

CNG sweeper hits streets soon

The City of Medford received a Congestion Mitigation Air Quality (CMAQ) grant to purchase a natural gas-powered sweeper, the first among the city's fleet of five. "We chose CNG because it runs cleaner," said Ron Forsythe, Medford public works fleet manager. Several manufacturers offer



CNG sweepers, including Schwarze, Elgin and Tymco, said Jim Lowe of Enviro Clean Equipment, a sales company in Gresham. "Medford could be the first in Oregon with a CNG street sweeper," Lowe said. City employees will fuel the CNG sweeper at fueling stations operated by RVTD or Jackson County. The cost to fuel a CNG vehicle is about \$1.77, which includes 43 cents for federal and state taxes. By comparison, diesel was \$2.81 a gallon in Medford this week. Besides saving the city money, the CNG-powered sweeper will help reduce the city's consumption of crude oil-based diesel fuel as well as nitrogen oxides, reactive gases that form from vehicle emissions.

Jackson County also received a CMAQ grant to purchase a street sweeper. Fleet manager Mike James said the county will purchase a diesel sweeper and power it with biofuel. "We may put a tank for biofuel on site," he said. The Jackson County fleet also includes CNG-powered Crown Victorias.

The Pacific Northwest power grid: supplying electric vehicles

Nissan has promised Oregon consumers an affordable electric passenger car this year. But can the Pacific Northwest power system accommodate plug-in vehicles? The Pacific Northwest National Laboratory has assessed impacts of electric vehicles on the generation, transmission and distribution of power. One study concludes that the nation's existing generation and transmission infrastructure has the potential to supply the power necessary for approximately 70 percent of the US light duty vehicle fleet (cars, pick-up trucks, vans, SUVs). Another study concludes that smart charging will be necessary in the Pacific Northwest to prevent the charging of electric vehicles on peak. Read the studies on the news page at www.roguevalleycleancities.org.



PNNL researchers Rob Pratt, Tom Secret, and Kevin Schneider in the Electricity Infrastructure Operations Center (EIOC).

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Medford Cruise Poker Run/Car Show

Would you like to show off your alternative fuel vehicle? Consider driving it in the Medford Cruise Poker Run from 9 am to 3 pm Friday, June 18, or display it at the Show N' Shine car show from 8 am to 4 pm Sunday, June 20, at Hawthorne Park. If interested, write melissa@roguevalleycleancities.org. Learn more about the Medford Cruise at <http://www.medfordcruise.org/index.html>

Drive an AFV? Take our survey!

✓ Type of fuel my vehicle uses:

Biodiesel Propane (LPG)
Natural Gas (CNG) Hybrid Electric
Other (please specify)

✓ Vehicle Information:

Type
Manufacturer
Model
Year

✓ Where is the vehicle driven:

City
State
Zip

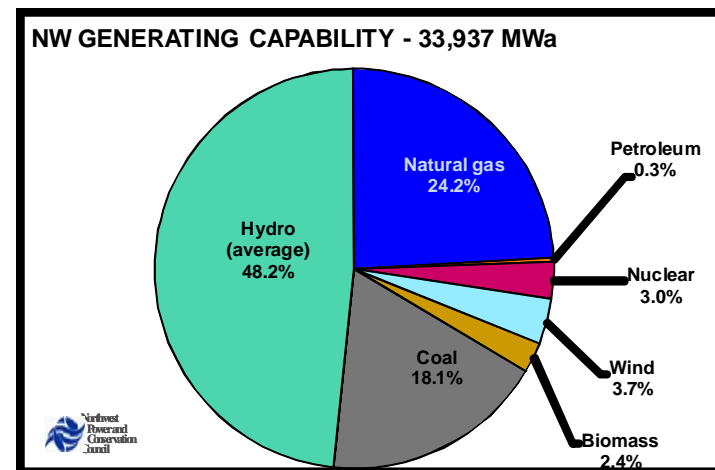
Please email answers to
melissa@roguevalleycleancities.org

Natural gas supply: what does the future hold?

What happens when consumers purchase more natural-gas powered cars and trucks? Do we have an adequate supply of natural gas to fuel the vehicles? North America has almost 120 years of reserves, Dan Kirschner, executive director of the Northwest Gas Association, said at a recent Chamber of Commerce forum last month. Most of the supply comes from Canada and the Rockies. Some 24.2 percent of the Northwest generating capability comes from natural gas. Read the powerpoint presentation and articles from the Mail Tribune and Chamber Business Review on the RVCC website.



"Shale gas production is on the rise. In 2008, there were 60 years of known shale gas reserves. Now there are 120 years of known reserves. So much is available in Canada that it's being stored as soon as it's extracted." From the Mail Tribune, December 15, 2009. Read the article: www.roguevalleycleancities.org.



