



# DFW Clean Cities Newsflash

Official Publication of the Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Coalition

March 2018

## In This Issue

Sponsorship | Clean Vehicles | Resources & Contact Us

## Clean Cities Sponsorship

DFW Clean Cities (DFWCC) relies on sponsor support to conduct much-needed education and outreach activities for area fleets,

community leaders, and citizens, as well as assisting in the increase of alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles and supporting infrastructure in the North Texas region. There are two ways to sponsor DFWCC - by becoming a Marketing Sponsor, or by proposing your own project. To learn more about the various Marketing Sponsor levels as well as submitting your own proposal to DFWCC, visit the [DFWCC website](#). Have a quick question about sponsorship? Feel free to reach out to us at [cleancities@nctcog.org](mailto:cleancities@nctcog.org) and we would be happy to discuss more!

A special thanks to our current newsletter sponsors!



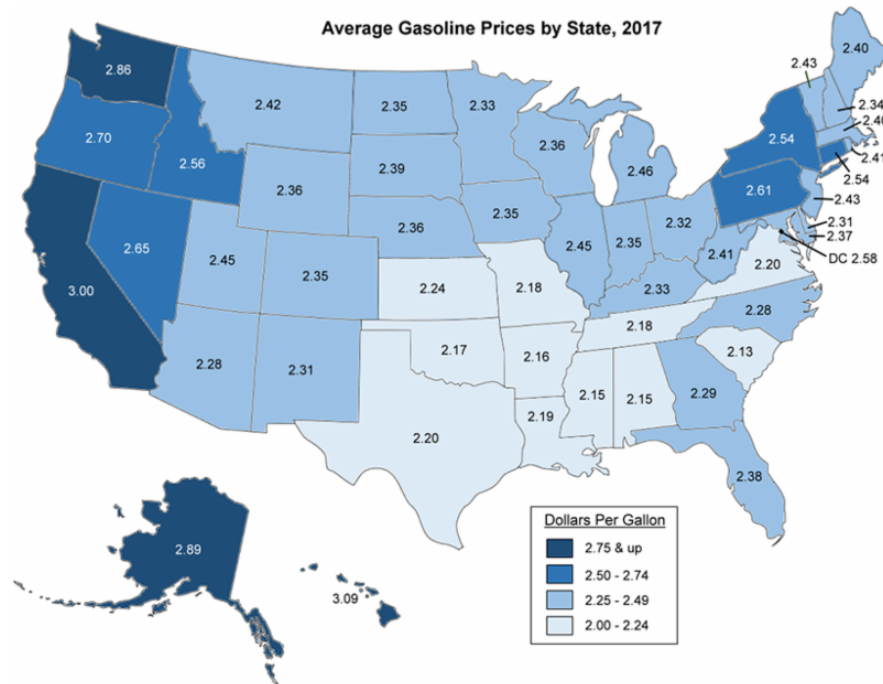
## Clean Vehicle News

### Upcoming DFWCC Webinars, Trainings, and Events

- **March 21** - from 8:30 am - 4:00 pm in Roanoke, TX, for a [CNG Fuel System- Technician Training](#)
- **March 27** - from 1:30-3:00 pm at the Plano Environmental Education Center for a [Sustainable Landscaping Tour and Meeting](#)
- **April 5** - from 11:00 am- 2:00 pm at NCTCOG for a [Luncheon Seminar: Grant Funding & Fuel Cost Savings](#)

### Think You're Paying Too Much at the Pump? Let DOE Provide Some Perspective

Ever feel like you're paying too much at the pump? Texas gas prices are actually among the lowest nationally, averaging between \$2.20-\$2.24 per gallon. However, according to the US Department of Energy (DOE), those living on the West coast might be right. The DOE found that for 2017 average gas prices were highest on the West Coast, Alaska and Hawaii. Specifically, residents of Washington State, California, Alaska, and the Aloha State paid \$2.75 or more on average for a gallon of gas. South Carolina can boast the lowest price per gallon for 2017 at only \$2.13 on average. The national average was \$2.40 per gallon but of courses prices vary by city and station. Check out the map below to see how Texas compares to other states.



## TCEQ Opens Second Round of AFFP Grant

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) recently announced a second round of funding for the [Alternative Fueling Facilities Program \(AFFP\)](#), as part of the Texas Emissions Reduction Plan (TERP). The AFFP provides grants for the new construction or expansion of alternative fuel stations within the [Clean Transportation Zone](#), which includes most North Central Texas counties (Palo Pinto, Erath, and Somervell counties not included). Eligible fuels include natural gas (CNG or LNG), biodiesel, hydrogen, methanol, propane, and electric charging. CNG/LNG projects are eligible for up to \$400,000 and combined CNG and LNG projects are eligible for up to \$600,000. Projects involving alternative fuels other than natural gas are eligible for funding of 50 percent of total costs for a maximum of \$600,000. The application deadline is March 29, 2018. For more information on TERP programs and funding opportunities, please visit <https://www.tceq.texas.gov/airquality/terp>.

