



Dallas-Fort Worth
CLEAN CITIES

DFW Clean Cities Newsflash

Official Publication of the Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities Coalition

July 2021

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Who We Are: Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities (DFWCC) is a program of the [North Central Texas Council of Governments](#) (NCTCOG) and the [Regional Transportation Council](#). DFWCC's goal is to advance economic, environmental, and energy security through increasing efficiency and reducing emissions from transportation.

Get Recognized! Stakeholders and Sponsors are invited to submit any updates/success stories/info about new projects or initiatives to be added to future Newsflashes upon review.

DFW Clean Cities is here for all your alternative transportation fuel and technology needs. Reach out to us for any technical assistance or general inquiries related to Clean Cities.

Training

- Alternative Fuel Vehicle First Responder Safety Training Webinars
- Alternative Fuel Vehicle Safety Training for Fire Service
- National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium Manuals Available

Clean Cities Sponsorship

DFW Clean Cities relies on sponsor support to fund certain initiatives, including hosting workshops, trainings, developing educational materials, or providing non-federal matching funds on grant proposals. Please go to <https://www.dfwcleancities.org/sponsorus> for details on how to sponsor us!

Thanks to our Level 2 DFW Clean Cities Sponsor: FreeWire!



Upcoming Events

Electric Truck Bootcamp Webinar Series

Join the North American Council for Freight Efficiency, RMI, and industry experts as they kick off the Electric Truck Bootcamp series to learn more about the ins and outs of this technology and what is driving its adoption.

This [10-part educational series on electric trucks](#) for fleet managers, utility planners, policymakers, and more leads up to the [Run on Less – Electric](#) event this September, focusing on today's fleet and OEM leaders who have electric trucks already in operation. NACFE will also be on hand at the [2021 ACT Expo](#) to kick off the fall event with a half-day workshop.

Webinar Details:

Date: Ongoing through August 24, 2021

Time: 12 -1 p.m. C.T.

Register: <https://subscribe.act-news.com/NACFE-RoL-E-2021>

ACT Expo Webinar Series Charts Sustainable, Connected Future

ACT Expo is hosting a series of webinars leading up to the annual conference August 30 to September 2 in Southern California. Starting June 22 at 12 pm CT and continuing until August 3, 2021, the preconference webinars will allow attendees to jumpstart their clean tech education before attending the 2021 ACT Expo.

Upcoming webinars:

1. Effectively Combining Smart, Connected, and Electric Technologies | July 6, 2021 | 12:00pm – 1:15pm CT
2. SPAC Attack! | July 20, 2021 | 12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. CST
3. Realizing Greater Efficiency and Emissions Reductions in Commercial Applications | August 3, 2021 | 12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. CST

Previous webinars:

1. Realizing Revenue from Vehicle to Grid | June 22, 2021 | 12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. CST
2. The Commercial Pathway for Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles | June 30, 2021 | 12:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. CST

Learn more about the series here: <https://www.act-news.com/news/act-expo-webinar-series-charts-sustainable-connected-future/>

Register here: https://learn.actexpo.com/webinar_series_2021_registration

Regional News

DFW Fleets Encouraged to Test Clean Vehicle Technologies

Local Dallas-Fort Worth fleets are encouraged to take advantage of clean vehicle vehicles available to borrow through Dallas-Fort Worth Clean Cities (DFWCC) Try and Drive Alternative program!

The directory of clean vehicle technologies available for borrowing can be accessed from the [Try and Drive Alternative website](#). As of May 18, 2021, available technologies include:

- Battery Electric Terminal Tractor from Lonestar Specialty Vehicles
- Battery Electric Vehicles Model 6-8 from Peterbilt
- Chevy Bolt from General Motors
- Battery Electric Class 8 Terminal Tractor from Orange EV
- Telematics Device from Global-View
- Telematics Device from Tangerine AI
- GoFlo CNG 80 Compressor and GoFILL Refueler from Onboard Dynamics

If you are a provider interested in adding your loaner program to our directory, please go [here](#) or contact cleancities@nctcog.org.

