



Dallas-Fort Worth
CLEAN CITIES

DFW Clean Cities Newsflash

Official Publication of the Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Coalition

September - October 2021

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Who We Are: Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities (DFWCC) is a program of the [North Central Texas Council of Governments](#) (NCTCOG) and the [Regional Transportation Council](#). DFWCC's goal is to advance economic, environmental, and energy security through increasing efficiency and reducing emissions from transportation.

Get Recognized! Stakeholders and Sponsors are invited to submit any updates/success stories/info about new projects or initiatives to be added to future Newsflashes upon review.

DFW Clean Cities is here for all your alternative transportation fuel and technology needs. Reach out to us for any technical assistance or general inquiries related to Clean Cities.

Training

- Alternative Fuel Vehicle First Responder Safety Training Webinars
- Alternative Fuel Vehicle Safety Training for Fire Service
- National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium Manuals Available

Clean Cities Sponsorship

DFW Clean Cities relies on sponsor support to fund certain initiatives, including hosting workshops, trainings, developing educational materials, or providing non-federal matching funds on grant proposals. Please go to <https://www.dfwcleancities.org/sponsorus> for details on how to sponsor us!

Thanks to our Level 2 DFW Clean Cities Sponsor: FreeWire!

FREEWIRE

Events

North Texas National Drive Electric Week (NDEW)

From Saturday, September 25 to Sunday, October 3, the NCTCOG/DFWCC held a full slate of virtual and in-person events in celebration of National Drive Electric Week (NDEW)! The weeklong celebrations included webinars on fleet electrification, adopting EV-charging to make your community a destination point, and the benefits of EV charging at workplaces. Recordings and slide decks from the virtual presentations may be found at [DFW Clean Cities Events](#).



Imagery provided by: Rick Bollar, North Texas Tesla Owners Group

On Sunday, October 3, DFWCC hosted the annual outdoor NDEW event bringing the public together to celebrate and showcase EVs and EV owners in north Texas! This year's North Texas NDEW gathering was one of the largest to date, with 771 attendees and 229 EVs having registered. The North Texas NDEW kicked off at 4 P.M. with a showcase of various models and price points of EVs, as well as an electric school bus to view and walk-through. Delivery One, eCarra, Good Faith Energy, iDrive1, Lion Electric, North Texas Electric Auto Association, North Texas Tesla Owners Group, ONCOR, SANAVA LLC, SparkCharge, Wells Fargo, and Winston Solar were the industry-leading exhibitors who spoke with attendees. DFWCC staff handed out over 300 "rEVolution" NDEW shirts to the 320 pre-registered attendees who checked-in and 42 attendees who signed up on-site. This was also the first year to have a food truck at the event, and EV owners were given a token for free sliders thanks to the sponsorships of North Texas Tesla Owners Group and ONCOR. Talented high schoolers from The Winston School came with their solar-powered car. SparkCharge provided mobile EV charging to electric vehicles, and ride and drive sponsors, eCarra and iDrive1 Motorcars, gave an estimated 80 test drives or rides. At 6 p.m. raffle prize winners were drawn, and ONCOR announced their road rally winners for the drivers who came closest to the designated time. After the sun faded, DFWCC hosted an outdoor film screening of "Revenge of the Electric Car" for participants on the REC's turf football field, thanks to sponsorships by the Energy Foundation and North Texas Electric Auto Association (NTEAA). Thank you to the Energy Foundation, North Texas Tesla Owners Group, ONCOR, North Texas Electric Auto Association, SparkCharge, eCarra, and iDrive1 Motorcars for sponsoring this event!



Imagery provided by: NCTCOG



Imagery provided by: NCTCOG

Additional NDEW Events:

September 25 - October 3: Oncor 3rd Annual Electric Vehicle Road Rally

This year, Oncor hosted their 3rd Annual Electric Vehicle Road Rally in conjunction with NDEW. This event challenges owners of EVs to get on the road and explore participating cities. EV owners in six different cities competed in a photo scavenger hunt, and the winners were announced at the NDEW main event on Sunday, October 3.

