



Our mission is to improve health in Northeast Ohio, by reducing air toxics through sustainable community efforts.

ISSUE 5 OCTOBER 2006

THE CLEVELAND CLEAN AIR CENTURY CAMPAIGN UPDATE

BNSF RAILWAY SHOWCASES NEW TECHNOLOGY FOR CLEANER AIR QUALITY

Jim FitzGerald, Manager, Industry Initiatives for BNSF Railway was the keynote speaker at Cleveland Clean Air Century Campaign's quarterly meeting on September 13, 2006. The topic of discussion was how BNSF Railway is embracing a new generation of environmentally friendly technology. The key benefits of their new rail technology include:

- Reducing fuel burned by automatically shutting down idling locomotives
- Reducing harmful gas and particulate emissions
- Reducing noise emissions

Approximately twenty-five people gathered for the presentation. Feedback from the presentation was overwhelmingly positive.

OHIO EPA INTRODUCES MERCURY REMOVAL PROGRAM

In an attempt to mitigate mercury pollution, the Ohio EPA announced a program that compensates salvage yards for the removal of toxic switches from automobiles before they are dismantled. The EPA program will now provide auto salvage yards with \$3 for the removal of each mercury switch prior to vehicle crushing or dismantling. Automotive mercury switches are commonly found in components of automobiles manufactured before 2003.

Nationally, it is estimated that 150 million switches, or about 150 tons of mercury, currently remain in vehicles. If switches are not removed prior to melting or crushing, mercury from switches is released, endangering both the environment and public health.

Ohio EPA's goal is to collect and recycle 20,000 switches with the initial \$60,000 seed money. And because mercury switch lighting is not used in most currently produced vehicles, the EPA expects the majority of switches to be collected within the first few years of the program.

For more information on the mercury switch removal program, contact Laurie Stevenson at (614) 644-2344, or by writing to Ohio EPA, Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention, Attention: Laurie Stevenson, Lazarus Government Center, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049.

EARTHWATCH OHIO

Ohio has a new publication, *EarthWatch Ohio*, covering environmental issues from an activist perspective. The free, bimonthly publication will distribute 30,000 copies through 1,000 sites in Northeast Ohio, with additional distribution in Columbus, Cincinnati, Athens, and Toledo. The goal is to reach all of Ohio's 88 counties with information about how citizens can get involved and improve the health of the state's environment.

Earthwatch Ohio is a nonprofit organization, and its launch has been supported by the George Gund Foundation. The editor is Stefanie Spear, who previously published the *Affinity* environmental newspaper in Ohio in the mid-1990s. For more information about getting involved visit www.earthwatchohio.org

TAKE ACTION TO STOP CLIMATE CHANGE

On September 19, 2006, Entrepreneurs for Sustainability held their E4S Third Tuesday Network Event. The topic of discussion: How are organizations addressing their climate change footprint? The presenters helped explore opportunities:

- David Konkle, Energy Coordinator for Ann Arbor, MI, covered the “why” take action on climate change as well as sharing his city’s progress and projects related to their climate protection goals.
- **Richard King** from ALCOA shared their corporate climate change strategy. For additional information: http://www.alcoa.com/locations/usa_cleveland/en/home.asp
- William Tokash from Domani’s Chicago office shared his perspective on where industry is on the climate change curve and reported on the insurance industry's recent movement.

UPCOMING EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES AND EVENTS

PM2.5 Kick-Off Meeting

On October 26, 2006, the Northeast Ohio Areawide Coordinating Agency (NOACA) will hold a PM2.5 SIP meeting in Cleveland, Ohio. The purpose of this workshop is to begin the public participation process for the particulate matter State Implementation Plan (SIP). The USEPA designated Ashtabula (partial), Cuyahoga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage, and Summit as being in nonattainment for the new fine particulate (PM2.5) standard. These designations require that the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, with local input, submit a SIP to USEPA that would bring Northeast Ohio into attainment for this air pollutant. The workshop will be held on Thursday, October 26, 2006 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the NOACA Board Room, 1299 Superior Ave. Please RSVP to Amy Wainright by calling (216) 241-2414, Extension 252.

