



RE: Your Clean Cities Newsletter

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Title: Schools Continue to Replace Diesel Buses with Clean-operating Propane Models

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Recently I attended the unveiling of new Blue Bird propane autogas school buses for the state of South Carolina. The state operates one of the oldest school bus fleets in the country with buses averaging 15 years old — some dating back to the 1980s.

Unlike other states, South Carolina operates and maintains its own fleet of school buses. More than half of its 5,500 school bus fleet are decades-old, with an average 236,000 miles on them. The state's Department of Education projects that its diesel buses cost them 49 cents per mile, while their new propane buses will reduce those costs to 21 cents per mile — **a savings of 28 cents per mile**. These are cost-savings that can go right back into the classrooms and community.

South Carolina is on the right track purchasing propane buses for two of its counties. Each year, these 26 alternatively fueled buses will reduce nitrogen oxide emissions by over 40,600 pounds and particulate matter by more than 825 pounds compared with the diesel buses they replaced.

Here are some other recent examples of propane school bus adoptions:

West Virginia. West Virginia school systems say propane buses are a good solution for the state. The propane buses require less maintenance compared with diesel buses, and they cost less on a per mile basis. [Monongalia County](#), the first in the state to buy a propane bus, bought four additional buses after its initial purchase.

Louisiana. [MotorWeek's Clean Cities](#) success story features a Louisiana school district. After flooding wiped out some of its fleet last year, the East Baton Rouge Parish Schools bought school buses fueled by propane. The alternatively fueled buses have proven successful, and now the district has purchased more.

As school districts across North America replace aging diesel models, domestically produced propane makes sense. Along with the fuel and maintenance cost savings, the buses reduce harmful emissions around our schoolchildren.

Currently, more than 650 school districts have chosen to fuel its fleet with propane.

To learn more about ROUSH CleanTech's propane autogas fuel system technology that powers the Blue Bird Vision Propane, please visit www.roushcleantech.com.

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