State College, PA 16801

EQT Strip District

2926 Smallman Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

Giant Eagle GetGo

755 Beechnut Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15205

Innovative Entrepreneurs

6363 Route 36
Coolsprings, PA 15730

Innovative Entrepreneurs

601 S Main Street
Punxsutawney, PA 15767

Innovative Entrepreneurs

10588 Route 68 N
Rimersburg, PA 16248

Waste Management Station

200 Rangos Lane
Washington, PA

Private

Centre Area Transit Authority

2081 W Whitehall Rd
State College, PA 16801

CNG One Source

190 Oak Grove Circle
Franklin, PA 16323

Dept. of Energy - NETL

626 Cochrans Mill Rd
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

Equitable Gas

65 Ginger Hill Rd
Finleyville, PA 15332

FYDA Energy Solutions

20 FYDA Drive
Cannonsburg, PA 15317

Giant Eagle Warehouse

755 Beechnut Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15205

Iron City Uniform

6440 Frankstown Rd
Pittsburgh, PA 15208

Pennsylvania State University

Park Ave
University Park, PA 16802

Peoples Natural Gas

100 E Bellwood Ave
Altoona, PA 16602

Peoples Natural Gas

3115 Elton Rd
Johnstown, PA 15904

Peoples Natural Gas

4101 Gibsonia Rd
Gibsonia, PA 15044

Peoples Natural Gas

432 Hyde Park Rd
Leechburg, PA 15656

Peoples Natural Gas

195 Donahoe Rd
Greensburg, PA 15601

Peoples Natural Gas

1658 W Main St
Grove City, PA 16127

Peoples Natural Gas

1201 Pitt St
Wilkinsburg, PA 15221

Peoples Natural Gas

1315 Gringo Rd
Aliquippa, PA 15001

United State Steel - Irvin Plant

Camp Hollow Rd
West Mifflin, PA 15122

Natural Gas Filling Stations

Planned

American Natural

Southside
Pittsburgh, PA 15203

AR Natural Gas Refueling Systems

Ducansville, PA 16635

BeeMac Trucking

2747 Legionville Rd
Ambridge, PA 15003

CNG One Source

Route 8 and Franklin St
Franklin, PA 16323

CNG One Source

Allegheny Blvd
Brookville, PA 15825

CNG One Source

Northeast, PA 16428

Giant Eagle Getgo

Route 228
Cranberry, PA 16066

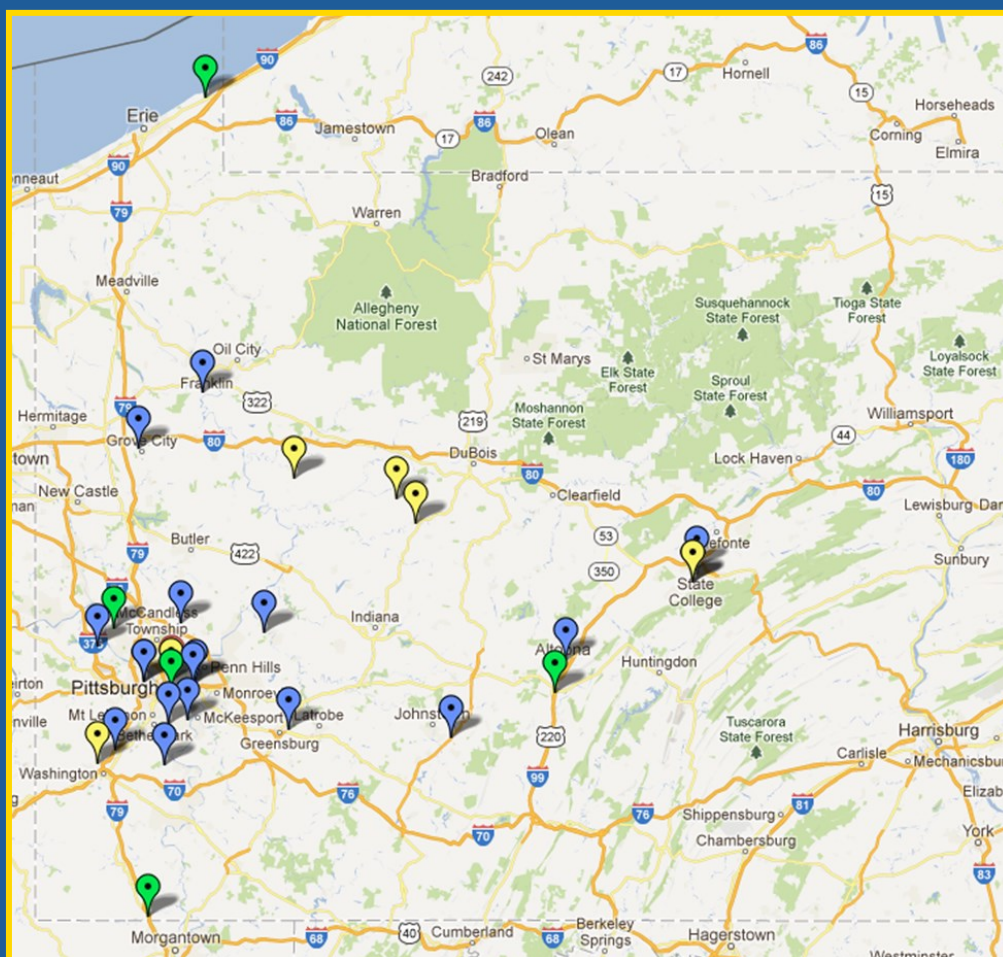
Giant Eagle Getgo

Waynesburg, PA 15370

IGS Energy

Mt Morris, PA

The map below depicts the locations of natural gas refueling stations in Southwestern Pennsylvania. Stations are identified by the following colors: private stations are in blue, public stations are in yellow, and planned stations are in green. A listing of the addresses for the natural gas refuel stations identified in the map is also included.



PRCC Sustaining Members



Upcoming Events

- Tank Inspection Prep Classes in April and May/CCAC
- Petroleum Reduction Technologies Propane (April 26th)
- EV Workshops (June 21st)
- Stakeholder Meeting (April 26th)



Membership

Pittsburgh Region Clean Cities is always looking for new members! Our job is to help you understand the value and importance of converting to alternative fuels. We can tell you about the incentives available to you for using alternative fuels. We can help guide you through making smart financial and environmental choices about purchasing an alternative fueled vehicle or using an alternative fuel. Become a member, and we can help you assess your fleet and objectives, as well as work with you to acquire funding assistance. If you would like to join and/or volunteer, please contact Rick Price at coordinator@pgh-cleancities.org

Contribute Your News!

We want to showcase your news and successes, and we welcome ideas for articles. Please feel free to contact Rick Price, Executive Director/Coordinator, at 412-735-4114 or at coordinator@pgh-cleancities.org

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