Sustainability in the City of Cleveland

Andrew Watterson, Cleveland's Sustainability Programs Manager will be the keynote speaker at Cleveland Clean Air Century Campaign's quarterly meeting on January 24, 2007.

City governments have an important role in putting sustainability into action. Investing in sustainability is an investment in the economy and our quality of life. The City of Cleveland made this investment with the help of the Cleveland and Gund Foundations when they hired Andrew

Watterson as their Sustainability Programs Manager April 2005. He has identified many projects that will help the city save money, increase revenues, and improve the health of the environment and its citizens.

If you or your organization are interested in learning about sustainability in the city this is a must attend meeting. CEUs will be offered for Wastewater Operators, Registered Sanitarians, and Professional Engineers. Please email your license numbers to keith.riley@epa.state.oh.us if you have not already done so for previous offerings.

Please RSVP by January 19th to Linda D. Kimble @ (216) 532-8211 or lkimble@ohiolung.org if you are interested in attending and receiving CEU's. Light refreshments will be served.

Environmental Library Series

The Cleveland Clean Air Century Campaign will sponsor a workshop designed for Tremont, Slavic Village, St. Clair Superior, and Lee-Miles residents who want to learn more about air quality issues. The sessions will include a presentation and discussion period. All sessions will be free and open to the public and held at public libraries. The first environmental library session:

Neighborhood: Tremont

Date/Day: Thursday, November 9, 2006

Time: 6:00 to 6:45pm

Location: Jefferson Public Library

850 Jefferson Ave, Cleveland, Ohio

Topic: Mold & Moisture: Should You Be Concerned?

Speaker: Stephanie McConoughey, Cuyahoga County Board of Health

PROPOSED WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

Metalfinishers/Electroplaters

Dry Cleaners

Mercury in Schools

Stay tuned for additional details.

IMPLEMENTATION TEAM UPDATES

Cleaner Diesel Fleets:

The committee will collaborate with the Cleveland Department of Public Health to develop a proposal to Ohio Department of Transportation for Safe Routes to Schools.

Posted Date: June 14, 2006

First round grant applications: January 2007

Closing Date Applications: TBA

Number of Years: 4 years

Estimated Total Program Funding: \$19 million

Eligible Applicants:

State, local, and regional agencies including nonprofit organizations

Agency: Ohio Department of Transportation

Description:

Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) is a federal program, which provides limited funds to states including Ohio. These funds will be used to improve the ability of primary and middle school students to walk and bicycle to school safely. The purposes of the program are:

1. To enable and encourage children, including those with disabilities, to walk and bicycle to school.
2. To make bicycling and walking to school a safer and more appealing transportation alternative, thereby encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle from an early age.
3. To facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that will improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity (approximately 2 miles) of primary and middle schools (Grades K-8).

Funding Committee:

The committee drafted an Integrated Fundraising Plan for the Cleveland Clean Air Century Campaign. The purpose of the Integrated Fundraising Plan will be to provide the Campaign with detailed, step-by-step instructions to establish and manage an ongoing, successful fundraising program. Included will be key topics, such as how to incorporate fundraising into the Campaign's strategic plan, several fundraising best practices. The final plan will be completed by October 31st. Ohio EPA -The committee will consider submitting a proposal for the general and mini grant program. Deadline: January 15, 2007.

ODOT- see Cleaner Diesel Fleets Committee update

Cleveland Foundation - Campaign invited to submit grant inquiry form by the environmental project officer. The form will be submitted by October 31st.

Communications Committee:

The committee proposed the following: The purchase of additional promotional materials (\$1500). The establishment of The Rev. Marvin J. Smith Memorial Scholarship Fund for Youth (\$500). The scholarships would assist youth ages 5 to 17 years old that wish to attend a camp, class or workshop with an emphasis on the environment. Both proposals were approved.

