



Bill de Blasio, Mayor
Stacey Cumberbatch, DCAS Commissioner
Keith T. Kerman, Chief Fleet Officer

OCTOBER 16, 2015

ISSUE 112

NYC FLEET CONTINUES PARTNERSHIP WITH CLEAN CITIES

KEITH T. KERMAN

On September 23, 2015 DCAS presented on NYC's fleet sustainability efforts at the Midwest Green Fleets Forum & Expo in Columbus, Ohio. Also presenting were Mayor Greg Ballard of Indianapolis and Larry Beaulieu, VP of Automotive Engineering for UPS, and others. A theme of the conference was the urgency of implementing wide-scale alternatives to traditional fossil fuels used in transport and the many practical, cost effective, and innovative approaches that are now in place.

The 100 Best Fleets in North America also used this conference to announce its national green fleet awards. NYC was among the fleets recognized at the event.

This event continued a decade of partnership between City fleet and the national Clean Cities coalition. Clean Cities was established in 1993 by the US Department of Energy. Its mission is to promote the use of alternative fuel and cleaner vehicles and to provide informational, technical, and financial support for public and private fleets pursuing sustainable approaches. Clean Fuels Ohio is the largest of 100 non-profit coalition members nationwide.

Our local Clean Cities branch is Empire Clean Cities. This week, on October 15, Empire hosted Odyssey Day at Union Square Park. This event was supported by DCAS, DSNY, Parks, NYPD and DOT and displayed the latest in alternative fuel vehicles for the general public. Empire also regularly hosts a forum at the City's annual fleet show in May.

Thanks to Sam Spofforth of Clean Fuels Ohio, Tom Johnson of 100 Best Fleets, Samantha Eaton and Christina Ficicchia of Empire Clean Cities, and staff from the City fleet agencies who supported this effort.



FLEET SPOTLIGHT: ROBERT CACCAVALE OF DEP UPSTATE

MAHANTH S. JOISHY

NYC's fleet program extends well beyond the five boroughs. DEP operates over 500 vehicles to maintain and secure the upstate watersheds where our high-quality tap water originates. The major programs include policing, landscape management, and water testing, and each of these require specialized vehicles and equipment such as cruisers, pickups, grass tractors, backhoes, dump trucks, and trailers.

Robert Caccavale is the Deputy Chief of Fleet Services based upstate. He helps lead a staff of 10 working out of four auto repair garages spread out over nearly 200 miles in Ashokan, Grahamsville, Downsville, and Cross River. He writes the specifications for the upstate DEP fleet including large grass cutting equipment (shown here), prioritizes repairs for customers, and manages procurement. Upstate also participates in DCAS fleet initiatives including Fleet Focus, biodiesel, safety training, and fuel tracking.

Robert started with DEP in 1990 at Maspeth, focused on vehicle specifications, and transferred upstate in 1992. He has been Deputy Chief for 3 years. "I've always been a car buff. I worked in retail truck sales out of college," he said. That passion now contributes to his DEP career.

Born in the Bronx and raised in Yonkers, Robert now lives in Fishkill, Dutchess County with his wife Rosalia and daughters Jessica and Jenna. His favorite hobby is fishing, and he is a fan of the Yankees, Rangers, Giants, and Jets. We thank Robert for his 25 years of dedicated service and for keeping close touch even from far away.

