About Us

South Shore Clean Cities -- headquartered in St. John, Indiana -- is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization managed by Legacy Environmental Services, Inc., an Indiana Certified Women’s Business Enterprise.

Designated as the 71st Clean Cities coalition on June 15, 1999, SSCC is one of the U.S. DOE’s nearly 100 Clean Cities coalitions across the country.

Our Mission

South Shore Clean Cities is a member-based coalition dedicated to promoting fuel- & technology-neutral sustainable transportation and clean energy options in Indiana. We guide our diverse membership base in the public, private and nonprofit sectors to increase the use and implementation of sustainable transportation methods and infrastructure. Our programs improve air quality, promote domestic fuels, strengthen the nation’s energy security, reduce dependence on imported oil and support local jobs and the local economy.

By the Numbers

In the last decade alone, South Shore Clean Cities members have reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 607,000 tons and reduced the number of gasoline gallon equivalents by 93 million gallons. That is the equivalent of removing 175,500 passenger vehicles from the road for one year and eliminating the use of nearly 2 million barrels of oil.
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Brian Houston
Senior Business Develop Manager
Clean Energy Fuels

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Ozinga

Alyssa Staley
Director of HR & Customer Service
ITR Concession Company, LLC

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Executive Director

Lorrie Lisek
Executive Staff

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Marketing & Project Coordinator

Lauri Keagle
Communications Director

Ryan Lisek
Project Manager

Kyle Lisek
Program Specialist

Dan Legler
Market Development

Becky Hinton
Administrative Assistant

Amy Hill
General Manager & CEO
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Project Manager

Kyle Lisek
Program Specialist

Dan Legler
Market Development

Becky Hinton
Administrative Assistant
Clean Fuels, Clean Air, Clean Cities

18,270,912 Gallons of Gasoline Equivalent Reduced in Northern Indiana

113,000 Tons Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reduced in Northern Indiana

34,500 Vehicles Equivalent to Removing More Than From the Road for One Year

10 Press Releases
37 SSCC-related News Articles

60+ Northern Indiana Green Fleet Members

12 SSCC Events With an Estimated 930 Participants

41 Vehicles on Hand at the Annual National Drive Electric Week Ride & Drives

50+ News & Events Eblasts Sent to Over 5,300 Members & Stakeholders

Northern Indiana Alt Fuel Stations
Biodiesel (B20 and above): 1
Electric (charging outlets): 171
Ethanol (E85): 82
Natural Gas: 8
Propane: 21

40 Grant Applications Submitted for Round 1 Indiana VW Mitigation

$6.1 Million Awarded for Round 1 Indiana VW Mitigation with Funding for 103 Vehicles

$1.1 Million U.S. EPA DERA Funds Awarded to SSCC Members

$28 Million Total of Grant Dollars Awarded

148 Vehicles Total Acquired Through Grant Applications & Funding

South Shore Clean Cities 2019 Annual Review
Indiana VW Mitigation Plan

- In 2019, SSCC wrote more than 40 grant applications for members & partners for the first round of Indiana VW grants.

- The IDEM VW Environmental Mitigation Trust Fund Committee on July 23, 2019 approved first round grant awards.

- SSCC members & partners were awarded more than 62% of the total awards approved by the committee – more than $6.1 million – for projects involving 103 vehicles, more than 56% of all vehicles funded.

- On October 8, 2019, SSCC assisted IDEM with hosting an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Workshop for the Indiana Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust Fund Committee and members of the public. The event included an electric vehicle 101 session, several panel discussions featuring electric vehicle experts from across the country, and concluded with a EV ride& Drive with multiple vehicles on display.
Diesel Emission Reduction Act

In May 2019, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced several dozen awards to replace older diesel-powered school buses nationwide through the Diesel Emissions Reduction Act (DERA) funding program. Among the recipients of the awards were our NIRPC Green Fleet participant the School City of East Chicago and our MACOG Green Fleet participant Penn-Harris-Madison School District whom SSCC was happy to assist with the grant writing process. In August 2019 we learned of the successful awarding of more than $1.1 million in U.S. EPA DERA funds for our members and partners, including clean diesel semis, clean diesel ready mix trucks, CNG refuse trucks, marine repowers and clean diesel loaders.
The Michigan to Montana (M2M) I-94 Clean Fuel Corridor project seeks to ensure a 1,500-mile span on interstate 94 from Port Huron, Michigan to Billings, Montana will have adequate fueling sites to serve alternative fuel and electric vehicle driver needs.

The M2M project, led by Gas Technology Institute through a $4.9 million U.S. Department of Energy grant awarded in December 2016, is being facilitated in partnership with Clean Cities Coalitions along the M2M route.

As of June 2019, INDOT installed signs along I-94 in Indiana designating the route as an Alternative Fuels Corridor as a result of the M2M project.

