



## A PROJECT OF THE REGIONAL AIR QUALITY BOARD

August 11, 2006

**TOTAL CLEAN AIR WORKS! PARTNERS: 52**

For more information, contact Elizabeth Lintner at 704.716.0726 or visit [www.cleanairworks.org](http://www.cleanairworks.org)

# PROJECT UPDATE

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

*Clean Air Works!* presented **The Charlotte Chamber** with its Employer Action Plan on July 24<sup>th</sup>. This summer, the Chamber has implemented a flextime program for employees, and will be implementing a \$30 reward program for employees who carpool, bike or walk to work during the month of September. The Chamber is also considering an onsite transit pass program and possibly a preferential parking program. The new programs will be announced at a Kick-off event on August 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Springs Global** held its *Clean Air Works!* Kickoff Pizza Party on August 4<sup>th</sup> to educate employees about air quality and commute options. Springs raffled off a pair of Panthers tickets to attending employees. To encourage carpooling to their worksite, Springs has designated five "Carpool Parking Only" spaces. Based on the success of the event and employee interest in carpooling, Springs may be making these spaces a permanent fixture at its worksite.

**National Gypsum** was presented their Employer Action Plan on August, 4<sup>th</sup>. To reduce emissions to their Southpark worksite, National Gypsum will be implementing an anti-idling policy for all vehicles making deliveries to that worksite. *Clean Air Works!* will be providing National Gypsum with "Anti-Idling" signs to educate drivers of the program. National Gypsum will kick-off their program later this month.

To promote bicycling, **CaroMont Healthcare** will be installing a bike rack for up to 10 bicycles. The company is also establishing three preferential parking spaces for their employee carpoolers (and will be adding more as the need grows). CaroMont Healthcare's Kick-off is scheduled for Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 7am-7pm to cover all hospital shifts. At the event, carpoolers will be able to sign up for the spaces, and interested employees can also sign up to find a carpool partner. Information on Gastonia Transit will also be available.

**Bissell Companies** was presented its Employer Action Plan on August 9<sup>th</sup>. Bissell has already begun encouraging its fleet vehicle drivers to refuel their vehicles later in the day to reduce pollution-causing emissions. The company is also allowing its employees to leave early on Air Quality Action Days. Bissell is exploring additional programs and will hold a Kick-off for employees later in August.

## **IN THE NEWS:**

From May through July, *Clean Air Works!* and its employer Partners were featured in **more than 25 news stories** on TV, radio, newspapers and magazines around the region, including *The Charlotte Observer*, *Charlotte Business Journal*, National Public Radio and WCCB-TV. Most recently, Partner American & Efird was featured in a segment on WSOC-TV about air pollution and employer efforts to help improve air quality.

Ready for your moment in the spotlight? [Contact us](#) with your news and program highlights!

## **IN AUGUST:**

The Challenge Continues... The Clean Air Challenge is in full swing! Remember to encourage your employees to use commute alternatives and report their commuting habits. Clean Air Challenge results will be used to recognize the best *Clean Air Works!* programs.

**Mark your calendar now to attend the awards luncheon on Tuesday, October 24 at Lowe's Motor Speedway.**



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