In mid-November, General Motors stopped in Tucson to promote the use of ethanol and their new line of flex-fuel vehicles (FFVs). An expert panel on alternative fuels and vehicles was held at the University of Arizona and was composed of Clean Cities Program Manager Colleen Crowninshield, Zelen Environmental owner Michael Kazz (P.E.) and General Motors Alternative Fuels and Advanced Technologies Manager Brian Hazen. Each member of the panel presented and questions from the roughly 100-member audience also were answered. Afterward, GM took time to meet with Mark Harrell, the University of Arizona’s Motor Pool Fleet Manager, discuss the UA’s commitment to E85 and FFVs and check out the University’s 4,000 gallon E85 tank. GM Representatives, along with Ms. Crowninshield, also spent time educating area dealerships on the FFVs that they carry and where they can purchase ethanol once they drive off the lot.

While in town, GM also helped host a grand opening for a new E85 ethanol location in Tucson—FastLane Chevron located at 1999 E. Ajo Way. For two hours, those who filled up with E85 paid 85 cents per gallon. A total of 107 vehicles were filled and 1,929 gallons were pumped in these two hours alone—a record for the Fuel for Thought tour.

Lee Jestings, owner of the station believes that ethanol is the way to go if you drive an FFV. “It’s cleaner and a lot cheaper,” Jestings said. “It’s a great alternative.”

GM educated UA students, staff and alumni who attended the Arizona vs. Oregon game at the University on Nov. 15. The team—including Clean Cities representatives—reached over 4,000 people with E85 information.

A video of Tucson from the tour is accessible on the Fuel for Thought Web site at www.cheyfuelforthought.com. Click on the map in the upper left corner, then on Arizona to access Tucson.
Tucson Clean Cities helps Green Super Bowl XLII

The Tucson Clean Cities Coalition assisted FOX Sports with securing hybrid and flex-fuel vehicles (FFVs) for use both internally by FOX, as well as by designated VIPs during Super Bowl XLII in Glendale. Executives drove hybrid SUVs and flex-fuel vehicles which used E85 throughout Super Bowl week to help reduce the amount of greenhouse gases emitted during the festivities.

“It was exciting to see alternative fuels used in such a high profile event, and I am proud we were part of it,” said Colleen Crowninshield, Clean Cities Program Manager.

Renewable biodiesel (B20) fuel, treated with ORXYE LED to reduce emissions further, was also used in diesel vehicle shuttle buses operated by a local bus company at the Feb. 3 event. Both the B20 and E85 was provided by Western States Petroleum.

James M. Cleary, ORYXE Energy chairman and chief executive officer commented, “The NFL’s environmental efforts at the Super Bowl will help take renewable energy into the mainstream.”

The NFL, in partnership with the Arizona Super Bowl XLII Host Committee, also increased green efforts by indirectly offsetting greenhouse gas emissions with renewable energy certificates from Salt River Project EarthWise Energy in the form of credits for wind and solar energy sources. The Host Committee also will plant thousands of trees to help reforest Arizona land that was devastated by the Rodeo Chediski fire.
Coalition Members Honored at January Reception

The Tucson Regional Clean Cities Coalition program honored coalition members in a reception held on Jan. 23. Plaques were distributed to dues-paying Saguaro Level members while honorary Saguaro members and Cholla Level members received certificates honoring their commitment to reducing Arizona’s dependence on imported petroleum. A light lunch was provided at the meeting and a record number of members attended; nearly 40 were present.

Guest speaker, Martha Vazquez of KVOA-NBC, congratulated the members for their commitment and admitted to learning much in the past year regarding alternative fuels but that she had more to learn in the future. Ms. Vazquez distributed the awards and posed for photos with each of the coalition members, demonstrating her devotion to the event and the Clean Cities program.

Again, the Clean Cities program would like to thank its coalition members for their pledge to reduce America’s dependence on foreign oil. We look forward to 2008 and the many successes it will bring!

E85 Station Opens in Sahuarita

Reay’s Ranch Investors chose to open their newest Super Stop in Sahuarita with alternative fuel in mind. Immediately off interstate 19 at exit 75, the Shell gas station houses an E85 pump, making ethanol available to flex-fuel vehicles traveling in southern Arizona.

The Super Stop hosted a grand opening on Saturday, Jan. 26, filling 18 vehicles with 485 gallons of E85 at the reduced price of $1.85 for the event.