SSCC continues to work with members & partners to help fill fueling and charging gaps along I-94.
Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUD)

SSCC is pleased to partner with The Center for Sustainable Energy, along with 12 other Clean Cities coalitions and a host of other project partners on the Vehicle Charging Innovations for Multi-Unit Dwelling (VCI-MUD) project, a three-year project with funding from the U.S. Department of Energy Vehicle Technologies Office.

Although plug-in electric vehicle (PEV) adoption is accelerating nationwide, apartment and condominium residents face difficulties in access to PEV charging stations.

Together, the project team will engage stakeholders to document barriers to MUD and residential curbside charging stations, demonstrate innovative technologies that address barriers, compile project findings in an easy-to-use toolkit and disseminate the toolkit across national, regional, state and local channels.
SSCC was actively involved with the Midwest EVOLVE (Electric Vehicle Opportunities: Learning, eVents, Experience) project over the past three years. This project, in partnership between the American Lung Association of the Upper Midwest, SSCC and seven other Midwestern Clean Cities coalitions, was used to educate consumers, as well as public and private fleets, about the performance and environmental advantages of electric vehicles.

As part of the project, electric vehicles were showcased at community events, auto shows, workplace-charging seminars and ride-and-drives. These events helped to educate consumers about finding a vehicle that fits their needs and provide information about the ease of charging vehicles at home, at work, or at public charging stations.

In 2019 alone, SSCC participated in over 10 ride-and-drive events, attended several events promoting the Midwest EVOLVE program and hosted educational workplace-charging seminars with several SSCC members and stakeholders. The project concluded in 2019.
MotorWeek TV Appearance

In September 2019, MotorWeek traveled to Northwest Indiana to film two of South Shore Clean Cities members, Ozinga Energy & the City of Hobart to highlight all the great things they are doing with Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) fueling.

With the help of Ozinga Energy and SSCC, the City of Hobart was able to install a CNG fueling pumps and built a new vehicle maintenance garage to support its growing fleet of CNG powered trucks.

Ozinga Energy is also in the process of converting many of their ready mix concrete mixers over to CNG. As of 2019, all of their fueling stations are pumping renewable natural gas from a landfill. Their Gary, IN plant displaces 165,000 diesel gallons with CNG annually.

MotorWeek is television’s longest running and most respected automotive series. MotorWeek debuted in 1981 and launched a new television genre by becoming the first weekly series to offer consumer-oriented car and truck reviews, do-it yourself car care tips, and the latest auto industry news. As one of the first mainstream media outlets to provide coverage of advances in green motoring technologies and the use of alternative fuels, MotorWeek is tuned in to consumer demand for the latest on fuel efficient vehicles.
Northern Indiana Green Fleet

South Shore Clean Cities manages the Northern Indiana Green Fleet Program for our local metropolitan planning organizations, the Michiana Area Council of Governments (MACOG) and the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC). The goal of the program is to significantly improve the environmental performance of business and government vehicle fleets across each respective MPO’s territory through diesel retrofits and other strategies.

South Shore Clean Cities works with and guides over 60 municipal, county school & university member fleets to help mitigate barriers preventing the adoption of alternative fuels and advanced technology vehicles while creating policies supporting petroleum and vehicle-emission reductions.
Wa-Nee Community Schools - with headquarters in Nappanee - is a rural school corporation serving 3,000 students. The school corporation is a member of the School Transportation Association of Indiana and through its educational events, sought more eco-friendly options for its fleet while providing the same safety standards.

In partnership with the Michiana Area Council of Governments’ South Shore Clean Cities Green Fleet Program, Wa-Nee Community Schools, under the leadership of Director of Transportation and Safety Amy Rosa, applied for Indiana Volkswagen Environmental Mitigation Trust Fund assistance in 2019 and was awarded $202,398 toward the purchase of eight propane-fueled school buses.

This project is estimated to reduce emissions by 94.7 percent and to annually displace more than 20,200 diesel gallons of fuel. School officials said the grant funding was critical to the project and allowed the corporation to purchase buses for less per bus than it had in 14 years. The project is also estimated to save the school corporation roughly $8,000 annually in diesel exhaust fluid and diesel particulate filters not needed on propane buses.
SSCC hosted multiple workshops, meetings, conferences, alternative/electric vehicle ride & drive events, lunch & learns, Webinars and training sessions in 2019 in an effort to increase knowledge of sustainable transportation and energy options, best practices, cost savings & funding opportunities and to allow our members to network with one another to learn from other members’ successes.

SSCC hosted 12 events in 2019 with members and partners and participated in multiple others organized by our members and partners, all of which focused on outreach and education to share our message of reducing dependence on petroleum and increasing the use and implementation of sustainable, domestic transportation methodologies and technologies.

Events organized by SSCC in 2019 reached an estimated total of 930 people.
SSCC worked with our network of more than 300 local, state and national media partners -- including national trade publications -- to share the success stories of our members and partners.

In 2019 alone, SSCC developed 10 press releases and were featured in over 37 news articles highlighting the SSCC members and stakeholders.