September 29: Fleet Electrification: Electric Work Truck Webinar

Fleet Managers, Energy Managers, and Directors of Transportation of public and private fleets attended this virtual webinar to hear directly from electric truck manufacturers. Ford, Peterbilt, Lion Electric, Lonestar Specialty Vehicles, and Xos presented on their available electric trucks and DFWCC covered the benefits of EVs and funding opportunities to assist in fleet electrification.

September 30: Leveraging EV Charging Infrastructure to Make your Community a Destination Webinar

In this virtual webinar, economic development professionals in region learned about the basics of EV charging equipment, opportunities to attract EV travelers to your community, and the upcoming funding opportunities to support new EV infrastructure projects. Presenters included: Bethany Ross from the NCTCOG/DFWCC, Buzz Smith the EV-Angelist, Nate Hickman with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), and Stephen Costa with U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT)'s Volpe Center.

October 1: Benefits of Workplace Electric Vehicle Charging Webinar

This webinar educated attendees on the benefits of EV charging at workplaces and provided important information on helping plan and implement charging stations on a property. Presenters included: Bailey Muller from the NCTCOG, Pharr Andrews from the City of Dallas, and Laura Morrison from the Texas Electric Transportation Resources Alliance (TxETRA) Education Fund.

October 1: Peterbilt Facility Tour | By Invitation Only

This in-person event featured presentations from DFWCC and Peterbilt, a tour of the assembly line at Peterbilt's Denton facility, and a ride and drive in the Peterbilt's all-electric 579EV truck. Peterbilt also had the 520EV and 220EV present for



Imagery provided by: NCTCOG Staff

Regional News

DFW Fleets Encouraged to Borrow Clean Vehicle Technologies

Local Dallas-Fort Worth fleets are encouraged to take advantage of the opportunity to borrow clean vehicle technologies available through the DFWCC Try and Drive Alternative program!

The directory of vehicles and technologies available to borrow can be accessed from the [Try and Drive Alternative website](#). Currently, the directory includes:

- Battery Electric Terminal Tractor from Lonestar Specialty Vehicles
- Battery Electric Vehicles Class 6-8 from Peterbilt
- Chevy Bolt from General Motors
- Battery Electric Class 8 Terminal Tractor from Orange EV
- Telematics Device from Global-View
- Telematics Device from Tangerine AI
- GoFlo CNG 80 Compressor and GoFILL Refueler from Onboard Dynamics

If you are a provider of clean vehicle technology and are interested in adding your loaner program to our directory, please see our website or contact cleancities@nctcog.org.

Amazon-Backed Electric Vehicle Startup Could Bring \$5 Billion Factory to Fort Worth

Rivian Automotive, a startup electric vehicle company backed by Amazon.com, Inc., is in talks to invest at least \$5 billion to build a factory in Fort Worth, according to city documents. Rivian's "Project Tera," would be able to produce 200,000 vehicles a year and create at least 7,500 jobs by 2027. Read more at [NBC News](#).

Gatik Expands All-Electric Autonomous Box Trucks to Texas

Gatik AI, an autonomous vehicle startup who has conducted autonomous delivery pilot programs for Walmart in Arkansas and Louisiana, has raised \$85 million to expand into Texas. Gatik AI opened an autonomous trucking facility in the Alliance Texas Mobility Innovation Zone, which is a hub of transportation and logistics in Dallas-Fort Worth. Read more at [Tech Crunch](#).

Wallbox to Open Manufacturing Facility to Arlington

Wallbox, a manufacturer of electric vehicle charging equipment, has chosen Arlington, Texas, for its first U.S. manufacturing facility. The facility will create 250 jobs in DFW by 2030 and will produce the Pulsar Plus AC charger, the Quasar DC bidirectional charger, and the Supernova DC fast charger. Production is expected to start in June 2022. For additional information go to [Market Watch](#).