Houston Fire Department Tests Eco-Friendly EMS Unit

The Houston Fire Department (HFD) has begun implementing "green" lithium battery solution from Harrison Hydra-gen to their ambulances. Harrison Hydra-gens lithium-ion battery will provide mobile power while the engine is off, and provide power to the rear ambulance compartment. This will ensure patients are not exposed to carbon monoxide and reduce emissions from idling. HFD is committed to implementing this new battery with every new ambulance purchase and expects to have 15 eco-friendly ambulances by the end of this year. Read more at [Government Fleet](#).

Ingevity Hosts Natural Gas Hybrid Ride and Drive Event

On May 18, Ingevity hosted a ride and drive event in Dallas featuring their adsorbed natural gas (ANG) bi-fuel hybrid Ford F-250. ANG provides a low-cost alternative fuel without compromising power, reduces a fleets carbon footprint, extends vehicle range, and allows for lower cost refueling than higher pressure CNG systems. Read more on [Ingevity's website](#).



Industry Updates

Inclusion does not imply an endorsement or promotion by NCTCOG

Analysis on U.S. Corn Ethanol Industry Shows a 23% in Carbon Intensity

A new study from Argonne National Laboratory provides news about the life-cycle analysis of changes in U.S. corn ethanol carbon intensity, also known as greenhouse gas emission intensity. From 2005 to 2019, the study showed a 23 percent reduction in carbon intensity. This is believed to be due to corn grain yield increasing while fertilizer usage stayed the same, and increased efficiency in the production process. Read more on [Biofuels, Bioproducts, and Biorefining](#).

Eatran Transit Company Runs Propane Vehicles

Eatran, an Eaton County-based transit agency in Charlotte, Michigan, are currently running 10 propane vehicles out of 25 total vehicles, and plan to completely transition to propane at the end of the year. Over the past three years of operating the propane vehicles, Eatran has seen significant cost-savings due to propane being cheaper than diesel. Eatran has been able to funnel these savings back into their facility. Read more about Eatrans' success at [MSN](#).

Aransas ISD Runs on Natural Gas During Texas' Winter Storm

Despite a shortage of diesel deliveries for a month following the Texas's Winter Storm in February, Aransas ISD in Rockport, Texas, was still able to maintain school bus operations due to half of their fleet operating on natural gas. Read more about the [Texas Natural Gas June 2021 Newsletter](#).

Toyota Developing Hydrogen Racecars

Toyota has announced they will be developing a hydrogen-powered racecar for use in a 24-hour race at Japan's Fuji Speedway. The racecar will be a modified Toyota Corolla Sport using a 1.6 liter turbocharged inline-3 engine running on compressed hydrogen gas instead of liquid gasoline. Read more about these efforts at [Green Car Reports](#).

Fuel Cell Trucks Poised for More Fleet Buy-In

Preparing for the inevitable switch to zero-emissions vehicles (ZEVs) has ramped up in the last few years with larger fleets becoming early adopters for battery-electric trucks. Now, as battery-electric manufacturers ramp up production, smaller fleets must also prepare for the integration of fuel-cell electric trucks. Because fuel-cells do not pull energy directly from the grid, these trucks will be crucial to helping fleets meet emissions goals while not monopolizing a region's energy capacity. Read more at [FleetOwner](#).

Virginia Opening Second Round of Volkswagen Funds for Electric School Buses

Governor Ralph Northam of Virginia has announced \$20 million in Volkswagen funds to go towards electric school bus initiatives in the state. The funds will be administered by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The first round of funding was used to replace government-owned vehicles. The second round will allow school districts to replace diesel buses with electric or propane buses. An additional funding opportunity for electric school bus projects in Virginia was made possible by Dominion Energy, who decided to fund 15 Virginia divisions with 50 electric school buses from Thomas Built Buses. Read more about Virginia's efforts to electrify school buses at [School Bus Fleet](#).

Albertsons Companies Deploys Class 8 Zero-Emission Trucks

Albertsons Company has deployed their first zero-emission Class 8 vehicles, two Volvo VNR Electric trucks. Albertsons will pair the zero-emission vehicles with electric-powered transport refrigeration units from Advanced Energy Machines (AEM). Read more about Albertsons deployment at [Environmental + Energy Leader](#).

