



**Designated as a Top 10 Coalition by the
U.S. Department of Energy in
2002, 2003, 2004, and 2005**

2005 ACTIVITY REPORT

Coalition Meetings,
Steering Committee Meetings, Outreach Events, and
Significant Accomplishments

Visit us at www.chicagocleancities.org

Chicago Area Clean Cities Steering Committee

Executive Board

Chair: Darwin Burkhart, Illinois EPA

Vice-Chair: Doug Dittrich, General Motors

Coordinator/Treasurer: Bethany Kraseman, Chicago Dept. of Environment

Secretary: Tony Lindsay, EN Engineering

Legislative Liaison: Judd Hulting, Illinois Soybean Association

Alternate Fuel Rep.: Vacant

Private Fleet Rep.: Jim Pierce, Advance Presort Service

Public Fleet Rep.: John Walton, Forest Preserve Dist. of DuPage Co.

Other Steering Committee Members:

George Krass, Dual Fuel Systems

Mary Cruse, Illinois EPA

Matt Stewart, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County

Jason Borho, Forest Preserve District of DuPage County

Carol Brown, City of Chicago Intergovernmental Affairs

Coalition Meetings

August 3 **Meeting at Aurora Fire Museum, Aurora**
-- Hosted by City of Aurora, Joe Hopp, Fleet Director

September 8 **Conversion Seminar and 5th Annual CACC Golf Outing**

About 50 stakeholders attended a morning seminar on conversions in conjunction with our 5th Annual CACC Golf Outing. Forest Preserve District of DuPage County hosted the event at Maple Meadows Golf Course in Wooddale. Several conversion vehicles were on display.

December 14 **“End of the Year” Meeting and Holiday Reception**

Held at “The Clubhouse” in Oakbrook. Points of emphasis included possible diesel idling seminar in conjunction with U.S. EPA and status of federal incentives and legislation.

Executive Board/Steering Committee Meetings

April 21 General Motors, Naperville

September 19 Chicago Department of Environment, Chicago

October 26 EN Engineering, Warrenville

Special Meetings/Events

February 15

“Green Drinks” Meeting in Chicago

Darwin Burkhart, John Walton, and Matt Stewart presented information on alternate fuels and vehicles to a monthly meeting of environmental advocates in Chicago.

March 23

Biodiesel Seminar

Bell Fuels hosted a biodiesel seminar in Hillside. Many fleet managers were in attendance.

March 29

Advocates of Alternative Energy

John Walton and Matt Stewart of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County presented information on their alternative fuel fleet to an alternative energy advocacy group in Downers Grove.

April 12

GM Commercial Dealer Meeting, Naperville

Doug Dittrich presented information on AFVs and CACC at a GM dealer meeting in Naperville. Dealers were encouraged to attend CACC meetings and events to keep up-to-date on the AFV and alternate fuels industry in the Chicago area.

April 22

Cook-Illinois Bus Company Press Conference in Chicago

As part of Earth Day celebrations, CACC members attended a press conference with Lt. Governor Pat Quinn and the IEPA on recognizing the Cook-Illinois Corp. for using biodiesel (B20) in about 1,400 school buses. Cook-Illinois serves the Chicago Public Schools and a few surrounding districts and became the largest school bus company in the country to start using biodiesel. CBS 2 interviewed Darwin Burkhart on its morning show to talk about biodiesel use in school buses and how it ties into Earth Day.

April 24

Earth Day Exhibit in Oakbrook

The Forest Preserve District of DuPage County hosted an Earth Day event for DuPage County residents. The fleet department highlighted its alternative fuels operation. Honda of Lisle also participated in showcasing hybrid vehicles.

- April 30-May 5 **National Conference in Palm Springs, California**
- Several members of CACC attended the national conference.
- June 7 **General Motors Fleet Preview, Oakbrook**
- Doug Dittrich and a few other CACC members provided information on alternative fuels and vehicles at GM's fleet preview for fleet managers at the Drury Lane in Oakbrook.
- June 8 **CMAQ Alternate Fuels Board Meeting**
-- Chicago Department of Environment
- June 15 **American Transportation Supervisors of America (ATSA) Meeting, Hoffman Estates**
- Doug Dittrich of GM presented information on AFVs and alternate fuels for fleet managers attending the ATSA meeting in Hoffman Estates.
- June 17 **Biofuels Seminar at College of DuPage**
- CACC hosted a biofuels seminar at the College of DuPage. Two half-day sessions were held due to overwhelming response with about 200 registered attendees. Illinois Soybean Association sponsored radio advertisements to help promote the seminar.
- June 18 **Partners for Clean Air Event at the Brookfield Zoo**
- CACC displayed its exhibit at the Partners for Clean Air summer kick-off event at the Brookfield Zoo. This provided our coalition the opportunity for exposure to the general public.
- June 23 **City of Aurora Press Conference for Illinois Green Fleet Designation, Aurora**
- CACC members attended the City of Aurora's press conference on its implementation of E-85 fuel and designation as an Illinois Green Fleet. The press conference included Aurora Mayor Tom Weisner, Lt. Governor Pat Quinn, and IEPA Director Doug Scott.
- June 28 **U.S. EPA Model Idling Law Workshop**
- CACC members attended this workshop on idling hosted by U.S. EPA in Chicago

July 26-28 **Regional Clean Cities Coordinator Exchange, Atlanta, Georgia**

Bethany Kraseman attended the annual regional coordinator meeting.