New On-Demand Rideshare Service Launches in Highland Village, Lewisville, and Denton

Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) launched their new GoZone on-demand rideshare service through the Via company. The service will operate in Highland Village, parts of Lewisville, and parts of Denton. To request a ride, people will use DCTA's GoZone mobile app or call 940-243-0077. A one-way ride costs \$0.75 and passengers will be able to pay through the app or use cash. DCTA is estimating 280,000 riders in 2022. For additional information go to [Community Impact](#).

Cypress Fairbanks Independent School District Acquires 266 Propane Buses through Bond

Cypress Fairbanks Independent School District (CFISD) recently added 266 propane buses to their fleet to replace existing diesel buses. The vehicles were funded through a 2019 bond package. With this acquisition, the fleet is now approximately 30 percent propane, 22 percent gasoline, and 48 percent diesel. Due to a federal rebate, propane fuel costs CFISD 40 percent less than diesel per gallon. Propane vehicles have an environmental benefit too, since propane vehicles' tailpipe emissions are cleaner than diesel buses. Read more about the new school buses and the benefits of propane at [Community Impact](#).

2021 Fleet Recognition Award Winners Announced

DFWCC announced the winners of the annual Fleet Recognition Awards during a virtual ceremony on August 19, 2021. Nine recipients received the Bronze Level award, four received Silver, and nine achieved the Gold Level award. In addition, nine organizations received Shining Stars awards in the areas of NO_x Reduction, Gallons of Gasoline Equivalent (GGE) Reduction, or Progress Transitioning to Alternative Fuels. This year, DFWCC introduced the Fleet Challenge and recognized four fleets that met or exceeded goals set in their 2019 survey. This year's winners helped the region reduce 23.9 million GGE, 734,089 pounds of ozone forming NO_x, and 125,058 tons of greenhouse gas emissions. Read the press release at [NCTCOG](#).

Car Care Awareness Fall Campaign

Are you Car Care Aware? October is Fall Car Care Month and that means taking a few extra steps to make sure your vehicle is in good operation. This may not only prolong the life of your car but save you time and keep you and your passengers safe. Make sure your coolant levels are topped off with antifreeze to prevent your car from overheating and leaving you stranded. Keeping your check engine light off also ensures your car is not polluting more than necessary, which means better air quality for all of us in the region.

Winter months bring potential driving hazards such as icy roads so it's important to prepare by checking your brakes and tires in the fall as the weather cools down. Worn treads on a tire can seriously impact a car's ability to stop in the rain. If your tread depth is less than 4/32", you should consider replacing the tires. Also, if you hear squeaking brakes, that is your vehicle's way of telling you that there may be an issue that needs attention.

Stay safe and remember to be Car Care Aware! For more information, visit www.ntxcarcare.org.



Imagery provided by: NCTCOG staff

Inclusion does not imply an endorsement or promotion by NCTCOG

Blue Bird and Nuvve Partner on Electric School Bus Leasing Model

Blue Bird, a manufacturer of diesel, propane, and electric school buses, and Nuvve Holding Corporation (Nuvve) have announced an opportunity to allow customers to lease vehicle-to-grid (V2G) electric school buses, charging infrastructure, and energy management for a fixed monthly rate with no upfront costs. Blue Bird's CEO, Phil Horlock, expects this leasing model will reduce the customer's cost of ownership. For more information on this new venture go to [School Bus Fleet](#).

SparkCharge Unveils the "Roadie," a Mobile Electric Vehicle Charger and Electric Vehicle Charging Delivery Service

SparkCharge has announced a new opportunity for electric vehicles owners! SparkCharge is offering ChargeUP, an electric vehicle charging delivery service which will bring charging anywhere for the customer for only \$25 a month. This service will use SparkCharge's RoadieCCS, a level 3 DC fast charging mobile electric vehicle charging system. SparkCharge expects this service will be less expensive and faster than home and public charging and provide more flexibility to electric vehicle owners. This service is available to all EVs using the Combined Charging System (CCS) standard. Read more about this new service at [PR News Wire](#).

