

# DFW Clean Cities Newsflash

Official Publication of the Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Coalition

September 2019

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Get Recognized! Stakeholders and sponsors are invited to submit any updates/success stories/info about new projects or initiatives to be added to future Newsflashes upon review.

DFW Clean Cities is here for all your alternative fuel and technology needs. Reach out to us for any technical assistance or general inquiries related to Clean Cities.

## Upcoming Events

October 1 and 3: Texas Volkswagen Environmental  
Mitigation Program - DFW Area Workshop and Webinar

The second round of funding for projects to replace or repower refuse vehicles (garbage trucks, roll-off trucks, dump trucks, sweeper trucks, chipper trucks, and grapple trucks) will open October 2019. Unsure of what to purchase? View a recording of the DFWCC webinar held September 12, which covered available alternative fuel technologies at <https://www.dfwcleancities.org/dfw-clean-cities-meetings>.

Workshop: Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at 2 p.m.

TCEQ Region Office

2309 Gravel Drive

Fort Worth, Texas 78217

No RSVP needed to attend!

Webinar: Thursday, October 3, 2019 at 2 p.m.

RSVP to [terp@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:terp@tceq.texas.gov) now!

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## October 1: Webinar on Texas Natural Gas Vehicle Grant Program

Tune into the TCEQ webinar to learn how to get grants to replace or repower a heavy-duty or medium-duty motor vehicle with a CNG, LNG, or LPG, engine or vehicle.

Webinar: Tuesday, October 1, 2019 from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

RSVP to [terp@tceq.texas.gov](mailto:terp@tceq.texas.gov) now!

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## October 10: Texas NGV Alliance Meeting

Texas NGV Alliance, in conjunction with DFW Clean Cities, will host its member meeting on October 10. Join us for presentations and lunch followed by a private plant tour at Applied LNG in Midlothian, TX. Presentation topics will include the DFW Clean Cities Annual Report, liquified natural gas and an upcoming project to track maintenance costs of natural gas vehicles. Cost is \$20 for pre-registered or \$25 at the

door.

Location: Atmos Energy, 1550 Tech Centre Parkway, Arlington, Texas

Meeting Date/Time: October 10, 11:00 am – 1:00 pm

Plant Tour Starting at 1:30 pm: Applied LNG, Midlothian, TX (Pre-Registration is Required)

Register now at [www.dfwcleancities.org/dfw-clean-cities-meetings](http://www.dfwcleancities.org/dfw-clean-cities-meetings).

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## October 13: State Fair Electric Vehicle Display

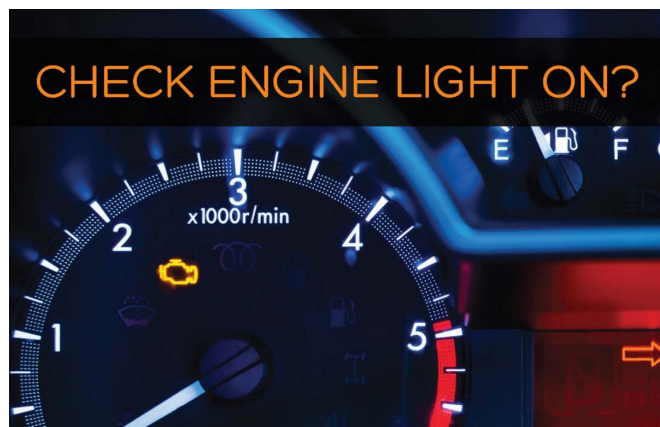
Come join the North Texas Tesla Owners Group for their first-ever display of electric vehicles at the [State Fair of Texas Classic Corral](#) on Sunday, October 13 from 9am to 6pm. They'll be showcasing 25 electric vehicles ranging from the Tesla Roadster and Fisker Karma to a variety of currently available makes and models, including the Jaguar I-Pace, Audi e-Tron, Tesla Models S, X and 3, Chevrolet Bolt, Kia Soul EV and more. All of the owners and cars have stories to tell, so you'll want to see them all!

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## Car Care Clinic Through October!

NCTCOG is partnering with local automotive repair shops to sponsor Car Care Clinics throughout October 2019 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 will provide drivers with an opportunity to talk to a technician about their vehicle's issues and get tips and advice to potentially make their car or truck run better.



