



## JUNE NEWSLETTER

*Welcome! The Land of Sky Regional Council's Clean Vehicles Coalition monthly newsletter is a curation of the top content for the month, including news, upcoming events, and more. The Coalition is actively working with local and regional partners to develop projects and secure funding to increase the use of alternative fuel vehicles in the Western North Carolina region. Follow us on social media to learn more!*

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### *NCDOT Community Engagement Webinar - June 26*



The NCDOT is hosting a Community Engagement Webinar on June 26th from 3:00 to 4:30 PM ET. Provide feedback on EV charging and learn about the NEVI Program's benefits. Your input will help shape future EV charging infrastructure in North Carolina. Don't miss this opportunity!

[Learn More](#)

### RECENT EVENTS

#### *Brewing Some Good - Reception - May 21st*

We recently gathered at the Wicked Weed Funkatorium for an event focused on sustainable brewing, generously supported by Sugar Hollow Solar, Duke Energy, and members of the Blue Horizons Project Community Council. Attendees enjoyed networking over hors d'oeuvres and

participated in discussions on reducing brewing costs, energy consumption, and carbon footprints. The event featured insightful speakers, a panel discussion exploring practical steps toward a sustainable future and highlighted energy study outcomes while encouraging breweries to join the EPA's Energy Star Challenge.

[Link to event page here.](#)



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## ElectriFair - June 8

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We are thrilled to share that Electrify Asheville's first ElectriFair at AB Tech on June 8th was a resounding success! Attendees enjoyed engaging panels, delicious food from food trucks, and numerous opportunities to learn about home energy efficiency and electrification. Thank you to everyone who joined us in exploring vehicle electrification. [More Information here](#)



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## 9th Annual French Broad Riverfest - June 15

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We had a fantastic time at the ninth annual Upper French Broad Riverfest at Champion Park in Rosman, NC. The event was filled with live local music, hands-on educational activities, and free tubing, along with delicious food from local food vendors. Organized by the Transylvania French Broad Stewards, the Town of Rosman, Conserving Carolina, and Headwaters Outfitters, the festival coincided with the exciting Hellbender 20-Miler Relay Canoe Race. We were thrilled to be part of this wonderful celebration of the river!

[Link to event page here.](#)



## *FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES*

### ***EPA Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Grant 2024***

The EPA has opened its [Clean Heavy-Duty Vehicles Grant program for 2024](#). The IRA funded program plans to spend \$932M to fund projects in areas that are in non-attainment for [current air quality standards](#). This program funds replacement of class 6 and 7 vehicles with zero-emission class 6 and 7 vehicles, including allocations for school bus, transit bus, and work truck replacements and allowances for charging infrastructure installation, workforce training, and some project costs.

### ***Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Grant Program Round 2***

Part two of the Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Grant Program is here! This initiative, under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, provides \$2.5 billion over five years to deploy EV charging and alternative fueling infrastructure nationwide. Eligible applicants, including states, local governments, and tribal authorities, can apply for up to \$1.3 billion in grants by August 28. Additionally, \$521 million is reserved for reconsideration of highly rated applications from the previous round, with notifications due by July 1. Visit the CFI Program website for more information. [More information here.](#)



## *IN THE NEWS*

### **Clean School Bus Program Awards**

Thanks to funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, EPA's Clean School Bus Program is providing \$5 billion over five years (FY 2022-2026) to replace existing school buses with zero-emission and clean school buses. Our region has been awarded additional buses in the latest round of the program, benefiting FernLeaf Community Charter School and

Shining Rock Classical Academy.

[Read more](#)



### ***Duke Energy Launches EV Charger Rental Program in North Carolina***

As the pace of electric vehicle (EV) adoption accelerates nationwide, Duke Energy has launched an EV charger rental program in North Carolina that enables residential and business customers to lease an EV charger from the company at a low monthly cost, which covers hardware, warranty and maintenance.

[Read more](#)



### ***North Carolina Reaches Electric Vehicle Registration Goals Two Years Early***

North Carolina has surpassed its initial electric vehicle registration goals two years early in yet another indication of the major shift in underway for American drivers, and emphasizing the need for the state to rapidly increase access to electric charging infrastructure.

[Read More](#)

## ***OUR STORY AND THE CLEAN CITIES PROGRAM***

The Clean Vehicles Coalition is a Clean Cities program of Land of Sky Regional Council in the Western North Carolina area. The Coalition was designated by the United States Department of Energy on July 26, 2012, as an official Clean Cities program for the five-county area surrounding Asheville, including Buncombe, Henderson, Haywood, Madison and Transylvania counties. Clean Cities is a program of the United States Department of Energy that works with states and communities across the country to promote the use of cleaner, alternative fuels and vehicles. Cleaner/alternative fuels include compressed natural gas, propane, ethanol, biodiesel, electricity, and hydrogen. Click the images below to learn more.



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