120 Electric Vehicle Charging Stations to be Installed at California Apartment Complexes

The State of California has awarded EVmatch a \$700,000 grant to install 120 Level 2 electric vehicle chargers in apartment complexes. Since about one-third of the U.S. population do not have a garage or carport, investments in electric vehicle charging equipment at apartment complexes are necessary to help eliminate the barrier that lower income renters face when purchasing or owning an electric vehicle. Due to California's mandate banning sales of non-zero-emission passenger vehicles by 2035, and President Joe Biden's executive order calling for half of all vehicles sold in the U.S. be electric by 2030, it is necessary to accelerate the installation of electric vehicle chargers to match future demand. EVmatch plans to install all 120 charges by the end of the 2023, effectively reaching and offering charging to 20,000 renters in the State of California. Read more at [Utility Drive](#).

Hyundai Announces Plan to Offer Hydrogen Fuel Cell Versions of All Commercial Vehicles

Hyundai Motor Group has announced a plan to offer hydrogen fuel cell versions of all their commercial vehicles by 2028. The plan also includes a goal for commercial and passenger hydrogen fuel cell vehicles to have a comparable price point to battery electric vehicles by 2030. Hyundai joins several other automakers developing hydrogen fuel cell vehicles, including BMW, Honda, and Toyota. Read more at [CNBC](#).

USPS Contractor Purchases 20 New Propane Trucks

A USPS contracted fleet, McAbee Trucking, Inc., has purchased 20 new propane trucks. Adding these 20 trucks brings the fleets' total number of propane vehicles to 27. Propane vehicles have been a choice for several USPS-contracted fleets throughout the country due to its environmental and cost benefits. According to a [study](#) done by the Propane Education and Research Council, depending on the state the vehicle is operated in, it is possible for class 6-7 propane vehicles to sometimes have a lower carbon footprint than electric vehicles. Fleets can

lower their carbon footprint even more by using renewable propane, which is a byproduct of the renewable diesel and jet fuel production. For more information go to the [Propane Education and Research Council](#).

Fleet Investment in Near-Zero Emissions Natural Gas Trucks Increases

Fleets in California are increasingly turning to near-zero emissions (NZE) natural gas vehicles (NGV) and renewable natural gas (RNG) to achieve their sustainability goals, as revealed by the [California Natural Gas Vehicle Partnership \(CNGVP\)](#). Matheson Postal Services, a company moving mail coast-to-coast for the USPS, is one such fleet. Matheson currently operates 95 NZE natural gas trucks running 16.4 million miles annually and has recently ordered 40 more NZE natural gas trucks. By transitioning to NZE NGVs, fleets like Matheson help reduce smog-forming nitrogen oxides, particulate matter, and greenhouse gases. Read more about recent natural gas investments at [NGT News - Next-Gen Transportation](#).

America's First Hydrogen Fuel Cell Tow Truck Fleet is Coming to Colorado

AAA Colorado, a non-profit auto club, is teaming up with New Day Hydrogen LLC to bring America's first hydrogen powered tow and emergency rescue fleet to Colorado. New Day Hydrogen is set to design and construct hydrogen stations for the non-profit and anticipate the stations will one day open to the general public. Both AAA Colorado and New Day Hydrogen are aiming for a 2022-year fleet role out. Read more about this rescue fleet at [Denver Business Journal](#).

Comment and Engagement Opportunities

Renewables Aggregation Cohort Opportunity

To engage and support peer exchange and collaboration on environmental and sustainability initiatives, the [North Texas RISE Coalition](#) would like to make you aware of the following opportunity.

As local governments and institutions set ambitious renewable energy goals, on-site solar installations and utility solutions may not help them in meeting or exceeding those goals. The [World Resources Institute \(WRI\)](#) and [RMI](#) have developed a cohort to offer free workshops, tools, resources, and peer learning opportunities to help small groups of local governments (and/or other local institutions) procure large-scale renewables at economies of scale. The WRI/RMI team will be walking participants through the aggregation process and facilitating group alignment on key elements of a joint RFP for a physical or virtual power purchase agreement (PPA). The cohort will combine plenary sessions - on topics like legal and accounting challenges and risk mitigation - with small group discussion.

