



A PROJECT OF THE REGIONAL AIR QUALITY BOARD

September 2007

For more information, contact Elizabeth Lintner at 704.716.0726 or visit www.cleanairworks.org

PROJECT UPDATE

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Since February 2006, *Clean Air Works!* commuters have logged 2,237 bicycle trips; 18,488 carpool trips; 27,944 transit trips; 5,485 vanpool trips; 1,870 walking trips and saved 2,019 trips thanks to telecommuting. These efforts reduced approximately 946,354 vehicle miles traveled. Way to go, *Clean Air Works!* Partners!

On August 29, **UNC Charlotte** held a Try-It Day to encourage faculty and staff to "try" an alternative to driving alone to campus. The most successful Try-It Day yet, 82 employees used clean commute alternatives. A "Lunch & Learn" that afternoon encouraged employees to bring their lunch to work and attend a meeting about air quality. UNC Charlotte also launched a refueling raffle, offering six \$25 gas cards to employees who refuel after 6 p.m. and turn in their receipt.

American & Efird (Mt. Holly/Gastonia) hosted a series of Gas Cap Check events at each of its plant locations during the month of August. A total of 448 vehicles were checked, and 24 gas caps were replaced, preventing 4,800 pounds of annual evaporative emissions. American & Efird also held nine Try It Days in August, with a grand total of 124 clean commuters participating in the event.

New partner **Tube Specialties** (Statesville) hosted its *Clean Air Works!* kickoff event on August 15 to educate its employees on air quality in the region and commuting options. It provided Honey Baked Ham box lunches to reward employees who stayed in for lunch that day. At the event, 27 employees expressed interest in ridesharing. Tube Specialties will continue to host monthly "Stay In For Lunch" days to encourage employees to eat lunch at work.

Piedmont Natural Gas (PNG) employees ate well during the month of August! Both PNG's corporate and district offices held a combined total of 20 "Stay In For Lunch" days on forecasted Ozone Action Days in August. To keep appetites peaked, PNG served a different meal each day, from pasta to chicken wings, for all employees who stayed in for lunch. Each event averaged 150 to 175 participants, and Fox News 14 recognized PNG for its efforts.

In the month of August, **Central Piedmont Community College** hosted six Gas Cap Check events at each of its Charlotte area campuses: Cato, Central, Harper, Harris, Levine and North. During these events, a total of 109 vehicles were checked and two gas caps were replaced.

Charlotte Pipe & Foundry's administrative offices are doing their part this summer to make clean air work. To kickoff its program, it held a Transportation Fair and Gas Cap Check on August 3. A total of 63 employee vehicles were checked while *CAW!*, NC Air Awareness and Charlotte Area Transit Service answered employees' commute questions. Throughout the month, the CP&F administrative offices held weekly "Refuel After Six" raffles to reward employees with \$20 Auto Bell gift certificates for filling up after 6 p.m., and posted the regional Air Quality forecast to its internal Web site.

On August 30, new partner **Vanguard** held its *Clean Air Works!* kickoff event, with a coordinating Gas Cap Check for employee vehicles. Project Leaders David Burleigh and Kimberly Montheith handed out information and helped direct cars during the Gas Cap Check. Both events were a success, with more than 100 employees attending the kickoff event and more than 70 gas caps checked!

Clean Air Works! In the News

This month *Clean Air Works!* Partners stay front and center in the news. **Bowater** went on the WFAE's Mike Collins Show and **Piedmont Natural Gas** was featured on News 14 for providing its employees with delicious lunches to encourage them to stay in for lunch on high ozone days. **UNC Charlotte**, **Harris Teeter**, **Bissell**, **Alltel Wireless**, **CMC Pineville** and **Environmental Building Solution** all made it into *The Charlotte Observer* as well.

COMING NEXT MONTH:

Clean Air Works! will honor their Partners' dedication to clean air at the 2007 *CAW!* Champions Luncheon October 9 at the Harris Conference Center in Charlotte. Congratulations to these business leaders who are sending our region on its way to better air!



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