

# AIR CURRENTS

Wisconsin Partners for Clean Air Newsletter

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## WPCA Message from the Chair

Once again, I had the honor during Clean Air Month in May to congratulate the recipients of the WPCA Clean Air Recognition Award and the Commuter Champion Award at the annual Clean Air Extravaganza.

It was a pleasure to see and meet other Partner members and to learn about the different initiatives undertaken to improve air quality. Enjoy this issue as we feature the event and winners and see if it doesn't inspire you in your efforts for cleaner air.

Lorrie Lisek, WPCA Chair

## Clean Air Extravaganza Recap

A well established regional retail grocer and a medical center celebrating 150 years of providing service to veterans were honored for their efforts in improving air quality at the 14th annual Clean Air Extravaganza.

The event was hosted by Milwaukee County's General Mitchell International Airport at the MKE Regional Business Park. The event took place on May 25, 2017 and the business park was a fitting location for the event theme of *Milwaukee's Airport Gateway*.



In addition to the award recognitions, attendees heard from representatives involved in developing Milwaukee's emerging gateway. Airport Director, Izzy Bonilla, welcomed attendees and gave an overview of airport operations along with Greg Failey, Environmental Manager, who presented on their environmental initiatives and the development of a sustainability plan that will guide the airport into the future. Leif Otteson, Executive Director of the Gateway to Milwaukee and Aerotropolis Milwaukee provided an overview of area developments and Eric Lynde, Chief Special Project Planner with the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, discussed the recently completed Milwaukee Aerotropolis Plan. To see the plan with a link to Aerotropolis Milwaukee, please visit [www.sewrpc.org](http://www.sewrpc.org).

Lorrie Lisek, Wisconsin Clean Cities Executive Director and WPCA Chair, served as master of ceremony and Joe Liebau, Secretary's Director for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, presented the awards. The Clean Air Recognition Award was presented to Roundy's Supermarkets, Inc. and the Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center received the Commuter Champion Award. Visit the back page for award summaries for these two well-deserving award winners.

## Thank you to the following Clean Air Extravaganza Sponsors:

### Event Site:



### Invitations:



### Awards:



### Refreshments:



### From left to right:

Lorrie Lisek (Wisconsin Clean Cities and WPCA Chair), Amaris Rodriguez (Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center), Phillip Bower (Husch Blackwell LLP- nominated Roundys), Ryan Hill (Roundy's Supermarkets, Inc.), Joseph Liebau (Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources).

**Success Spotlight:**

**Roundy's Supermarkets, Inc.  
and  
Milwaukee VA Medical Center**

**Clean Air Recognition Award**

Roundy's Supermarkets, Inc. is a Midwest grocer headquartered in Milwaukee. Clean air initiatives taken in the last year include:

- A successful pilot of CO2 transcritical refrigeration system has prompted installation in all new stores, with eight currently in operation. This unique technology completely eliminates the use of a hydrofluorocarbon (HFC) refrigerant, which has over 3,000 times more global warming potential than CO2, while also reducing electricity by 20% and energy cost compared to the older system, further reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Electronic case controls on the system also reduce energy. Heat generated by the system is reclaimed for hot water use in the store.
- Replaced over 700 inefficient refrigeration motors with electronic commutated motors, which use less energy, generate less heat and operate more quietly.
- Retrofitted over 1,600 feet of open refrigeration cases with doors in 2016, reducing electricity for refrigeration, decreasing building heating, increasing customer comfort and improving product quality. Case lighting was also upgraded to LED.
- Replaced nearly 3,000 metal halide spotlight fixtures with LED in 23 stores in 2016, which use half the amount of electricity, generate less heat and improve lighting quality.
- Expanded their food recycling program to all Wisconsin and Illinois stores, converting 3,400 tons of food waste into animal feed.

**Commuter Champion Award**

The Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center is located on 125 acres on the western edge of Milwaukee and is part of a Veteran Administration Integrated Services Network. Transportation related activities for staff include:

- A range of on-site amenities including a café, convenience store, gym and credit union.
- A monthly subsidy towards the purchase of bus passes (cards).
- A medical center bus stop located outside the facility entrance where arrivals are announced for users.
- Transit maps and schedules posted on an internal website.
- A Bike to Work program that shares bike resources and information on an internal website and email group.
- On-site showers and lockers, bike parking and repair facilities, along with a monthly reimbursement program for purchased bike equipment.
- A direct campus connection to the Hank Aaron State Trail for biking and walking.
- An internal Rideshare program on the employee website.
- Fleet vehicles, including flex-fuel vehicles available for employees for local business related travel.
- A maintenance shop that utilizes Scout Electric Vehicles to transport people and materials between campus buildings.

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Send us your environmental and emission success story.**