Many who filled their vehicles were surprised at the cost, with large SUVs usually costing around $80 to fill the tank with regular unleaded. Clean Cities staff members were prepared to educate people on not only the benefits of using E85, but also on what having a flex-fuel vehicle means. Several people who filled up their vehicles at the grand opening were not aware that their car could take ethanol, despite the notice on the inside of the fuel door that the vehicle can take both regular unleaded and ethanol.

Also at the grand opening, the Super Stop hosted grease recycling, provided by Greecycle of Tucson. Barrels were available to fill with waste grease that will then be turned into biodiesel by Greecycle. Sahuarita plans to make this a regular event and anticipates hosting a site for the annual day-after-Thanksgiving used grease collection that currently occurs mostly in Tucson.

The station is at 795 W. Via Rancho Sahuarita and is the second Super Stop to have E85. The first location was in Safford.

Grease Collection Results in 300 Gallons of Biodiesel

On Friday, Nov. 23, 2007, Tucson Clean Cities, Pima County Wastewater Management, and Greecycle hosted the 3rd Annual Day After Thanksgiving grease recycling event. The event’s growing popularity resulted in the collection of 2,100 pounds of used grease, up from 1,400 pounds in 2006. The grease was collected in a mere 5 hours – for surpassing a collection for the City of San Diego where it took five months to collect the same amount.

The 2,100 pounds of grease will be turned into 300 gallons of biodiesel. Approximately 88 people contributed to the collection; a 50 percent increase from the year prior. The collection site hosted at O’Reilly Chevrolet had the most contributions with many of the contributors being from the Ina and Thornydale area.

Did you know that 1 tablespoon of recycled grease saves enough energy to power a laptop for 3 hours?

Congratulations to Greecycle, Pima County Wastewater Management’s Save Our Sewers Campaign and Tucson Clean Cities, for a very successful event!
Arizona Department of Transportation is working with Ed Anderson, owner of SC Fuels, to get biodiesel in key locations across Arizona for use in its diesel vehicles.

Effective Feb. 1, eight additional locations were switched from regular diesel to B5 biodiesel (three of the eight with winterized B5) including locations in Chambers, Fredonia, Holbrook, Kingman, Payson, Prescott Valley, Springerville, and Wikieup. The major fueling locations in the state – Phoenix, Tucson and Flagstaff – contain B20 biodiesel.

Station Openings

E85 Pumps
FastLane Chevron: 1999 E. Ajo Way, Tucson
Super Stop Shell: 795 W. Via Rancho Sahuarita, Sahuarita
Catalina Mart: 12030 N. Dove Mountain Blvd., Marana
Western States Petroleum: 450 S. 15th Ave., Phoenix

Biodiesel Pumps
Catalina Mart: 12030 N. Dove Mountain Blvd., Marana

New Coalition Members

We extend a warm welcome to our newest coalition members. Thanks for taking the initiative to reduce Arizona’s dependence on imported petroleum!

At the Saguaro Level:
FastLane Chevron, Precision Toyota, Pro Petroleum, Reay’s Ranch Investors, Russell Public Communications, T-Pec and USDA Rural Development.

At the Cholla Level:
Belfir Design and Construction and Livinity.

Arizona Biodiesel Board Reads to Centennial Elementary

Steve Fischer, Arizona Biodiesel Board member, did two readings of The Magic School Bus Gets Cleaned Up at Centennial Elementary School. He volunteered the first week of February and it was such a hit that he did another reading on Valentine’s Day. “The kids were laughing and asking a lot of questions about the bus going green,” according to Mr. Fischer. The readings were arranged through Mr. Fischer’s local Kiwanis Club. Centennial Elementary is in Flowing Wells USD.

The Magic School Bus Gets Cleaned Up is a joint project between the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Scholastic Publishing. Individuals, schools and libraries may order 20 copies each, non-profit organizations working on diesel emissions issues and outreach may order up to 500 copies and other organizations, such as for-profit companies, may order up to 100 copies. Order FREE copies of the book here: http://www.epa.gov/otaq/schoolbus/outreach.htm#order_pubs

ADOT Working to Fill all Tanks with Biodiesel

Arizona Biodiesel Board Reads to Centennial Elementary

Coalition Meetings

Please mark your calendars for the following Clean Cities Coalition meetings for 2008:
Tuesday, March 25
Wednesday, May 21
Wednesday, July 23
Wednesday, Sept. 24
Wednesday, Nov 19

All meetings are from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in PAG’s main conference room: 177 N. Church Ave, Suite 501, Tucson, Arizona 85701.