The Chronicle is a monthly publication of Rogue Valley Clean Cities Coalition. The Coalition is made up of businesses and agencies with a shared goal of reducing the nation's dependence on imported oil. Contact Sue Kupillas, coordinator, by email, sue@roguevalleycleancities.org. Learn more from the website: www.roguevalleycleancities.org

Growth of Vehicle Registration in Oregon

Ranking The Increase By County, 1999 to 2008

1. Washington County

69,702 More Cars
 2008 Cars: 409,601
 1999 Cars: 339,899

3. Multnomah County

37,332 More Cars
 2008 Cars: 537,141
 1999 Cars: 499,809

4. Clackamas County

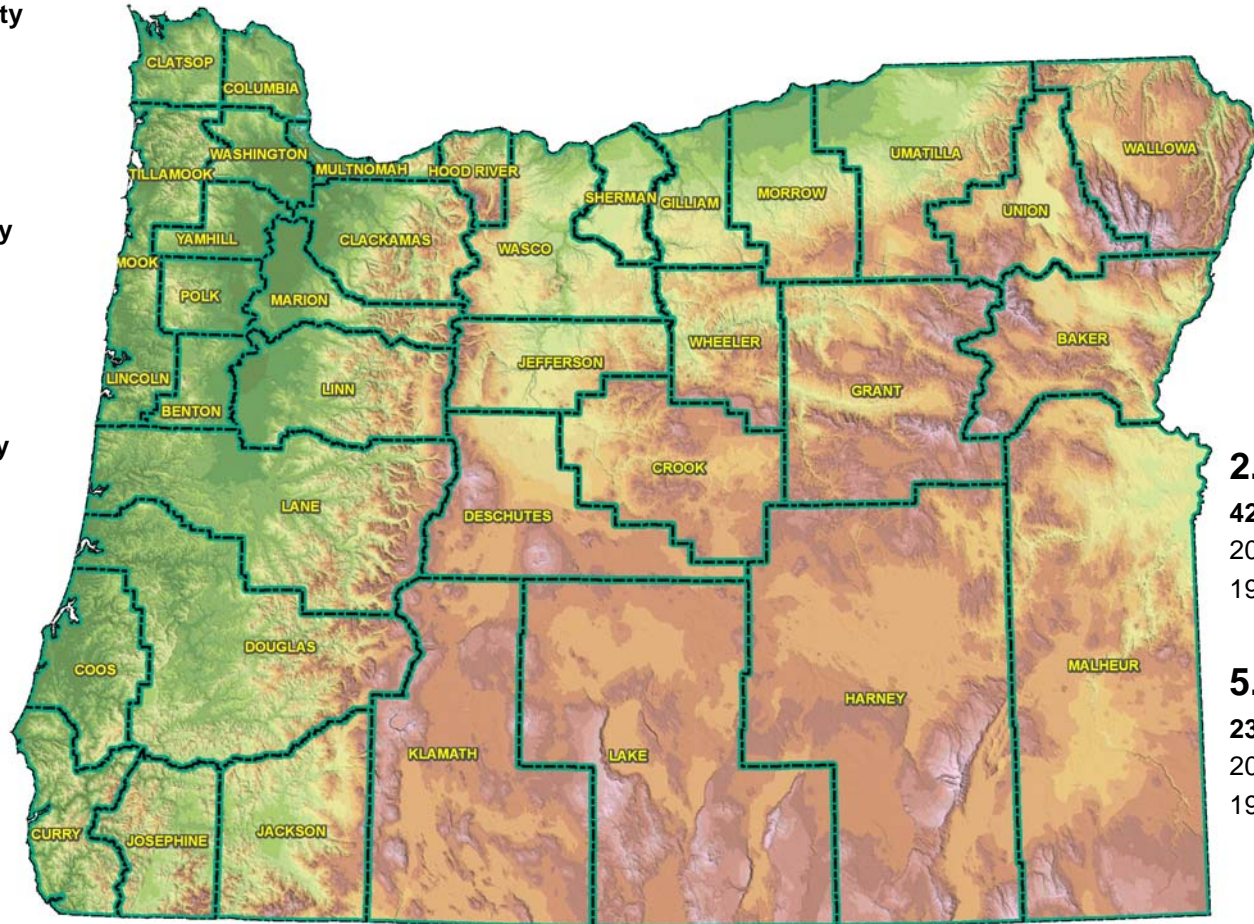
35,852 More Cars
 2008 Cars: 327,079
 1999 Cars: 291,227

6. Marion County

22,396 More Cars
 2008 Cars: 262,228
 1999 Cars: 239,832

7. Lane County

16,618 More Cars
 2008 Cars: 299,433
 1999 Cars: 282,815



2. Deschutes County

42,851 More Cars
 2008 Cars: 159,464
 1999 Cars: 116,613

5. Jackson County

23,329 More Cars
 2008 Cars: 184,059
 1999 Cars: 160,730



Map by Rogue Valley Clean Cities and CSA Planning Ltd: Source of data is the Oregon Department of Transportation, Driver and Motor Vehicle Services Division