## October Car Care Clinics

Location: Kinney's Automotive (624 E. Pipeline Road, Hurst, TX 76053)

Date/Time: October 17 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Location: The Auto Shop (2560 E. Plano Parkway, Plano, TX 75074)

Date/Time: October 19 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Location: Starkey Service Center (918 West Davis, St., Dallas, TX 75208)

Date/Time: October 25 from 9:00 am – 11:00 am

For more information email [NTXCarCare@nctcog.org](mailto:NTXCarCare@nctcog.org) or call 817-704-5697.

## Regional News

### National Drive Electric Week a Success!

To kick off National Drive Electric Week, entities and individuals from across the North Texas region gathered



for the rEVolution Workshop held on Friday, September 20, 2019. The workshop served as an opportunity to strengthen coordination between various EV sectors to plan for the growth and future of EVs in North Texas. Presentations from the workshop can be found on our [webpage](#).

On Saturday, September 21, 2019 nearly 200 drivers gathered in Irving to showcase electric vehicles ranging from motorcycles to cars. This event gave the public a chance to get a glimpse into what electric vehicles are and how they positively impact the environment. Displayed vehicles included the Chevrolet Volt, Hyundai Kona, Kia Niro, Nissan Leaf, Chrysler Pacifica minivan, and Fisker Karma. Oncor sponsored the first

Annual EV Road Rally, which drew participation from a dozen EV drivers. Shannon and Mace Birkes, who drove a Tesla Model 3, won the inaugural trophy and a \$250 prize. DFW Clean Cities was honored that the DFW area event was one of only two events outside of the Los Angeles area visited by Joel Levin, Executive Director of Plug-In America.

Read more about National Drive Electric Week in an article from the Fort Worth Star-Telegram [here](#).

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## Trinity Metro DASH All-Electric Bus Service Launched September 23

City of Fort Worth residents can finally take advantage of Trinity Metro's newest fleet of electric buses! The service, known as the Dash, runs every 15 minutes from downtown Fort Worth to the city's cultural district, making a stop at Fort Worth Central Station. The Dash bus service stops near the city's museums and the new Dickies Arena! Read more about the zero-emission bus service [here](#).

## Industry Updates

### Texas Environmental Excellence Awards Accepting Applications!

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality is now accepting applications for the 2020 Texas Environmental Excellence Awards. The awards honor achievements in environmental preservation and protection. The deadline to apply has been extended to October 11, 2019.

Read [here](#) for more details and for information about the separate Environmental Educator of the Year Award.

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### Natural Gas Truck Sales Are on the Rise

Retail sales of U.S. and Canadian Class 8 Natural Gas trucks have increased in 2019, reversing the declining trend from the year before, according to ACT Research's Alternative Fuels Quarterly.

Find out more in [this article from Truckinginfo](#).

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## Amazon Orders 100,000 Electric Vans from Rivian

In an effort to tackle climate change, Amazon orders 100,000 electric delivery vans from Rivian. This order is helping the company's goal of becoming net carbon neutral by 2040. After Rivian's prototyping phase is complete in 2020, the first group of 10,000 vans are set to be delivering your packages by 2021.

Find out more in [this article from CNBC](#).

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## GM and Volkswagen Cut Hybrid Vehicles from Lineup

GM and Volkswagen are cutting hybrids from their vehicle lineups in the United States but will continue concentrating investments on battery-electric vehicles. GM announced last year that it would eliminate the plug-in hybrid Chevrolet Volt from its lineup as part of a company restructuring but announced in 2017 that it would launch 20 EVs by 2023. Volkswagen announced earlier this year that it was developing 70 batter-electric models by 2025. Automakers such as Toyota will continue to focus on developing plug-in hybrids.

Read more about the lineup change [here](#).

## Funding

Subscribe to Air Quality Funding Updates [here](#) to receive real-time information on funding and incentives related to clean vehicle



technologies and other air-quality improvement measures!

## Clean Fleets North Texas 2019 Call for Projects Reopening

The North Central Texas Council of Governments will be reopening the Clean Fleets North Texas 2019 Call for Projects! Eligible applicants include local governments and private companies that contract with local governments. Eligible activities include the replacement of on-road diesel vehicles and of non-road diesel equipment. Funding levels are as follows:

- 45% if New Vehicle/Equipment is Electric
- 35% if New Vehicle/Equipment is Powered by Engine Certified to California Air Resource Board Optional Low-NOx Standards
- 25% Cost for All Others

Visit [www.nctcog.org/aqfunding](http://www.nctcog.org/aqfunding) to view documents as reference in anticipation of the reopening.

