



## Gold Coast Coalition holds 1st Annual Award Breakfast

Hollywood, Florida

The Florida Gold Coast Clean Cities Coalition hosted its first Annual Awards Breakfast on Friday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, at the South Florida Regional Planning Council office, recognizing the efforts of its members in the promotion and use of alternative vehicle technologies and alternative fuels. The event was sponsored by Amerigas Propane. The event featured an alternative fuel vehicle display by TransTech Energy. A bi-fuel police Dodge Charger and Ford Transit Connect were on hand for our attendees to drive and experience.



Cooper City Commissioner Lisa Mallozzi with Greg Ezzell of TransTech Energy and the company's Dodge Charger

The 2011 Awards honored members and stakeholders who have made outstanding contributions to the Coalition's goal of reducing our dependence on imported oil and improving the environment by creating a sustainable alternative fuel market. Awards were presented in five categories to exceptional coalition members.

The Leadership Award was presented to Gold Coast Clean Cities Coalition Chair, Patricia Asseff for her dedication and enthusiasm in reaching the goals of the Coalition. For over eight years, City of Hollywood Commissioner Patricia Asseff has led the

Florida Gold Coast Clean Cities Coalition's efforts to protect the Region's environment and reduce Southeast Florida's dependence on foreign fuels.

The Champion for Alternative Fuel Vehicles and Alternative Fuels Award was presented to Miami-Dade County for its use of a variety of alternative fuel vehicles in its fleets (see page 3).

Maribel Feliciano, Chair of the Gold Coast Clean Cities Education and Outreach Committee received the Community Involvement Award for her exemplary commitment to education and outreach in the region of South Florida. She has developed a number of educational programs, outreach events, and informational materials that have supported the goals of the coalition and reached more than 7600 people.



Gold Coast Coalition Chair Commissioner Patricia Asseff with Dan Martin and Luke Lewis of Amerigas Propane

The Alternative Fuel Station Award was presented to Wise Gas Inc for their great effort to provide an alternative fuel option in South Florida. The company owns the first public access facility in the State of Florida which provides Compressed Natural Gas fuel.

Choice Environmental Services, Inc. received the Alternative Fuel Fleet Award. The refuse company is the first in South Florida to convert a portion of its operations to CNG fuel, It operates a fleet of ten clean-burning natural gas refuse trucks that reduce harmful emissions by over 25% compared to diesel-fueled trucks.

We congratulate our winners in their efforts to reduce petroleum consumption and promote the use of cleaner fuels!

### Upcoming Events

**Coalition Meeting 3/18/11**  
at the SFRPC office  
3440 Hollywood Blvd. #140  
Hollywood, Florida 33021

**FAU Subtropical Cities  
Conference March 8-11**

**Please submit your  
Annual Survey by March 4!**

## *Meet our Intern!*

The U.S. Department of Energy launched an internship program in the summer of 2010 to assist selected Clean Cities Coalitions around the country. The Florida Gold Coast Clean Cities Coalition was chosen as one of 25 coalitions to participate in the program, sponsored by the Argonne National Laboratory and the American Society for Engineering Education in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Energy.



Gold Coast Coalition Intern Natalia Ramirez and Coordinator Chris Heshmati

Our new intern for the spring semester, Natalia Ramirez, is a student of the Urban and Regional Planning Program at Florida Atlantic University. This semester she will assist the Coalition in planning activities, collecting data and promoting initiatives related to alternative fuels and alternative fuel vehicles. Already, the coalition relies on Natalia's enthusiasm and competence, and we are happy to welcome her to the team!

### **Submit Your Annual Survey**

It is time to submit the Annual Clean Cities Coalition survey! This is a task conducted by all Clean Cities Coalitions around the country. We need your help in order to continue supporting our Region in the deployment of alternative fuels and alternative fuel vehicles. The collection of this information is critical in measuring and assessing the impact of new technologies used in the area of South Florida. Completing the survey will also help us to target our education and outreach efforts, which will enhance the success of the Coalition. We appreciate your participation!!