Ford Announces New Compact Pickup with Standard Hybrid Engine

Ford has announced the Maverick, a new compact pickup that is the first pickup to come standard with a hybrid engine. Ford is expecting the Maverick to reach 40 mpg city and 33 mpg highway. It will only be available as a four-door crew cab with a four-and-a-half-foot bed. The Maverick will be available for the 2022 model year with a base price of just under \$20,000. Read more at [Forbes](#).

New EV Consumer Behavior Report

The Fuel Institute Electric Vehicle Council has announced a new resource on EV Consumer Behavior, a report discussing how EV consumers behave. The report answers these 5 questions about EV consumer behavior including: who the customer is, where do they recharge, why does a customer choose a facility, how do customers interact with charging equipment, and what do customers do while charging. If interested, read the report [here](#).

Comment and Engagement Opportunities

Rocky Mountain | Inviting Local Governments to Participate in Resilient Texas Communities Program

Local governments are invited to join the RMI's Resilient Texas Communities program. Due to Winter Storm Uri and its effects, RMI has decided to create the Resilient Texas Communities program to enhance the resiliency of Texas communities. This program will encourage critical power sector reform and provide peer learning and technical assistance to assist local governments in creating local resilience solutions. Local governments will also receive free technical assistance and support for 18 months and be provided with education and host facilitated dialogue on topics such as:

- How to access federal funding
- Improving buildings and developing community resilience hubs to weather future natural disasters and save lives
- Implementing nature-based solutions, otherwise known as green infrastructure, to make communities stronger and more resilient
- Power sector reform
- Transportation electrification

RMI will host a kickoff workshop on July 20 and 21, 2021, which is open to all Texas cities and counties. The workshop will address available free technical support available through RMI and give local governments the opportunity to identify which initiatives they would like to participate in.

Contact Heather House at hhouse@rmi.org or 512-484-4817 if interested in learning more. Fleet staff are encouraged to pass this information along to colleagues who may work on the range of topics included.

Request for Information: Integrating Electric Vehicles with the Electric Grid

The Energy Act of 2020 directed DOE to submit to Congress a "Vehicles to Grid Integration Assessment Report." Specifically, DOE is requesting information on research and development results, reports, or other information for past, present, or planned projects that are relevant to the following five categories:

1. An evaluation of the use of EVs to maintain the reliability of the electric grid.
2. The impact of grid integration on EVs.
3. The impacts to the electric grid of increased penetration by EVs.
4. Research on the standards needed to integrate EVs with the grid, including communications systems, protocols, and charging stations.
5. The cybersecurity challenges and needs associated with electrifying the transportation sector.

Responses are due by July 23, 2021, by 4 p.m. CST

For more information on the RFI topics, view the [RFI on EERE Exchange](#).

NCTCOG Announces Request for Proposals for Freight Vehicle Intersection Optimization Services

The North Central Texas Council of Governments, which is the DFW Clean Cities host agency, has released a Request for Proposals for Freight Vehicle Intersection Optimization Services. Goals of

this initiative are to optimize the movement of freight vehicles by reducing the number of stops at traffic lights by freight vehicles. Anticipated benefits include reduced freight delay, improved traffic flow, reduced crashes, and reduced emissions/fuel consumption.

Deadline for Proposals: July 23, 2021, at 5 p.m. CST

For more information, see [North Central Texas Council of Governments - Freight Vehicle Intersection Optimization Services \(nctcog.org\)](https://www.nctcog.org/Intersection-Optimization-Services).

Reopening the Call for Applications from North Central Texas Cities for Developing City-wide Greenhouse Gas Inventories

The North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG) has reopened the call for applications from cities in the North Central Texas 12-county Metropolitan Planning Area to participate in a regional cohort to produce city-wide greenhouse gas emission (GHG) inventories. In partnership with the Regional Integration of Sustainability Efforts (RISE) Coalition, and with the generous contribution from Burlington-Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) railroad, NCTCOG is providing 20 cities in the North Central Texas 12-county Metropolitan Planning Area access to Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), formally known as the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives, ClearPath software tool at no cost. There are currently eight cities in our region that have joined the cohort, and two additional cities that have partnered in the effort by doing their own GHG study concurrently.