## Tesla EVSE Incentive Program

Tesla will soon launch its much-anticipated [Model 3](#). The electric vehicle manufacturer has announced plans to subsidize installation costs and provide free charging stations to select workplaces and other destinations. Stations will include both Tesla proprietary units and universal charging stations. Tesla will contribute approximately \$1,000 to the installation of each charging station, with the site owner covering the remaining costs. The automaker will not charge monthly fees or require a contract but sites will be responsible for the provision and payment of electricity. Ideally, Tesla would prefer to install stations at workplaces and destination where Tesla owners will regularly be parked for two or more hours. This includes workplaces with 100+ employees, either current or potential Tesla owners, and destinations such as multi-unit residences and businesses where Tesla owners live or frequently visit. Interested parties can apply online at the [Tesla website](#), or contact Max Wilcox, Tesla Texas Regional Manager, at [mwilcox@tesla.com](mailto:mwilcox@tesla.com) or (510)-249-3741. Tesla also provides a list of [recommended electricians](#) for the installation; however, sites can utilize any certified electrician.



### **Alternative Fuels and Fueling Stations Get a Boost from Congress**

Congress has extended both the Alternative Fuels Tax Credit and the Alternative Fuel Vehicle Refueling Credit. The Alternative Fuels Tax Credit allows owners of refueling stations to claim fifty cents for each gallon gas equivalent of natural gas sold in 2017. Guidance is scheduled to be issued by the Treasury Department by March 11 and the Texas Natural Gas Foundation has crafted a handy [fact sheet](#) for the credit. The Alternative Fuel Vehicle Refueling Credit is also retroactive and applicable to stations in service by December 31, 2017. Station owners can claim a tax credit of up to \$30,000 or 30% of the new station cost. A [fact sheet](#) is also available for this credit.

### **Norway Leads the Way in EVs**

Norway is probably best known for Viking raids, fjords, and Winter Olympics glory but what you might not know about the Land of the Midnight Sun is that they have been leading the way in EV adoption

since the 1990s. December 2017 marked the first time that more than 50% of cars sold in the country were plug-in electrics. How did they do it? Norway offers titillating benefits for electric vehicles including exemption from sales tax, ferry charges, tolls, parking fees, and import tax. These benefits make many EVs roughly the same price as their ICE counterparts, leveling the cost playing field and incentivizing EV purchases. The Nordic country has set an ambitious goal to become the first country to eliminate sales of ICE vehicles by 2025 and it seems likely that they will meet that target. Norwegians wait up to two years to receive their EVs because all cars are imported and dealers are often unable to import vehicles quickly enough to meet demand. Norway's success proves that mass market adoption of EVs is NOT a fairy tale.

### **Propane Council of Texas Assistance for Texas Clean School Bus Program**

The [Texas Clean School Bus Program](#), part of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's (TCEQ) [Texas Emissions Reduction Plan \(TERP\)](#), has proven immensely popular this grant round. Applications for over half of the budgeted funding have already been received after just one month. In prior iterations of the grant, only school bus retrofits were eligible for funding but the program will now fund school bus replacements as well. Grant applications are due by April 26, 2019 but applicants are encouraged to submit early. A TCEQ presentation about the Texas Clean School Bus Program, including eligibility criteria and application instructions, can be found [here](#). For school districts wishing to replace existing buses, propane buses are one option. According to the Propane Council of Texas, propane buses have a lower overall cost of ownership and emit significantly less air pollutants than modern diesel buses. The Council has offered grant writing assistance for those districts without dedicated grant writers. To learn more about the benefits of propane school buses, visit the [Fueling Texas](#) website. Contact information and a description of available assistance from the Propane Council of Texas can be found [here](#).

## NCTCOG Sponsoring Car Care Clinics in April

NCTCOG is partnering with local automotive repair shops to sponsor Car Care Clinics throughout April to help North Texas drivers whose vehicles have the check engine light illuminated. A vehicle's check engine light turns on when there may be an issue that could negatively impact its emissions. These **FREE** clinics allow drivers the opportunity to discuss their vehicular woes with onsite technicians. In addition, AirCheckTexas Drive a Clean Machine on-site application processing will be available at select locations. This program provides financial assistance to qualified individuals for the repair or replacement of vehicles experiencing emissions problems. To find a clinic, visit [www.NTXCarCare.org](http://www.NTXCarCare.org). For more information, send an email to [NTXCarCare@nctcog.org](mailto:NTXCarCare@nctcog.org), or call 817-704-5697.

## Resources

[Air North Texas](#) | [Air Quality Funding](#) | [Electric Vehicles North Texas](#) | [DFW Clean Cities Calendar](#)

## Contact Us

**Lori Clark**  
Clean Cities Coordinator  
[cleancities@nctcog.org](mailto:cleancities@nctcog.org)

For a complete list of Clean Cities staff, visit [www.dfwcleancities.org](http://www.dfwcleancities.org).