Visit the SSCC News & Events tab on the Website at www.southshorecleancities.org to read the latest events and updates.
SSCC hosted its Annual Meeting & Awards on February 26, 2019 which drew more than 300 leaders in the public, private & nonprofit sectors with more than 35 exhibit booths. SSCC members were celebrated for their efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and gasoline gallon equivalents in 2018. Collectively, the top five member organizations (pictured below) displaced 18.3 million gallons of gasoline and more than 113,000 tons of greenhouse gas emissions - which the U.S. EPA stated has the same impact as removing the emissions from 34,500 passenger vehicles from the road for one year.
On June 18, 2019, SSCC celebrated its 20th Anniversary as a U.S. Department of Clean Cities coalition. The event was free to attend thanks to the generous support of sponsors including Best Equipment Company, Cummins, Family Express Corporation Indiana Corn Marketing Council, NIPSCO, Ozinga and ROUSH CleanTech.

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SSCC hosted two National Drive Electric Week Ride & Drive events this year on September 19 at the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission in Portage, IN and on September 21 at the University of Notre Dame park lot in partnership with the Michiana Area Council of Governments. Members, partners and the general public had the opportunity to get behind the wheel and experience electric vehicle driving first hand. Electric vehicle owners and local dealerships attended each event to share their experiences and knowledge about electric vehicle driving. SSCC also provided information about which electric vehicles are available in the Region, how and where to find electric vehicle charging stations, what purchasing incentive are available and more.

The NIRPC event had a total of 20 electric vehicles on hand with over 75 participants, while Notre Dame had 21 vehicles on hand with over 50 participants.
SSCC hosted its 7th Annual Clean Air Golf Outing on September 10, 2019 at the beautiful White Hawk Country Club in Crown Point, IN. This event is one of our most popular events of the year and featured all the activities our annual golf outing is known for - fun on the links, delicious meals, cocktails, raffles, on-course contests, networking and more!

This event wouldn’t have been possible without our sponsors and their support! Sponsors this year included Event Sponsors: Best Equipment Company, Cummins, Himco Waste Away Group, Inc., NIPSCO, Ozinga Energy; Beverage Sponsor: Clean Energy Fuels; Dinner Sponsor: Family Express; Cart Sponsors: Midwest Transit Equipment, Midwest Wind & Solar; and Driving Range Sponsor: The City of Whiting.

Congratulations to our member Family Express Corporation and their team (pictured below) for winning back to coveted championship trophy and to all of our prize winners this year!
SSCC Executive Director Carl Lisek hosts “Green Fleet Radio,” a weekly radio show airing three times each Wednesday on Lakeshore Public Radio. The show began airing in January 2018 & hit the airwaves again Sept. 4, 2019 after a nine-month hiatus.

The show features Carl interviewing guests on topics pertaining to SSCC’s mission to broaden awareness of sustainable transportation projects & options.

2019 guests include Don Babcock & Kevin Kirkham of NIPSCO, Scott Weber of NIRPC, Amy Rosa of Wa-Nee Community Schools, Andrew Penca of Cummins, Bruno Pigott of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, Jerome Parker & David Wright of the Gary Public Transportation Corporation, Eman Ibrahim of NIRPC, Ian Hirt of the Ports of Indiana-Burns Harbor, Kay Nelson of the Northwest Indiana Forum, Anne Anderson of the City of Hammond, Joe Exl of NIRPC, Denise Rondini of the North American Council for Freight Efficiency, Jennifer Sanders of Clean Air Car Check, Kathy Luther of NIRPC, Dan Gage of NGVAmerica and Marc Rowe of Trillium.

The show is made possible by funding from the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission & includes one NIRPC staff member as a guest each month. Visit the SSCC Website to listen at your leisure.
SSCC Executive Director Carl Lisek writes a guest column each month in the Times of Northwest Indiana, highlighting and examining topical, timely issues in the sustainable transportation and energy realm.

2019 column topics include:

- Jan. - [Time to Plan for Electric Vehicle Charging is Now](#)
- Feb. - [Follow NIRPC’s Lead in Transportation Planning for Future](#)
- Mar. - [Prepare for the Transformation](#)
- Apr. - [Fuel Economy Only Part of Sustainable Transportation Puzzle](#)
- May - [Don’t Blame Ethanol for Rising Gasoline Prices](#)
- June - [SSCC’s 20th Anniversary Time for Reflection and Thanks](#)
- July - [Celebrating Our Nation’s Energy Independence](#)
- Aug. - [Sustainable Fuels and Disaster Preparedness Go Hand in Hand](#)
- Sept. - [Electric Vehicles Could Change Our Culture](#)
- Oct. - [Natural Gas Taking Off as a Transportation Fuel](#)
- Nov. - [Idle Less this Winter to Save More Than Just Money](#)
- Dec. - [Looking Back on a Year of Sustainable Transportation Successes](#)
Thank You!
South Shore Clean Cities

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