All participating cities will be able to use ClearPath to produce their own city-wide GHG inventories. Cities interested in participating must submit an application by **July 30, 2021** and will need to be a commit to attendance of ICLEI and cohort trainings/meeting/check-ins and collaborate with NCTCOG to provide necessary data inputs. ICLEI's ClearPath software tool has been used to complete GHG inventories in over 475 jurisdictions in the United States and is considered the leading online software platform for completing GHG inventories, forecasts, and monitoring at the community-side scale.

The Call for Applications from cities closes July 30, 2021. Cities interested in submitting an application, need to be a current NCTCOG member, commit to attendance of ICLEI and cohort trainings/meeting/check-ins and collaborate with NCTCOG to provide necessary data inputs.

Visit the Call for Application and Project [website](#) to find more information about the Regional GHG Inventory.

**Metropolitan Planning Area counties are: Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant, and Wise*

NCTCOG Contact: Jenny Narvaez, jnarvaez@nctcog.org

Department of Energy Seeks Public Feedback on Removing Barriers to Participation in Funding Programs

The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is releasing a request for information (RFI) to understand the current barriers and actions needed to make its funding opportunities and innovation and entrepreneurship activities more inclusive, just, and equitable, in line with the Administration's climate goals.

The RFI includes five categories:

Category 1: Increasing Access to and Awareness of DOE Funding through Effective Outreach, Engagement, and Application Support

Category 2: Barriers to Applying for and Receiving Funding from DOE

Category 3: Support for an Innovation Ecosystem and Place-Based Innovation

Category 4: Regional and Local Barriers to DOE Funding

Category 5: Barriers to Performing within the DOE Funding System

Responses are due **August 6, 2021 by 4 p.m. CST**

Find more information and the full RFI here: <https://www.energy.gov/eere/articles/department-energy-seeks-public-feedback-removing-barriers-participation-funding>

Applications Sought for Texas Environmental Excellence Awards

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality is now accepting applications for the 2022 Texas Environmental Excellence Awards (TEEA). The TEEA is used to acknowledge environmental preservation and protection and has ten categories which gives citizens, communities, businesses, and organizations the opportunity to be recognized.

Applications must be submitted by September 24, 2021. To apply or nominate an environmental effort, visit the [TEEA webpage](#).

Renewables Aggregation Cohort Opportunity

To engage and support peer exchange and collaboration on environmental and sustainability initiatives, the [North Texas RISE Coalition](#) would like to make you aware of the following opportunity.

As local governments and institutions set ambitious renewable energy goals, on-site solar installations and utility solutions may not help them in meeting or exceeding those goals. The [World Resources Institute \(WRI\)](#) and [RMI](#) have developed a cohort to offer free workshops, tools, resources, and peer learning opportunities to help small groups of local governments (and/or other local institutions) procure large-scale renewables at economies of scale. The WRI/RMI team will be walking participants through the aggregation process and facilitating group alignment on key elements of a joint RFP for a physical or virtual power purchase agreement (PPA). The cohort will combine plenary sessions - on topics like legal and accounting challenges and risk mitigation - with small group discussion.

The cohort has begun and will continue until June 2022 and will include monthly webinars featuring about 10 groups from regions across the country. There are no commitments required to join but attending the monthly virtual workshops is needed to be successful.

On behalf of the North Texas RISE Coalition, an informational webinar was held on April 23, 2021 and the recording can be found on the North Texas Rise Coalition website, <https://www.nctcog.org/envir/development-excellence/rise-coalition>.

Those interested in signing up for the cohort, can fill out the following application, https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScK2nE41NH4h556yG6gV6AzPn2_DRiWLiMHKmh1gGnPliKn5g/viewform. For any questions about the opportunity, reach out to Zach Greene at zach.greene@wri.org.

NCTCOG Creating Working Group for Electric Vehicle Ready Construction Practices

NCTCOG is assembling a working group of north Texas electric vehicle and building industry stakeholders to help with the guidance and development of resources to provide consistency in EV-Capable and EV-Ready construction standards across the region.

To join the EV-ready building standard working group, email Bailey Muller at bmuller@nctcog.org.