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## North Texas Freight Terminal Electrification 2019 Call for Projects Now Open

The North Central Texas Council of Governments has opened the Call for Projects offering approximately \$1 million in grant funding to applicants interested in constructing and installing electrified parking spaces at distribution centers and freight terminals. Funding will cover up to 30% of eligible project costs of electrified parking spaces, power monitoring equipment, and electric power kits.

See more details at [www.nctcog.org/aqfunding](http://www.nctcog.org/aqfunding).

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## Texas Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Program (TxVEMP)

Stay tuned to the TxVEMP to follow the awarded grants under the first funding round for school buses, transit buses, and shuttle buses. The

workshops for the second funding round for refuse haulers is underway and will open in October 2019.

An eligible refuse vehicle must:

- have a gross vehicle weight rating greater than 26,001 lbs.;
- be powered by a diesel engine of model year 1992-2009; and
- be configured to collect and transport municipal solid waste.

For more information, visit [www.TexasVWFund.org](http://www.TexasVWFund.org).

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## Denton Municipal Electric \$300 Electric Vehicle Rebate

Denton Municipal Electric is offering a \$300 rebate for their customers that purchase an electric vehicle. Customers who receive the rebate must agree to charge the vehicle during the off-peak hours of 10 pm to 7 am. The municipality is also offering customers two solar incentives: a rebate of 30% of invoice on the installation of solar screens on windows, and a rebate of 30% of invoice on the installation of a solar water heater.

For terms and conditions, read more about Denton Municipal Electric's GreenSense Incentive Program [here](#).

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## Light-Duty Motor Vehicle Purchase or Lease Incentive Program

Rebates are available statewide for eligible light-duty motor vehicles purchased or leased in Texas on or after September 1, 2019.

- Rebates of up to \$5,000 are available for up to 1,000 eligible compressed natural gas (CNG) and liquefied petroleum gas (LPG or propane) vehicles.
- Rebates of up to \$2,500 are available for up to 2,000 eligible electric drive (plug-in or plug-in hybrid) or hydrogen fuel cell vehicles.

Applications will be accepted and considered on a first-come, first-served basis until all available rebates have been awarded.

Applications will not be accepted after 5:00 p.m. on January 7, 2021.



## Propane Council of Texas Incentive

Time is running out to take advantage of funding from the Propane Council of Texas. Upgrade to propane by buying a new vehicle or converting a vehicle under 40,000 miles. Receive up to \$7,500 per purchase or conversion, subject to a \$20,000 cap per fleet. Act now! Funds are first come, first serve and expire at the end of 2019. Don't miss out!

Visit <https://www.propanecounciloftexas.org/vehicleincentives> for more information.

## Training Resources

### Exemptions from Railroad Commission of Texas Propane Certification Requirements

Certain DFW Clean Cities fleets have expressed frustration in having to outsource propane vehicle repairs and maintenance. As a point of clarification, DFW Clean Cities staff wishes to point out that the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Safety Rules Manual, §9.51. General Requirements for LP-Gas Training and Continuing Education, training and continuing education requirements do not apply to "an employee of a state agency, county, municipality, school district, or other governmental subdivision, unless such an individual is or becomes certified." Thus, technicians who work only on vehicles owned by a public sector fleet employer may not have to be certified by the Railroad Commission. However, all relevant Railroad Commission safety rules must be followed.

For more information, visit the [Railroad Commission of Texas regulations](#).

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### National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium Manuals Available

DFWCC is offering the following manuals on a first-come, first-served basis. Please send your request to [cleancities@nctcog.org](mailto:cleancities@nctcog.org). See pictures of the manuals available at <https://www.dfwcleancities.org/training>.

(17) Law Enforcement Alternative Fuel Vehicle Safety Training Instructor Manual

(15) Compressed Natural Gas Vehicles: Fuel System Inspector

(4) Electric Drive Automotive Technician Training

(2) Light-Duty Natural Gas Vehicles

(1) Propane Vehicle Training

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## Clean Cities Sponsorship

DFW Clean Cities (DFWCC) relies on sponsor support to fund its initiatives, including education and outreach to municipalities, community groups, and citizens, as well as advocating for alternative fuels vehicles and infrastructure in the North Texas region. To read more about becoming a sponsor or proposing a Clean Cities project please visit the [DFWCC website](#).



Thanks to our current Level 2 DFW Clean Cities Sponsors!

## Resources

[Air North Texas](#) | [Air Quality Funding](#) | [Electric Vehicles North Texas](#)

## Contact Us

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