The cohort has begun and will continue until June 2022 and will include monthly webinars featuring about 10 groups from regions across the country. There is no commitment required to join but attending the monthly virtual workshops is needed to be successful.

On behalf of the North Texas RISE Coalition, an informational webinar was held on April 23, 2021, and the recording can be found on the North Texas Rise Coalition website, <https://www.nctcog.org/envir/development-excellence/rise-coalition>.

Those interested in signing up for the cohort, can fill out the following application, https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScK2nE41NH4h556yG6gV6AzPn2_DRiWLiMHKmh1gGnPlIKn5g/viewform.

For any questions about the opportunity, reach out to Zach Greene at zach.greene@wri.org.

National Association of Fleet Administrators' Green Garage Contest is Open!

The National Association of Fleet Administrators' (NAFA) opened their Green Garage Contest! The goal of the Green Garage Contest is to bring together and recognize the most progressive and environmentally committed fleets and share their best practices. This is a great opportunity for fleets to be recognized for their hard work to green their fleet. To participate in the contest, fleets enter their answers to 10 questions [here](#), discussing their sustainable practices, innovative practices, challenges, etc.

The deadline for answers is **Friday, October 29, 2021**. Winners will be announced in December.

Funding Hot Topics

Renewables Aggregation Cohort Opportunity

To receive up-to-date information on available funding and incentives related to clean vehicle technologies and other air quality improvement measures, subscribe to Air Quality Funding Updates [here](#).

For a comprehensive list of currently available incentives, visit the [NCTCOG website](#).

Dates Announced for the TxVEMP DCFC and Hydrogen Dispensing Equipment Funding Round

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has announced the next round of funding under the Texas Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Program (TxVEMP), Direct Current Fast Charging (DCFC), and Hydrogen Dispensing Equipment will open on **November 2, 2021**.

Eligible Applicants: Individuals, corporations, organizations, governments or governmental subdivisions or agencies, business trusts, partnerships, associations, or other legal entities. Applicants must be eligible to conduct business in Texas.

Eligible Projects: Funding is available statewide for the purchase and installation of:
DCFC light-duty electric vehicle supply equipment in a public place, workplace, or multi-unit dwelling,
Light-duty hydrogen fuel cell vehicle supply equipment in a public place.

Funding Availability: Approximately \$20 million in grants will be made available under this program. Grants will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

Deadline: January 3, 2022

For additional questions, contact TxVEMP staff by phone at (833) 215-TXVW (8989), email at VWsettle@tceq.texas.gov, or visit the [Texas Volkswagen website](#).

2021 DERA School Bus Rebate Program Applications Being Accepted

The EPA is now accepting applications for the DERA School Bus Rebate Program. The EPA will award approximately **\$10 million** in funding to replace old diesel school buses. Selected applicants will receive a rebate of **\$20,000 - \$65,000** towards a replacement bus depending on the fuel type.

Eligible Applicants

- Regional, state, or tribal agencies including school districts and municipalities; or
- Private entities that operate school buses under a contract with an entity listed above.
- Applications are limited to 10 buses. Fleets that own more than 100 buses can submit two applications.

Eligible Old School Buses to be Replaced

- Used to transport 10+ pre-primary, primary, or secondary school students to or from schools
- Driven 10,000 or more miles over either the last 12 months or calendar year in 2019, or have been in use at least four days per week between 9/1/2019 and 2/29/2020
- Owned by applicant without any active liens
- Class 3-8 diesel-powered buses [greater than 10,000 lb Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR)]
- Buses must be powered by 2006 or older model year engines
- Engine and chassis must be scrapped

Selection Process: Lottery, with at least one selectee from each state/territory represented in the applicant pool.

Deadline: November 5, 2021

[Learn More & Apply Here](#)

North Texas Clean Diesel Project 2021 Accepting Applications

The NCTCOG is offering rebate funding through the North Texas Clean Diesel Project (NTCDP) 2021 Call for Projects (CFP). This CFP will fund replacement of existing diesel-powered heavy-duty vehicles, engines or equipment operating in the Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) ten-county ozone nonattainment area.