To receive up-to-date information on available funding and incentives related to clean vehicle technologies and other air-quality improvement measures, subscribe to Air Quality Funding Updates [here](#). For a comprehensive list of currently available incentives, visit the [NCTCOG website](#).

State Energy Conservation Office Releases Funding Opportunities for Public Schools-LED Lighting Retrofits

Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (CPA)'s State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) has released two funding opportunities for K-12 Independent School Districts (ISDs). Grant details are as follows:

Public School Exterior LED Lighting Retrofits:

- Provides reimbursable grants to assist public K-12 ISDs to replace existing lighting with LED lighting.
- Applicants will provide 20% of the awarded application amount; the maximum reimbursable grant is \$50,000.
- Applications are due **August 6, 2021**
- For more information and to apply go [here](#).

Public School LED Lighting Retrofits in Gymnasiums, Multipurpose Rooms and/or Interior Hallways

- Provides reimbursable grant for K-12 ISDs to replace lighting equipment with LED lighting.
- Applicants will provide 20% of the awarded application amount; the maximum reimbursable grant is \$75,000
- Applications are due **August 6, 2021**
- For more information and to apply go [here](#).

State Energy Conservation Office Releases Funding Opportunities for Public Schools-LED Lighting Retrofits

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- Applications are due **August 6, 2021**
- For more information and to apply go [here](#).

Notice of Loan Fund Availability — LoanSTAR Program

Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts (CPA)'s State Energy Conservation Office (SECO) is accepting applications for the LoanSTAR (Saving Taxes and Resources) Program. This program awards low-interest loans to Texas public institutions to help finance their energy-related, cost-reduction retrofit projects.

Grant Details

Maximum loan size per application: \$8 million

- For loans funded with repaid ARRA funds, the minimum loan size is \$3 million.
- Maximum number of loans for this solicitation: three per applicant
- Loan interest rate: 2 percent annually (1 percent for ARRA funds)

15-year maximum loan term

- Borrower must own but need not occupy or operate facility
- HVAC saving degradation rate of 0.75% annually
- Open enrollment through **August 31, 2021**

For more information, please go [here](#).

Texas Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Program (TxVEMP) Level 2 Charging Funding

Texas Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Program (TxVEMP) is still accepting applications for the purchase and installation of Level 2 charging equipment for light-duty zero emission vehicles in the State of Texas. In the past month, demand for funding has substantially increased, so apply as soon as possible to take advantage of first-come, first-served funding. The funds can also be used for [workplace charging](#), and sites at [multi-unit dwellings](#) (MUD).

Eligible Activities:

Purchase and installation of new light-duty electric vehicle Level 2 charging equipment in a public place, workplace, or multi-unit dwelling (i.e., not located at a private residential dwelling that is not a multi-unit dwelling in Texas); and at a site without existing light-duty electric charging services or to expand the number of vehicles that may be serviced at an existing site.

Funding Availability:

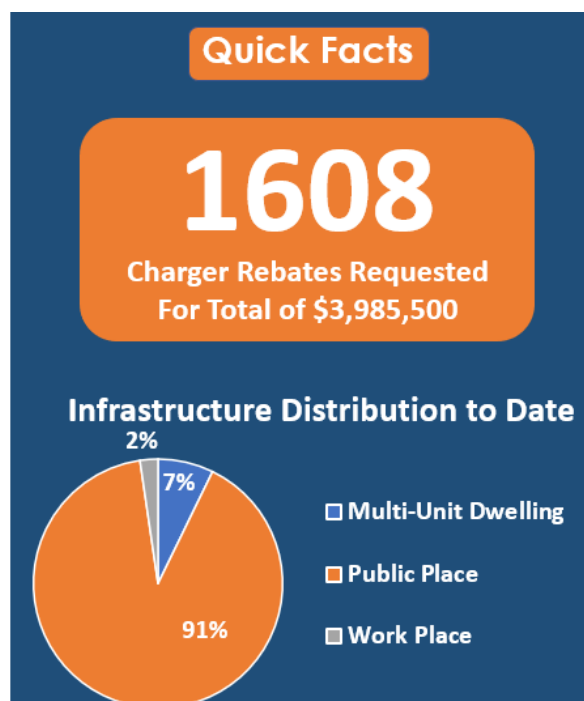
A total of \$10.4 million is available under this program. Grant recipients will be eligible for a reimbursement of up to \$2,500 per installation. Up to 10 charging stations may be included in a single application, and there are no limitations on the number of applications an entity can submit. Grants will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis and may not exceed the following percentages of eligible costs:

Electric chargers available to the public: 70%

Electric chargers available at a workplace or multi-dwelling unit: 60%

Application Deadline: September 9, 2021

More information and how to apply to the Texas Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Program from [TCEQ](#).



