



Partnering

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PAG's Clean Cities program helps Tucson region displace more than 5 million gallons of petroleum

Some forward-thinking fleet owners and individuals in the Tucson region saw the price of gas go up last year, but they chose alternative fuels and made a difference in reducing the amount of petroleum used locally.

In 2007, coalition members of Pima Association of Governments' Clean Cities program reported **displacing more than 5 million gallons of petroleum with alternative fuels**, such as biodiesel, ethanol, compressed natural gas, hybrid electric vehicles, propane and idle reduction technologies. This represents a 20 percent increase from 2006 when 4.2 million gallons were displaced.

"The growing use of alternative fuels decreases our nation's dependency on foreign oil," said Colleen Crowninshield, PAG's Clean Cities manager. "The local number is moving in the right direction, and it shows Tucson's commitment to a better quality of life for generations to come."

The Coalition, which consists of 63 public and private entities, such as the City of Tucson, Pima County, the University of Arizona, Tucson Electric Power Co., Reay's Ranch Investors, Arizona Petroleum, Southwest Gas Corp., and many school districts. The school districts are using alternative fuels and participating in a statewide school bus idle reduction program. Many other companies have made commitments to using alternative fuels.

The goal of the U.S. Department of Energy for Clean Cities Coalitions was set for each Coalition to increase their alternative fuel use by 17 percent. The Tucson Coalition members exceeded that goal for a third year in a row. "Our increase in alternative fuel infrastructure has made it possible for Coalition members to increase their use of alternative fuels," Crowninshield said. "In 2007, the Coalition assisted with five additional E85 sites in Arizona and is working on a second compressed natural gas (CNG) station and additional biodiesel stations for the next year."

Pima Association of Governments is an association of local, state and tribal governments with a mission to build consensus among its members and the public on regional planning for transportation, air quality and water quality.

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