



AIR CURRENTS

Wisconsin Partners for Clean Air Newsletter

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WPCA Message from the Chair

The ozone and summer season is nearly behind us and it sure included some hot and humid days. If you would like to receive notices of air quality advisories, please see the informational box below on where to sign up.

This issue of *Air Currents* features offerings and services provided by a couple of non-profits on initiatives that improve air quality. I was asked to include a write-up for the organization I am affiliated with, Wisconsin Clean Cities, as a bit of *get to know you*, so please indulge me.

Lorrie Lisek, WPCA Chair

Wisconsin Bike Fed Offers Free Cycling/Walking Classes

Guest article from Jessica Wineberg

As a business, you are likely doing a lot to reduce air pollution, but have you considered the commute trips your employees take? With mobile sources such as automobiles accounting for more than 40% of manmade Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), many people may want to opt for a non-motorized commute. A walking and biking class offered by the Wisconsin Bike Fed would help encourage and compliment this choice.

Share & Be Aware, a joint program of the Wisconsin Department of Transportation and the Wisconsin Bike Fed, can teach free *Savvy City Cycling* classes at your site this fall or in 2017. Southeast Wisconsin is home to over 400 miles of trails and other great biking facilities. The Wisconsin Bike Fed will help your employees learn to enjoy the benefits of biking while improving our air quality.

Share & Be Aware Ambassadors have taught over 150 classes and conducted outreach at more than 250 events this year alone. Have we been to your business and helped your employees feel confident and safe on a bike? If not, please invite us!

We offer these FREE services:

- ◆ Classes on walking, bike commuting, basics of traffic law for people on bikes, seniors and walking safety, driver's education class on walking/biking, biking skills, and walk/bike law training for Law Enforcement
- ◆ Outreach on walking and biking to all road users. We encourage driver's to drive the speed limit, give bikes three feet, and yield to people in crosswalks in addition to educating people about walking and biking safety

Our team of Ambassadors cover the region and the state. Classes can be inside or we can lead outdoor safety rides where we weave skills, teaching and hands-on practice together.

Contact: jessica@wisconsinbikefed.org or request an Ambassador at ShareAndBeAware.org.

Daily Air Quality Information



Wisconsin's daily Air Quality Hotline (1-866-Daily Air) was discontinued on July 1, 2016, but the public can still access current air quality information in a couple of ways.

To view Wisconsin's current air quality, visit:

- ◆ Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' Air Quality Mapping Tool at: <http://airquality.wi.gov/StateMapping.aspx>
- ◆ Environmental Protection Agency's AirNow website at: <https://www.airnow.gov/>

You can also go to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources' Air Quality Status webpage and sign-up to receive Air Quality Advisories when they are issued at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/AirQuality/Status.asp>

Thank you to the American Lung Association for their past sponsorship of the AQI Hotline





Wisconsin Partners for Clean Air

Success Spotlight:

Wisconsin Clean Cities

Wisconsin Clean Cities

Wisconsin Clean Cities (WCC) serves Wisconsin via the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE's) Clean Cities program by advancing our nation's economic, environmental and energy security through support of local actions to cut petroleum use in transportation. The nearly 100 Clean Cities coalitions across the nation collectively have displaced more than 7.5 billion gallons of petroleum since the program's inception in 1993.

Wisconsin Clean Cities, established in June 1994 as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, reduces dependence on petroleum-based fuels by promoting of the use of alternative fuels, vehicles and technologies. WCC strategies reduce emissions impacting air quality and affecting public health. WCC partners with stakeholders in the public and private sectors to deploy:

- ◆ Alternative and renewable fuels,
- ◆ Idle reduction technologies,
- ◆ Fuel economy measures, and
- ◆ Emerging transportation technologies.

These initiatives ultimately assist the national market by challenging the industry to develop product lines and technologies to meet the ever changing demands of consumer and fleet vehicle markets.

Originally designated in Southeastern Wisconsin, WCC provided direct benefits to the Governor's Alternative Fuels Task Force by serving as a community-government-business partnership in, at the time, severe ozone nonattainment region of Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Waukesha and Washington counties. For more than 20 years, WCC provided education and outreach by hosting and participating in hundreds of events and public engagements. Re-designated as a statewide organization in 2011, WCC membership has grown from 14 members in 2010 to nearly 80 members in 2016. WCC, in conjunction with the Wisconsin Office of Energy Innovation, has been instrumental in securing nearly \$20 million in federal and state funding to implement projects across the state. As a result, in 2015, WCC reported statewide reductions of over 34.4 million in gasoline gallon equivalents and over 108,000 tons in reduced greenhouse gas emissions. These significant gains are the result of projects implemented by WCC members and stakeholders that increased the use of alternative fuels and technologies.

WCC continues to *"Drive Wisconsin Forward"* through continued efforts to:

- ◆ Build partnerships with public and private-sector transportation stakeholders
- ◆ Provide objective information regarding alternative fuels, advanced vehicles and other strategies to cut petroleum use
- ◆ Advance interactive, data-driven online tools to help stakeholders evaluate options and achieve goals
- ◆ Collect and share best practices, data and lessons learned
- ◆ Provide technical assistance to help fleets deploy alternative fuels, advanced vehicles and idle-reduction measures
- ◆ Work with partners and fleets to identify and address technology barriers
- ◆ Empower local decision makers to successfully implement the best petroleum reduction strategy for their circumstances

Visit www.wicleancities.org to learn more about WCC and how you can become part of the solution. Together we can make a difference!



**Want to be featured in the WPCA Air Currents Success Spotlight?
Send us your environmental and emission success story.**

Wisconsin Partners for Clean Air is a coalition committed to improving air quality through voluntary action. Comments, suggestions, and successes, contact: Peter McMullen phone: 414-263-8751 or email: peter.mcmullen@wisconsin.gov