Council Introduction - The committee will make follow-up calls to City of Cleveland council to propose a face-to-face meeting to discuss the Campaign and its projects.

Campaign Article - The committee is developing an article to submit to local neighborhood newspapers, Balanced Living Magazine and others.

WHERE'S LINDA?

Linda D. Kimble, Project Coordinator, for the Cleveland Clean Air Century Campaign participates in many local efforts:

NOACA Air Quality Public Advisory Board - The NOACA Governing Board, on August 11, 2006, adopted recommendations by which Northeast Ohio could attain the 8-hour ozone standard, on the basis of 15 months of work performed by the NOACA Air Quality Public Advisory Task Force and the NOACA Air Quality Subcommittee. The PM2.5 Kick-Off meeting will be held on October 26, 2006 (see details above).

City of Cleveland Sustainability Committee – A consortium of local environmental and sustainability organizations helped the City of Cleveland develop this new initiative and obtain funding for it from the Cleveland Foundation and George Gund Foundation. The purpose of the committee is to oversee and advise the program manager. The City of Cleveland has introduced an anti-idling policy, requiring all city vehicles and equipment to turn off their engines when they are not required for an immediate purpose. The Campaign is involved with the following projects

- Sustainability 101 For Public Utilities: The Campaign will provide a speaker for a mandatory workshop. Dr. Robert Cohn will talk to the City of Cleveland utility department managers and employees on Wednesday October 25, 2006 about the health effects of idling.
- Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Funding. The CMAQ funds, which are federal transportation dollars targeted to assist ozone, carbon monoxide, and particulate matter nonattainment areas, are distributed by the Ohio Department of Transportation through metropolitan planning organizations such as NOACA and Akron Metropolitan Area Transportation Study. The Campaign will assist with the CMAQ application and the implementation of the selected project. Stay tuned for additional details.

Mercury/Fish Advisory Steering Committee – Goals

Goal 1: Increase awareness of the fish consumption advisory and mercury contamination as public health issues

Goal 2: Ensure target groups are educated about Ohio's sport fish consumption advisory and are able to take actions that can reduce their contaminant exposure

Goal 3: Ensure effective mercury outreach (mercury contamination, Fish Consumption Advisory, reduction strategies) to Cleveland/NEO residents and the environmental justice community

Goal 4: Work with existing partner organizations and agencies to address mercury risk communication for both sport fish and commercially purchased fish

Goal 5: Ensure that information is communicated regarding the source of contamination as well as clean up/reduction strategies. Also, ensure that information is properly communicated regarding food preparation as well as consumption choices

Northeast Ohio Environmental Collaborative Network – The purpose of this current project is to increase the effectiveness of Northeast Ohio's environmental non-profit community in improving the environmental health of our region.

Cleveland Diesel Hot Spots – In collaboration with Clean Air Task Force, Ohio Environmental Council, and Earth Day Coalition. The Cleveland Clean Air Century Campaign's role will be to:

- Help in Cleveland securing local traffic data if needed
- Review draft report, including findings, policy requests and presentation
- Help with initial report release including press conference and initial distribution of report
- Use Hot Spots identified in report to create a road-map for local organizing in key "Hot spot" neighborhoods

MEETINGS

Communications Committee Meeting

Friday October 20 at 10:15 a.m. & Friday December 1 at 10:15 a.m.

Funding Committee Meeting

Friday October 20 at 3:00 p.m. & Friday November 3 at 2:30 p.m.

Planning Committee Meeting

Monday October 30 at 11:00 a.m.

Training/Education Committee

Friday November 3 at 10:00 a.m.

Indoor Environments Committee Meeting

Tuesday November 14 at 9:00 a.m.

The Cleveland Clean Air Century Campaign Working Group Meeting

Wednesday January 24, 2007 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

MISCELLANEOUS

Visit our website at www.ohiolung.org/ccacc.htm for additional information about the Cleveland Clean Air Century Campaign.

If you have any information that you would like to circulate through this update please submit your information and details to Linda D. Kimble at lkimble@ohiolung.org