



# Virginia Clean Cities



Stakeholder Newsletter

Volume 1 - January

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Diamond and Platinum Level Stakeholders



## Alternative Fuel Tax Extender Legislation



On Dec. 19, President Obama signed the Tax Increase Prevention Act of 2014 into law, which among its provisions, offers a retroactive extension of the federal \$0.50/gallon alternative fuels excise tax credits and a return of the 30% alternative refueling infrastructure tax credits. The alternative fuel credit alone is worth some \$397 million.

However, Congress did not opt to extend the credits into 2015 and beyond. Taking that into consideration, the Senate Finance Committee will have to start negotiations again when they return in January. Senator Orrin Hatch, the incoming Chairman of the Committee, stated that he hopes to achieve permanency for these tax credits.

Included in the bill are Amendments to the Internal Revenue Code that would extend certain expiring tax provisions relating to the energy sector in H.R. 5771. The excise tax credits cover compressed natural gas (CNG), liquefied natural gas (LNG), propane autogas and other alternative transportation fuels.

H.R.5771 reinstates the \$1,000 home refueling tax credit for 2014, and the 30% alternative refueling infrastructure tax credit. The credit, that is capped at \$30,000, is an incentive designed to promote building CNG and other refueling stations.

President Obama also signed the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal-year 2015. This legislation contains a provision modifying the federal Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) program. In the past, original equipment manufacturers could earn credits for compliance with the CAFE program by producing bi-fuel vehicles, subject to a cap in the number of credits. However, the new NDAA provision removes the credit cap for bi-fuel natural gas vehicles.

If you have any questions about these tax credits, please contact Alleyn Harned at (540) 568-8896, or your tax professional.

## Virginia Clean Cities Awarded Hydrogen Grant



Virginia Clean Cities is pleased to announce a Department of Energy award to develop a Fuel Cell Hydrogen Opportunity Center. The project is a partnership with Birch Studio and Fuel Cell 2000 and will expand the domestic supply chain of components and systems. These systems are necessary for the manufacture and scale-up of the fuel cell and hydrogen supply chain by building and populating a comprehensive communications database. VCC will drive U.S. companies to the site through an aggressive outreach campaign. This effort will advance fuel cell suppliers in all sectors, with a focus on the transportation sector in fuel and infrastructure supply chain systems. The project will identify gaps and develop elements of interest for a comprehensive supplier tool, gather national supplier information to fill the database, identify and encourage new suppliers to become engaged in the hydrogen industry, and release and maintain a public directory tool for interaction with the data. The outcome will be a bigger and stronger U.S. hydrogen and fuel cell supply chain.

### 2015 Energy Independence Summit



Virginia Clean Cities invites you to join us for the 2015 Energy Independence Summit in Washington D.C. from February 22-24. For more information, and to register, visit [www.transportationenergypartners.org](http://www.transportationenergypartners.org). This is your chance to join the nation's premier clean transportation leaders to discuss best practices and educate federal policymakers on driving America to a clean transportation future!

This is an annual event coordinated by Transportation Energy Partners, an independent, national non-profit policy and education organization that works toward energy independence by creating and implementing a national fuel and technology neutral strategy to advance clean vehicle goals and policies.

### Roanoke Unveils New Public DC Fast Charger



In November Roanoke unveiled an Eaton Quick Charger powered by municipal service on Market Street near Salem Avenue. It is the fastest charging equipment available and helps chain together the developing charging station network along the East Coast. The equipment can refill an electric vehicle in 30 minutes.

The new unit is the only high-speed charging station west of Charlottesville. "It clearly puts us on the map," said Ken Cronin, director of general services for the city.

Virginia Clean Cities assisted with the procurement of this equipment and the city installed it.

This public-private partnership arrangement "represents the type of partnership that we would like to see throughout Virginia," according to executive director Alleyn Harned.

### Alternative Fuel Vehicle Roadshows



Maryland Clean Cities and Virginia Clean Cities, partnered to implement a 4-city educational tour of the Mid-Atlantic region, November 18th-21st, with stops in Richmond and Chesapeake to showcase an array of clean-fuel vehicles. Alternative fuel experts touted the benefits of propane, natural gas, electric and biofuels to replace traditional gasoline and diesel.

"The City of Richmond is pleased to be one of the cities welcoming this roadshow," said Mayor Dwight C. Jones. "We have a Green Richmond Initiative, under which we converted all of our refuse trucks to run on compressed natural gas. We are saving money, operating more efficiently and being friendlier to the environment."

## Work Truck Show and Green Truck Summit on March 4-6th in Indianapolis



The Work Truck Show 2015 and Green Truck Summit is the one-stop-shop for all work truck industry professionals. Interact with thousands of industry peers, meet with current suppliers, get answers to critical technical questions, visit with hundreds of exhibiting companies and learn the latest industry information in a variety of educational sessions. For more information and registration, please click [www.ntea.com/worktruckshow](http://www.ntea.com/worktruckshow). This trade show is North America's largest gathering of vocational trucks and transportation equipment from Classes 1-8. This is a must-attend event, with dozens of industry suppliers introducing new products and revealing product innovations at the show, and several thousand decision-makers and industry professionals in attendance. Contact Virginia Clean Cities about stakeholder discounts and free exhibit hall badges!