**Please submit your survey responses  
no later than Friday, March 4!**

## **Become a Member**

GCCC is seeking local public and private fleets, businesses, universities, and local governments to join us in our efforts to reduce petroleum consumption. For more information on petroleum-reduction strategies or to become a member of the Gold Coast Clean Cities Coalition, please visit our website [www.floridagoldcoastcleancities.com/](http://www.floridagoldcoastcleancities.com/) or contact Christine Heshmati, Florida Gold Coast Clean Cities Coalition Coordinator, at (954)985-4416 or [cheshmati@sfrpc.com](mailto:cheshmati@sfrpc.com)

## STAKEHOLDER OF THE QUARTER: Miami Dade County Alternative Fuel Fleet

Miami-Dade County operates the largest municipal hybrid fleet in the State of Florida and has the third largest municipal hybrid fleet in the United States, according to the U.S. Department of Energy. The County has several initiatives related to the use of alternative fuels and alternative fuel vehicles that have helped the Southeast Florida Region to reduce its carbon footprint. These efforts have been responsible for reducing carbon dioxide emissions by approximately 3,500 tons over the past two years!

Since April 2009, all vehicles in the County fleet have used 5% biodiesel, displacing over 130,000 gallons of diesel fuel. In addition, the county utilizes a variety of electric vehicles, (including 457 hybrid-electric sedans, three plug-in hybrid electric sedans and thirty-eight diesel-electric buses). In September of 2010, the County acquired six hybrid, hydraulic diesel waste collection vehicles, which are the first of the County's Fleets. The use of these alternative fuels and vehicles has significantly reduced particulate matter, hydrocarbons, carbon monoxide, and carbon dioxide.

Further action is expected as part of the GreenPrint Initiative established by the County. This community-



wide sustainability plan has 137 separate initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, cut energy, water and fuel consumption, and help develop a sustainable community for future generations. As part of this effort, the County expects a reduction of 1.5 million metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) and an avoidance of 3.1 million tons in the next five years.

Miami-Dade County recently received the Champion for Alternative Fuel Vehicles and Alternative Fuels Award from the Gold Coast Clean Cities Coalition. Of this accomplishment, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Alvarez proclaimed "We are proud of this achievement and the timing could not be better as we prepare to launch an ambitious new plan for the future sustainability of Miami-Dade County, our Green Print." Susanne M. Torriente, Sustainability Director for the County went on to say that the award "demonstrates the County's serious commitment to protecting our environment and our citizens."

For more information on Miami-Dade County's fuel savings initiatives and GreenPrint, visit <http://www.miamidade.gov/greenprint/>

### Stakeholder of the Quarter





The Gold Coast Clean Cities Coalition is one of over 90 coalitions around the country who form part of the U.S. Department of Energy's Strategy to reduce petroleum consumption. The coalition strives to promote alternative fuel and advanced vehicle technologies, gain legislative support, develop infrastructure and increase the acquisition and use of alternative fuel vehicles.

The efforts are focused on protecting our national economy, national defense and our climate while reducing Americans' petroleum usage and the emission of green house gases.

The Gold Coast Clean Cities Coalition is managed by the South Florida Regional Planning Council (SFRPC). The SFRPC is a regional planning and public agency whose mission is to work with South Florida's public, private, non-profit, and civic leaders to create a better future for south Florida. The SFRPC is one of 11 Regional Planning Councils in Florida and serves three counties: Miami-Dade, Broward, and Monroe; 71 municipalities; and almost 4.3 million residents. For additional information about the SFRPC please visit [www.sfrpc.com](http://www.sfrpc.com) at: <http://www.sfrpc.com/>

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## Submit Articles and Pictures

This newsletter is published to keep you informed of current news stories and special events. We are always looking for exciting articles and new ideas. Please feel free to send us pictures of your company's or agency's alternative fuel vehicles. The Coalition is interested in featuring some of these vehicles in future newsletters or marketing efforts.

If you would like to suggest a topic or even submit your own article for print please email [cheshmati@sfrpc.com](mailto:cheshmati@sfrpc.com)



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