



## A PROJECT OF THE REGIONAL AIR QUALITY BOARD

June 2007

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

# PROJECT UPDATE

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Since February 2006, *Clean Air Works!* commuters have logged 596 bicycle trips, 3,464 carpool trips, 5,675 transit trips, 1,744 vanpool trips, 384 walk trips, and 274 trips have been avoided thanks to telecommuting. These trips have reduced approximately 201,486 Vehicle Miles Traveled. Way to go *Clean Air Works!* Partners!

**First Charter Bank** held its second annual Kick-Off to Clean Air and Ice Cream Social on May 4<sup>th</sup>. CATS, *Clean Air Works!*, and NC Air Awareness all attended the event, and a gas cap check was held in the parking lot courtesy of Mecklenburg County Air Quality. Employee origin analysis maps were displayed, showing employees where they live in relation to their co-workers. Over 55 employees signed up to find a carpool partner. To date, close to 100 First Charter employees are tracking their commutes online with TripTrak. A Try-It Day was also held on May 11<sup>th</sup>, in which 20 employees participated. Additional events will be held throughout the course of the summer to encourage employees to try clean commuting and distribute *Clean Air Works!* Perks rewards.

This ozone season, **National Gypsum** is encouraging its employees to refuel their vehicles in the evening to help improve air quality. Employees are encouraged to bring in their gas receipts (showing that they refueled after 6pm) and they are entered into a weekly raffle for a \$25 gas card. National Gypsum plans to offer this program through September 2007.

On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, **Piedmont Natural Gas** (PNG) hosted its first employee "Pool Party" and *Clean Air Works!* kickoff event. Employees enjoyed complimentary breakfast provided by PNG, while listening to the sounds of The Beach Boys and talking to representatives from *Clean Air Works!*, NC Air Awareness and CATS. Approximately 141 employees attended the event and upwards of 50 employees signed up for the Share the Ride NC rideshare database to find a carpool partner. PNG is looking to rollout new commuter programs later this summer.

**Moore & Van Allen** (MVA) held its *Clean Air Works!* kick-off event on May 31<sup>st</sup>, where representatives from CATS, NC Air Awareness and CORE fitness educated employees on air quality and commute options. Over 150 MVA employees attended this event, where lunch was provided courtesy of the company. During the event, MVA promoted its highly successful 10-trip transit pass program which was started last year. An incredible 76 employees signed up at the event to receive free 10-trip passes! MVA will continue to promote these free passes throughout ozone season to encourage employees to try transit. Furthermore, to encourage bicycling and walking to work, MVA started offering complimentary use of shower and locker facilities at a local CORE Fitness gym. Anyone who bikes, runs or walks to work is able to sign up to use the CORE Fitness locker facilities for free. MVA will be hosting a Bike-to-Work "Try It" week from June 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> to further promote this new program to all employees.

## Clean Air Works! In the News

*Clean Air Works!* hit the radio airwaves to kick off the start of ozone season in early May. *Clean Air Works!* successes from York County Partner **Bowater** were featured on WRHI and *Clean Air Works!* was featured on a couple of segments on WFAE. Also, **18 Partners** were featured in piece written by Jennifer Roberts, Commissioner of Mecklenburg County, which was published in the [Charlotte Observer](#). The piece applauded the work of the 2006 charter Partners and called for more Partners to sign up in 2007.

## COMING THIS MONTH:

Thanks for attending our 2007 project kick-off breakfast at Queens College last month. Don't miss our next event, a Project Leader Training Session, on June 19 at Duke Energy. You'll hear success stories from *Clean Air Works!* Partners **Food Lion, Duke Energy, American & Efird** and **Harris Teeter**.



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