August 12 **Illinois State Fair, Springfield, Illinois**

The City of Aurora was part of Lt. Governor Pat Quinn’s exhibit showcasing their use of E-85 fuels and their designation as an Illinois Green Fleet. Joe Hopp and Darwin Burkhart were in attendance. The event included the patented “E-85 vs. Gasoline Burns” each hour at the State Fair.

August 15-17 **Illinois Chiefs of Police Expo, Rosemont**

Doug Dittrich of GM attended and exhibited information on AFVs and CACC for the state conference for police chiefs at the convention center in Rosemont.

August 23 **WBBM-TV Channel 2 (CBS) Taping**

A crew from Channel 2 spent a large part of the day at the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County’s fleet department in Lombard conducting interviews on how they made the decision to incorporate a “100% AFV Policy” for their fleet, how much progress they’ve made, the maintenance and cost benefits, and the support they have received from their Executive Director and Board. As usual, John Walton and Matt Stewart credited CACC for providing the needed information, experience, and services in getting their project underway and in providing continued support for their aggressive program. The footage aired on Channel 2 as part of the next day’s Morning Show.

August 24 **WBBM-TV Channel 2 (CBS) Morning Show**

John Walton, Matt Stewart, and Darwin Burkhart conducted a series of live interviews during the CBS2 Morning Show from 6:00 to 8:00 am at the Road Ranger E-85 station in Lombard. In addition to highlighting E-85 prices vs. high gas prices and what vehicles can run on E-85, the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County also brought a natural gas sedan and a propane-powered dump truck to the interviews. John and Matt explained the benefits of using alternative fuels in general and emphasized their commitment in “fuel diversification” in meeting their needs.

August 26

E-85 and Biodiesel Seminar in Collinsville

CACC co-sponsored a series of seminars throughout the state to promote E-85 and Biodiesel fuels. This series of seminars were modeled after the successful Biofuels Seminar hosted by CACC at the College of DuPage in June. CACC members spoke at and participated in these seminars.

August 27

Auto Show at Elgin Community College, Elgin

Several CACC members participated in the Auto Show in Elgin exhibiting AFVs and highlighting their benefits. Exhibitors included CACC, the City of Aurora, and the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County.

August 30-September 1

Farm Progress Show, Decatur, Illinois

The IEPA, General Motors, and the Illinois Soybean Association had exhibits at the Farm Progress Show, attended by thousands of farmers and agri-businesses from throughout the Midwest. The Illinois EPA, GM, ISA, and many other vendors featured E-85 and/or biodiesel fuels in their exhibits. CACC was promoted to some Chicago area citizens inquiring about activity in the Chicago area on alternate fuels and AFVs.

September 1

National Clean Cities Conference Call

Bethany Kraseman participated in this call for the planning of the “Beyond a Billion” celebration on October 14.

September 13

Southwest Conference of Mayors Meeting, Orland Park

Bethany Kraseman gave a presentation on CACC to fleet managers working for municipalities in the southwest suburbs.

September 15

E-85 and Biodiesel Seminar in Champaign

September 27

Presentation at DePaul University, Lincoln Park

Darwin Burkhart gave a presentation at DePaul University on behalf of CACC discussing alternate fuels and AFVs in the Chicago area.

- September 28 **Media Day for Autoshow in Motion, Arlington Heights**
- Doug Dittrich of General Motors represented CACC at this event. GM had an E-85 display, hosted an “E-85 Ride & Drive” and distributed Clean Cities materials to over 6,000 attendees.
- September 30 **E-85 and Biodiesel Seminar in Springfield**
- This seminar was a full-day event, sponsored by GTI.
- October 4 **Meeting with Office of the Mayor, Chicago**
- Bethany Kraseman gave a presentation on CACC and alternative fuels to staff in the Office of the Mayor.
- October 5 **National Clean Cities Conference Call**
- Bethany Kraseman participated in this call for the planning of the “Beyond a Billion” celebration.
- October 11 **Turf Equipment Technicians Association, Aurora**
- Matt Stewart of the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County gave a presentation on biofuels, which included a discussion of CACC and experiences with AFVs in their fleet.
- October 12 **E-85 and Biodiesel Seminar in Rockford**
- October 13 **E-85 and Biodiesel Seminar in Moline**
- October 14 **“Beyond a Billion” Event in Aurora**
- CACC participated in the national “Beyond a Billion” event, recognizing the milestone of one billion gallons of alternate fuels accounted for in the Clean Cities program, which started in 1992. CACC’s event was held in conjunction with the grand opening of the new E-85 station at Thornton’s in Aurora. The City of Aurora co-hosted the event with Thornton’s and CACC. At the conclusion of the event, E-85 was sold for 85 cents.

