



Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee February 25, 2009

1. Air Quality Action Days

- No new activities to report at this time.

2. Marketing and Public Relations

- The Marketing Committee will meet in early March to begin planning for the 2009 public awareness campaign.

3. Public Education

- More than 1,000 students have received information from the curriculum and outreach programs including 320 from the District of Columbia, 525 from Maryland, and 180 from Virginia.
- In addition, the curriculum materials have been downloaded from the Clean Air Partners' website by nearly 30 other individuals from public and private schools and homeschool programs in the District, Maryland, and Virginia, as well as the State of Tennessee and the Delaware Division of Public Health.
- The Education Program Manager will be participating in the Maryland Association for Environmental and Outdoor Education conference February 27 – March 1 and presenting at the EPA National Air Quality Conferences in early March.

4. Business Roundtable

- One new application for the aqueous parts washer rebate program was received from a bike shop in Arlington, VA. To date, 5 units at 4 facilities have been approved.
- Marketing efforts have included outreach to specific facilities that use this type of equipment (i.e. car dealerships) and equipment vendors who in turn market the rebate program to their customers. Feedback received directly from many of the potential users is that they no longer use their solvent-based parts washers and/or they are not making any unnecessary expenditures due to the downturn in the economy. All of the applications submitted to date have been those received as a result of vendor referrals.

5. Meetings

- Clean Air Partners conducted an all-day strategic planning session on February 5, 2009 at MDOT headquarters. The meeting was well attended with 20 Board members (including all major funders), staff, and consultants participating. The facilitator helped the Board identify the organization's strengths, opportunities, problems, and threats, and begin the process of revising the mission and vision statement. The Board also identified three likely strategic focus areas: education/public awareness, thought leader/catalyst, and sustainability. These focus areas will be the topic of future Board meetings and incorporated (as deemed appropriate) in the FY 2010 Work Plan and Budget.