



# MCC News

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## Special points of interest:

- Name Change: We are now MARYLAND Clean Cities (MCC) to reflect the work we are doing throughout the state.
- Mark your calendars for the next MCC quarterly meeting: **September 13, 11:00 AM** at the Baltimore Metropolitan Council.

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## First State Owned E85 Pump Opens in Baltimore

Governor Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr. joined U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Samuel W. Bodman August 7th in celebrating the opening of the first State-owned E-85 ethanol fueling facility at the State Office Center in Baltimore.

"As the State purchases new vehicles for its fleet, more and more of the cars, trucks and vans will run on alternative fuels," said Governor Ehrlich. "With this new E-85 facility, we are working to make our State fleet less dependant on fossil fuels. In addition, the use of E-85 will further economic development, increase the viability of our farms, and keep our air and water clean."

"Reducing our nation's dependence on foreign sources of oil has never been a more pressing

issue, and greater use of E-85 and other renewable fuels can help us do that. I applaud Governor Ehrlich for his commitment to bring more renewable energy to Maryland," Secretary Bodman said. "The Energy Policy Act has had a significant impact on the spread of ethanol as a fuel for the United States and today's announcement of \$2 billion in loan guarantees will help spur additional investment in novel techniques that could bring more renewable energy to market soon."

The E-85 pump installed at Baltimore State Center is the first to be installed within the Statewide Automated Fuel Dispensing System. Installation was funded by the Maryland Energy Administration, the U. S. Department of Energy's Clean Cities program and the Maryland Grain



Producers Utilization Board. A second fueling site has been funded at University of Maryland, College Park, and two sites in Annapolis are being considered for future funding.

Many MCC stakeholders joined in Baltimore to celebrate this milestone event. Governor Ehrlich and MEA Director Fred Davis both expressed their gratitude to the Clean Cities program in facilitating the increased use of alternative fuels in Maryland.

## Renewable Fuels Production Incentives Announced

Amid corn and soybean fields at the Sidney and Kay Richardson Farm in Willards, Wicomico County, Governor Ehrlich, Jr. made agriculture- and growth-related announcements on August 16th. The Governor announced record funding for and participation in Maryland's Cover Crop Program, an Incentive Program to help develop feedstock for future ethanol production, and the availability of financial credits for producers

of certain renewable fuels. This announcement highlights the Governor's commitment to supporting viable agriculture, developing renewable energy sources, and protecting the environment.

The Governor also announced the new Hulless Barley Incentive Program, made possible through \$750,000 a grant from the Maryland Grain Producers Utilization Board, for farmers to

gain experience growing the small grain for use in ethanol production. This program will provide an additional incentive payment of \$15 per acre to plant hulless barley.

For information about the Cover Crop and Hulless Barley Incentive Programs, visit [www.mda.state.md.us](http://www.mda.state.md.us). For information on the Renewable Fuels Incentive Board, call 410-841-5775.

## Tax Credits for Toyota Hybrids Decreasing

Federal tax incentives for hybrid vehicle purchases were part of the Energy Policy Act of 2005 signed by President George W. Bush last summer. Consumers can get up to \$3,400 off their federal taxes for purchasing hybrid vehicles; however, once an automaker sells 60,000 hybrid vehicles, the credits diminish.

That time has come for

Toyota, having sold over 60,000 Prius hybrid sedans, hybrid Toyota Highlanders and hybrid Lexus 400H sport utility vehicles. Buyers can continue to claim full credits only if they buy a Toyota hybrid vehicle before October. Buyers can still receive half the original credit for six months following October 1. Starting April 1, 2007 only 25 percent of the credit will be awarded until October of

next year.

Other hybrid auto makers have time before reaching the 60,000 vehicle cap, meaning consumers can continue to receive full credit for purchasing vehicles from Ford, General Motors and Honda.



## Recent Happenings

Several MCC stakeholders were recognized by Governor Robert Ehrlich, MEA Director Fred Davis and other dignitaries at a recent cabinet meeting held in Salisbury, MD. Sandy Davis, Seth Powell, James Wood and Susanne Zilberfarb were all given Governor's Citations for their work in increasing awareness and expanding the use of biodiesel

in Maryland. MCC applauds their hard work!

Our very favorite former Regional Coordinator of the Clean Cities program, Patricia Passarella, landed an excellent job with the Department of Defense. We are thrilled for Patricia. Steve Richardson will be offering regional support in her stead and has big shoes

to fill. Welcome aboard, Steve.

If you have a recent "happening" that you would like to have mentioned in the next MCC News, please call Lauren Robbins at (410) 260-7542 or e-mail at [lrobbins@energy.state.md.us](mailto:lrobbins@energy.state.md.us).



## Upcoming Events

The next MCC quarterly meeting is NEXT WEEK! We will meet September 13 at 11:00 AM at the Baltimore Metropolitan Council (BMC), located on the third floor of Lighthouse Point East, in the 2700 block of Boston Street in Baltimore. Parking and driving directions can be found at <http://www.baltometro.org/content/view/38/71/>

The National AFV Day Odyssey is coming up on October 12. MCC will be participating in this nationwide event (last held in 2004) to raise awareness for alternative fuel vehicles and their benefits. Details will be given at next week's MCC quarterly meeting. For more information on the National AFV Day Odyssey,

visit <http://www.nationalafvdayodyssey.org>

For more information on these events, or to submit an event to be featured in the next MCC News, please call Lauren Robbins at (410) 260-7542 or e-mail at [lrobbins@energy.state.md.us](mailto:lrobbins@energy.state.md.us).

