

# Delaware Clean Cities Newsletter: May 2019



Welcome to the Delaware Clean Cities newsletter! We'll be using periodic newsletters as a way to keep you updated with the latest news, events, and stakeholder successes.

In this edition, we're excited to feature the efforts of Chesapeake Utilities in hosting Delaware's first Fleet Management Summit. You'll also find information on Delaware's purchase of cleaner school buses, and an update on DNREC's alternative fuel vehicle incentives.

If you have news, updates, articles or facts that you'd like to be highlighted in future editions, let us know.

Please share this newsletter with your mailing lists and any interested parties you may know. Hope you enjoy it!

## Upcoming Events:

- May 29th - Join us from 10am-12pm for the Spring Clean Cities Coalition Meeting at Sharp Energy's Dover Office
- September 14-22 - National Drive Electric Week

## In The News:

[Carper: 'This Earth Day is about the future'](#)

*Dover Post*

[Electric vehicle infrastructure on the rise in Delaware](#)

*Delaware State News*

[By 2040, more than half of new cars will be electric](#)

*CNN*

[EV Chargers Combat 'Range Anxiety'](#)

*Delaware Public Media*

## Chesapeake Utilities Holds Fleet Management Summit

***Chesapeake Utilities cuts the ribbon on a public natural gas fueling station at Delaware's first ever Fleet Management Summit.***

On April 2nd, the Delaware Clean Cities Coalition, Chesapeake Utilities, and Sharp Energy hosted Delaware's first ever Fleet Management Summit at Chesapeake Utilities' Energy Lane Campus, in Dover, Delaware.

The day started with the official ribbon cutting and opening of the brand new, public natural gas fueling station. It was followed by educational and motivating presentations by Shane Breakie, assistant vice president, Chesapeake Utilities; DelDOT Secretary Cohan; DNREC Secretary Garvin (DNREC supported the project with a \$500,000 grant); Lee Derrickson, executive director of the Delaware Motor Transport Association; Kathy Harris, Clean Cities Delaware Coordinator; Jim Pryor, Waste Management regional manager; and Rich Paprcka, DART program director. Diane Turchetta from the U.S. DOT was available for questions on the national alternative energy corridor project.



Over 75 people attended. It was a diverse group made up of fleet managers and representatives from state, federal, and county agencies. They were there to share success stories and to discuss the benefits of natural gas and propane as a vehicle fuel. Waste Management brought one of their natural gas vehicles and DART brought a bus fueled by propane. Each speaker talked about the success of their programs particularly for class 7 and Class 8 vehicles.

The event ended with a showcase and fueling demonstration for the various types and classes of vehicles powered by natural gas and propane.

-MQ Riding, Chesapeake Utilities

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## Delaware Purchases Cleaner School Buses

***Delaware agencies are using Volkswagen mitigation funds to replace 57 older diesel school buses with propane or clean diesel models.***

Air pollution from diesel vehicles has negative health implications for everyone, but children are more susceptible because they breathe more air per pound of body weight than do adults. Children riding older diesel school buses are exposed to significant levels of fine particulate matter and other harmful pollutants. Although school bus engines burn cleaner than those of a decade ago, Delaware is motivated by saving fuel costs and reducing school children's exposure to cancer-causing and smog forming pollution through the replacement of old diesel school buses.



The Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) is partnering with the Delaware Department of Education (DoEd) to scrap and replace 57 older diesel school buses. A total of 31 school buses will be replaced through the FY2018 Clean Diesel Emission Reduction Act grant (DERA) Program with Volkswagen Mitigation Funds as the cost share and an additional 26 school buses will be replaced as an Appendix-D-2 item under the Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Plan (Phase 1 Year 1). These school buses will serve 7 school districts around the state.

The school buses have been ordered by the DoEd. The buses are expected to arrive sometime over the summer and will be ready for the 2019-2020 school year. Of the 57 buses, 35 are propane fueled, and 26 are clean diesel.

-Deanna Morozowich, DNREC

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## Clean Transportation Incentives Benefit Delawareans

***Over 1,500 rebates have been granted to Delaware residents and businesses purchasing clean vehicles and electric vehicle charging stations.***

Since 2015, the Division of Climate, Coastal, and Energy has offered rebates to Delaware residents and businesses for the purchase of electric and alternative fueled vehicles, as well as electric vehicle charging stations. Funded through the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), the Delaware Clean Vehicle Rebate Program is intended to incentivize and stimulate clean transportation growth.

As of mid-May, 2019, 1,569 rebates have been granted since the program began in 2015. Of those, 1,199 were for battery electric vehicles (BEVs).

The number of Delawareans taking advantage of this incentive has continued to rise each month, with 2019 setting new records for the program. Most of this growth has been in Battery Electric Vehicles (BEVs), particularly since the release of the Tesla Model 3, which currently occupies the largest market share based on our rebate figures. The lower base-MSRP of \$35,000, the 220 mile standard range, and its availability to Delaware consumers has contributed to the Model 3's growth.



The current program round continues until December, 2019. Delaware residents and businesses purchasing a battery electric vehicle, plug-in hybrid vehicle, propane vehicle, compressed natural gas (CNG) vehicle, heavy duty CNG vehicle, or electric vehicle charging station are eligible to apply. More information and application instructions can be found at [de.gov/cleantransportation](http://de.gov/cleantransportation).

-Richard Gaunt, DNREC



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