- October 17 **Policy Dialogue Meeting in Chicago**
- CACC members attended this inter-governmental meeting on motor vehicle and fuel initiatives underway in the Chicago area to help reduce emissions for improved air quality. CACC and its programs/projects were included in a report outlining successful strategies to reduce vehicle emissions and to promote clean fuels.
- October 27 **E-85 and Biodiesel Seminar in Carterville (Carbondale area)**
- November 2 **E-85 and Biodiesel Seminar in Aurora**
- This seminar was a full-day event, sponsored by GTI
- November 2 **Mayslake Lecture Series, Oakbrook**
- Doug Dittrich of General Motors and John Walton and Matt Stewart presented information on CACC and alternative fuels and vehicles at one of a series of events hosted by the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County. This provided members of the general public information on AFVs and alternate fuels.
- November 4 **Biodiesel Conference in Chicago**
- Darwin Burkhart and Judd Hulting represented CACC in speaking at the Biodiesel Conference held at the Hotel Monaco.
- December 5 **Policy Dialogue Meeting in Chicago**
- This is a second in a series of inter-governmental meetings that includes CACC and its role in helping to reduce vehicle emissions.
- December 7 **CACC Exhibit at Barenaked Ladies Concert, Chicago**
- Matt Stewart and Bethany Kraseman manned the CACC Exhibit at this concert.
- December 8 **Chicago Truck Club Meeting, Elmhurst**
- Doug Dittrich of GM updated Chevy Truck club members on the status of AFVs and CACC's work in the Chicago area.

December 12

General Motors Illinois Zone Managers Meeting, Naperville

Doug Dittrich gave a presentation on E-85 for all GM managers, highlighting potential partnerships with Chicago Area Clean Cities for future E-85 events in the Chicago area. Distributed coalition materials and highlighted the website.

Significant Accomplishments in 2005

- General Motors honored the top ten coalitions at the national conference in Palm Springs with regards to AFV implementation of GM vehicles, stakeholder support, and similar criteria. GM recognized Chicago Area Clean Cities for being amongst the nation's elite and presented CACC a check in the amount of \$3,000.
- CACC coordinated or co-sponsored a series of E-85 and Biodiesel seminars in the Chicago area and throughout the state of Illinois. Over 800 people attended these seminars.
- More than 70 retail E-85 stations were implemented throughout Illinois in 2005. In addition, several retail stations started to offer biodiesel fuel in Illinois, ranging in blends from B11 to B20. Members of CACC helped to implement or continue to provide marketing support for these new stations. The list of E-85 stations can be found at www.illinoisgreenfleets.org.
- The Illinois Soybean Association sponsored radio ads that ran for two weeks prior to the Biofuels Seminar held at the College of DuPage County in June. The radio ads primarily aired on WBBM 780 AM radio, which is Chicago's #1 radio station in terms of its audience and signal range. WBBM radio can be heard throughout much of the upper Midwest. The radio ads, which ran quite frequently, mentioned Chicago Area Clean Cities and directed people to our coalition's website to register for the seminar. These ads are credited for the overwhelming response we received in registrations and attendance!
- The Forest Preserve District of DuPage County continues its work in 2005 on a research project analyzing its AFV fleet with professors and doctoral students at the University of Illinois-Chicago. Once this project is completed, the published study will contain multi-faceted information and be distributed nationally. It is expected that this study will garner attention with many academic institutions and organizations interested in the experiences of this "model fleet" utilizing natural gas, propane, E-85, and biodiesel fuels; having acquired OEM vehicles as well as doing conversions; and installing various types of refueling infrastructure.
- New Illinois Green Fleets: City of Aurora and Cook-Illinois Corporation

Summary of Activities in 2005

Number of Coalition Meetings:	3
Number of Executive Board/Steering Committee Meetings:	3
Number of Special Meetings/Events:	43

The CACC Steering Committee wishes to thank the following organizations for sponsoring or contributing towards the successful events hosted by Chicago Area Clean Cities during the past year:

Illinois Soybean Association

General Motors

Chicago Department of Environment

Forest Preserve District of DuPage County

Advance Presort Service

Village of Downers Grove

EN Engineering

Gas Technology Institute

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

U.S. Department of Energy

ANGI International

Dual Fuel Systems

Illinois Corn Growers Association

Partners for Clean Air

Sutton Ford

Toyota Motor Sales

Exelon ComEd

Cummins NPower



CACC CLEAN FUEL CHAMPIONS

2001: STATE REPRESENTATIVE PHIL NOVAK

2002: MELINDA LATIMER
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, CHICAGO

2003: FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT OF
DUPAGE COUNTY

2004: ADVANCE PRESORT SERVICE

2005: VILLAGE OF DOWNERS GROVE