



Alternative Fuel
Information Series

Clean Cities Outstanding Coalition Director: Beverly Miller

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U.S. DEPARTMENT of ENERGY,
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Salt Lake Clean Cities Coalition

Growth plus Olympics Equals a Green Future

Beverly Miller has a vision. And she's relentless in its pursuit. As coordinator for the Salt Lake Clean Cities Coalition, she has helped bring the number of alternative fuel vehicles (AFVs) in the coalition to 2,230, which surpasses the program goal of 2,000 in the year 2000. Says Ernie Oakes, Clean Cities program manager for the Denver region, "I wish I could clone Beverly! She's very dedicated to the program and to the goal of cleaning the air in Salt Lake City. Her ability to work with leaders and stakeholders, combined with her desire to do everything right, makes her a tremendous asset."

The Salt Lake metropolitan area faces some interesting economic and environmental challenges. It ranks eighth in the nation in population growth, so managing its increasing numbers without spoiling the beauty of its high mountain valley may seem to be a contradiction in goals. In addition, the 2002 Winter Olympics will attract almost 2 million visitors during February, when Salt Lake's unusual topography encourages its highest levels of air pollution.

Beverly Miller,
Salt Lake
Clean Cities
Coordinator



Salt Lake Clean Cities Coalition

The coalition is working with the Salt Lake Olympic Organizing Committee to find clean vehicles to transport visitors to and from the various Olympic venues. A major goal of the coalition is to keep as many AFVs as possible in Utah after the Olympics.

Green Is for Airport?

The Salt Lake International Airport's goal is to become the greenest airport in the country. Today 26% of its total fleet (including heavy-duty trucks for snow removal) are AFVs. The airport also plans to:

- Use advanced technology vehicles and additional alternative fuel shuttle buses, transit vehicles, baggage tractors, belt loaders, and rental cars.
- Construct additional refueling stations. (One compressed natural gas [CNG] refueling station, which serves only the Department of Airports, is currently operating; a public CNG station is currently under construction and expected to be on line before the end of 2000.)
- Retrofit gasoline and diesel engines in some of its support vehicles (shuttle buses, transit vehicles, etc.).

Niche Markets

The Salt Lake Clean Cities Coalition boasts several thriving niche applications, including:

- The Newspaper Agency, which delivers Salt Lake's two major daily newspapers. Of its 250 vehicles, which include vans, light-duty trucks, and heavy-duty trucks, 232 run on CNG. These vehicles are driven 6 million miles each year, and CNG saves the company thousands of dollars in fuel costs.

- Flower Patch, Inc., a floral delivery service, operates its entire fleet of 18 vehicles on CNG.
- The Jordan School District, which has almost 30 AFVs in its bus fleet.

These markets are supported by fuel providers such as Questar Gas, which has helped develop an extensive refueling network of 22 public and 63 private refueling sites. Questar has worked with the State to ensure that most of these sites are publicly accessible and located near interstate highways. This has resulted in the fourth largest natural gas and propane infrastructure in the United States. Questar also walks the walk (or does it drive the drive?): its own fleet includes 815 AFVs.

Reaching Out

The Salt Lake Clean Cities Coalition has worked with the Newspaper Agency to develop several outreach projects, including two newspaper supplements. The first insert contained information on alternative fuels and Clean Cities for elementary and middle school students who participated in Utah's ninth annual energy debate. The second corresponded to the opening of TRAX, the area's new light rail system. It contained information about alternative transportation and the Clean Cities program. A third insert is planned that will present land use issues and highlight AFVs and transportation planning.

This year, Beverly Miller also rallied her stakeholders to draft legislation and talk to the state legislators about tax incentives. She credits the stakeholders for keeping the issues in front of elected officials.

Leadership Is the Key

Beverly Miller says that the Salt Lake Clean Cities Coalition's secret to success is a combination of the right environment and stakeholder support. "We are fortunate to have wonderful fleets and strong support from our stakeholders." Local fleets, original equipment manufacturers, fuel providers, and state and local government are all active participants in the coalition. But Miller's enthusiastic leadership pulls it all together. "If you do something long enough, if you have a constant presence, and never forget your message, you'll begin to see some activity," she said. The exciting activity in Salt Lake City proves the point.

About Clean Cities...

The Clean Cities Program is a voluntary, locally based government and industry partnership. The program, now in its seventh year, seeks to expand the use of alternatives to gasoline and diesel fuel in order to reduce dependence on imported oil, lessen air pollution, and increase public awareness about the benefits of using alternative fuels over gasoline and diesel. Almost 80 coalitions and some 3,800 stakeholders have joined to support the Clean Cities Program.

Now in their fourth year, the Clean Cities Coalition Awards recognize outstanding achievements in building coalitions, promoting and increasing alternative fuel vehicle use, developing AFV infrastructure, and supporting alternative fuel and AFV legislation.

For more information, you can

- contact the Clean Cities Coordinator listed below
- call the Clean Cities Hotline at 1-800-CCITIES
- visit the Clean Cities Web site at <http://www.ccities.doe.gov>
or
- e-mail the Clean Cities Hotline at ccities@nrel.gov

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