### Biofuel Workshop

Virginia Clean Cities will be hosting a Biofuels Workshop on January 30, 2015 from 9am-1pm at the Virginia Farm Bureau at 12580 West Creek Parkway in Richmond.

Join us to learn about the benefits of biodiesel and ethanol in Virginia and hear from producers, fleets and retailers who are utilizing this cleaner, domestic fuel. Lunch will be provided.

For more information, please contact Michael Phillips at [mphillips@vacleancities.org](mailto:mphillips@vacleancities.org) or 804-482-1790. To register online, please follow this link <http://www.vacleancities.org/events/upcoming-events/>



### Nissan LEAF Sets Annual Sales Record



In 2014 the Nissan LEAF became the first plug-in vehicle ever to see sales of 30,000 units in a single year.

In the US, Nissan sold 30,200 LEAFs in 2014, a significant improvement on the previous year's sales number of 22,610 units. Worldwide, LEAF sales were up to about 60,000, which is also a record.

"The LEAF is more popular than ever," stated Brendan Jones, director, Nissan Electric Vehicle Sales and Infrastructure. "From the beginning our vision was to bring electric vehicles to the mass market in a practical and fun-to-drive package, which is what makes Nissan LEAF the best-selling electric car in the world."

### Upcoming Events

- 1/19/15 - National Biodiesel Conference and Expo, Fort Worth, TX
- 1/30/15 - Biofuel Workshop, Richmond, VA
- 2/3/15 - Clean Energy Lobby Day, Richmond, VA
- 2/18/15 - National Ethanol Conference, Grapevine, TX
- 2/22/15 - Energy Independence Summit, Washington, D.C.
- 3/4/15 - Work Truck Show and Green Truck Summit, Indianapolis, IN
- 3/17/15 - Energy & Sustainability Conference, Richmond, VA
- 3/26/15 - 2nd Annual Rally at the Raceway, Richmond, VA
- 5/19/15 - Electric Drive Transportation Association Conference, Indianapolis, IN
- 5/4/15 - ACT Expo, Dallas, TX
- 6/4/15 - June Stakeholder Luncheon, Norfolk, VA
- 8/13/15 - August Stakeholder Breakfast, Roanoke, VA

## Virginia Clean Cities Staff and Responsibilities



**Alleyn Harned, Executive Director**

540-568-8896 [aharned@vacleancities.org](mailto:aharned@vacleancities.org)

Leads VCC's collaborative effort to assist stakeholders and the Commonwealth in programs to improve air quality, and increase American energy security and economic opportunity through the increased use of alternative fuels and vehicles.



**Michael Phillips, Program Coordinator**

804-482-1790 [mphillips@vacleancities.org](mailto:mphillips@vacleancities.org)

Manages alternative fuel projects and events and leads VCC's public relations and media campaign.



**Matthew Wade, Program Coordinator**

540-568-4091 [mwade@vacleancities.org](mailto:mwade@vacleancities.org)

Manages alternative fuel projects and has experience working with local governments. Matt manages the stakeholder newsletters.



**Kaitlin Pomerleau, Administrative & Financial Coordinator**

540-568-4854 [kpomerleau@vacleancities.org](mailto:kpomerleau@vacleancities.org)

Oversees VCC's administrative needs, accounting policies and procedures, and supports sponsored projects and contracts.



**Kayla Cook, Intern**

540-568-5707 [kcook@vacleancities.org](mailto:kcook@vacleancities.org)

Maintains the alternative fuel vehicle and station inventory and other alternative fuel-related research topics.



**Sabrene Graves** will be moving on from VCC this month. We thank her for her leadership and hard work during her 2.5+ years with VCC and wish her all the best! For any assistance or questions during this transition period, please contact Alleyn Harned.

Virginia Clean Cities counts on a diverse membership base to facilitate our mission. 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).

## Thank You to Our New and Renewing Stakeholders!



TFC Recycling is Virginia's largest residential curbside recycler. Through partnerships and agreements with local governments and public service authorities, TFC provides recycling for over 700,000 households in six of Virginia's largest cities, and more than 4,000 commercial customers in Virginia and North Carolina.



Jones & Frank has emerged as a leader in alternative fuels by providing solutions to the many unknowns and unanswered questions surrounding these leading edge technologies.



Clipper Creek is an industry pioneer with 18 years of real world EV charging expertise providing the safest, most innovative, and smartest grid-ready EV charging stations on the market.



City of Richmond is a leader in alternative fuel deployment. The City's Department of Public Utilities has several natural gas refuse haulers in service, and the City supports efforts to educate other municipalities about the advantages of alternative fuels.

You can also follow VCC on Twitter at [@VACleanCities](https://twitter.com/VACleanCities)

or

[www.facebook.com/virginiacleancities](http://www.facebook.com/virginiacleancities)