Last Updated June 18, 2021

Diesel Emissions Reductions Calls for Projects

North Central Texas Council of Governments has three calls for projects (CFPs) open with approximately \$3.1 million remaining in grant funding for diesel emissions reduction projects! **The next application deadline for all three CFPs is Friday July 9, 2021, 5 pm.** Project details are as follows:

Eligible Applicants

- **North Texas Freight Terminal Electrification (NTFTE) 2020 CFP:** Private freight terminals or distribution centers primarily receiving heavy-duty truck TRUs and trailer TRUs and located in the 10-county ozone nonattainment area.
- **North Texas Emissions Reduction Project (NTERP) 2020 CFP:** Private sector fleets for high-use diesel vehicles and equipment operating in the 10-county ozone nonattainment area, as well as Hood and Navarro counties.
- **Clean Fleets North Texas (CFNT) 2020 CFP:** Local governments, or private companies that contract with local governments that own heavy-duty diesel vehicles or equipment operating in the 10-county ozone nonattainment area.

Eligible Projects

- **NTFTE:** Construction and installation of Electrified Parking Spaces for heavy-duty TRUs and trailer TRUs, electric power monitoring equipment, and electric power connection kits.
- **NTERP:** Replacement of an older diesel on-road vehicle and non-road equipment with a newer model year on-road vehicle or non-road equipment; additionally, this includes Shore power installation for rail and switch yards.
- **CFNT:** Replacement of older diesel on-road vehicle and non-road equipment with newer model year on-road vehicle or non-road equipment.

Funding Details and Levels

- **NTFTE:** Rebate grants, approximately \$960,000 available
 - Up to 30% of the project cost
- **NTERP:** Rebate grants, approximately \$2.1 million available
 - 45% if new vehicle/equipment is electric
 - 35% if new vehicle/equipment is powered by engine certified to California Air Resource Board optional low NO_x standards
 - 25% cost for all others
- **CFNT:** Grants, approximately \$109,000 available
 - 45% if new vehicle/equipment is electric
 - 35% if new vehicle/equipment is powered by engine certified to California Air Resource Board optional low NO_x standards
 - 25% cost for all others

More information and application details for each program available on the [NCTCOG website](#).

Training Resources

Alternative Fuel Vehicle First Responder Safety Training Webinars

The National Alternative Fuels Consortium (NAFTC) held two First Responder Safety Training webinars in January 2021 related to electric vehicles (EVs) and gaseous alternative fuels. Both webinars were recorded and can be accessed on the NAFTC [webpage](#).

Alternative Fuel Vehicle Safety Training for Fire Service

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is offering an online safety training related to incidents involving alternative fuel vehicles, including electric, hybrid, hydrogen fuel cell, biodiesel, and other gaseous alternative fuels and their associated infrastructure. The online training is self-paced and visually interactive with simulations, animations, videos and more! More information and registration can be found on the NFPA [webpage](#).

National Alternative Fuels Training Consortium Manuals Available

DFWCC is offering the following manuals on a first-come, first-served basis. Please send your request to cleacities@nctcog.org. See pictures of the manuals available at <https://www.dfwcleancities.org/training>.

(17) Law Enforcement Alternative Fuel Vehicle Safety Training Instructor Manual

(15) Compressed Natural Gas Vehicles: Fuel System Inspector

(2) Light-Duty Natural Gas Vehicles
(1) Propane Vehicle Training

Resources

[Air North Texas](#) | [Air Quality Funding](#) | [Electric Vehicles North Texas](#)

Contact Us

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For a complete list of Clean Cities staff, visit www.dfwcleancities.org.