Eligible Applicants:

Private sector fleets and companies, as well as public sector entities (such as local governments), with operations in Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant, and Wise counties.

Eligible applicants must adopt a policy consistent with the Regional Transportation Council (RTC) Clean Fleet Policy or similar policy prior to receiving the rebate.

Eligible Activities

All old vehicles, equipment and engines must be diesel. There is no limit on how old the old engine can be. The new replacement vehicle, equipment or engine may be diesel, gasoline or alternative fuels, covered at the following funding levels:

Funding Levels:

On-Road and Non-Road Vehicle and Equipment Replacement

- 45% of Eligible Costs if New Is Electric
- 35% of Eligible Costs if New is Powered by Engine Certified to CARB optional Low-NOx Standards
- 25% of Eligible Costs for All Others

On-Road and Non-Road Engine Replacement

- 60% of Eligible Costs if New is a Zero Emission Power Source
- 50% of Eligible Costs if New is a CARB Certified Low-NOx Engine
- 40% of Eligible Costs if New is an EPA Certified Engine

Transport Refrigeration Unit (TRU) Trailer Replacement

- 45% of Eligible Costs

Drayage Truck Replacement

- 50% of Eligible Cost

Locomotive Engine Replacement

- 60% of Eligible Cost if Zero Emission Power Source
- 50% of Eligible Cost if CARB Certified Low NOx Engine
- 40% of Eligible Cost if EPA Certified

Locomotive Idle Control Strategies

- 40% of Eligible Cost

More information and application details for the program are available at [North Central Texas Council of Governments - North Texas Clean Diesel Project 2021 \(nctcog.org\)](https://www.nctcog.org)

Training Resources

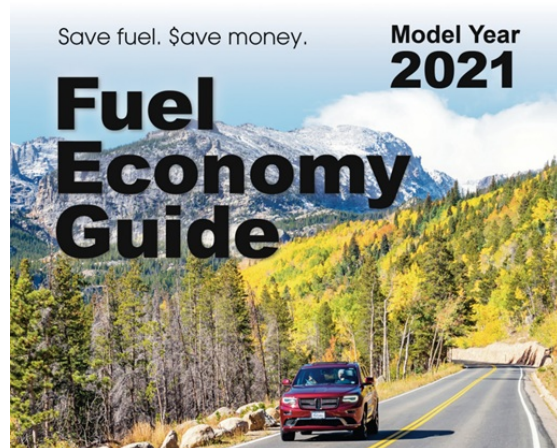
DFWCC First Responder Safety Training for Electric Vehicles

The National Alternative Fuels Consortium (NAFTC) and Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities held a First Responder Safety Training for Electric Vehicles in June 2021. This webinar recording can be viewed [here](#).

Model Year 2021 Fuel Economy Guide Now Available

Thinking of buying a new car to save on fuel? The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)'s *2021 Fuel Economy Guide* is now available online and provides detailed fuel economy estimates for Model Year 2021 light-duty vehicles, along with estimated annual fuel costs.

Check out the *Guide* online at [Fuel Economy](#).



Alternative Fuel Vehicle Safety Training for Fire Service

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is offering an online safety training related to incidents involving alternative fuel vehicles including electric, hybrid, hydrogen fuel cell, biodiesel and other gaseous alternative fuels and their associated infrastructure. The online training is self-paced and visually interactive with simulations, animations videos and more! More information and registration can be found on the NFPA [webpage](#).

National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium Manuals Available

DFWCC is offering the following manuals on a first-come, first-served basis. Please send your request to cleancities@nctcog.org. See pictures of the manuals available at <https://www.dfwcleancities.org/training>.

- (17) Law Enforcement Alternative Fuel Vehicle Safety Training Instructor Manual
- (15) Compressed Natural Gas Vehicles: Fuel System Inspector
- (2) Light-Duty Natural Gas Vehicles
- (1) Propane Vehicle Training

Resources

[Air North Texas](#) | [Air Quality Funding](#) | [Electric Vehicles North Texas](#)

Contact Us

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For a complete list of Clean Cities staff, visit www.dfwcleancities.org.