

## Clean Fuels Schools Program – Overview

A program of the East Tennessee Clean Fuels Coalition  
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**GOAL:** To involve students in activities that increase personal and community awareness of air quality and transportation fuel issues. Students will also learn how they can play a critical role in creating change within their school and community.

**WHO:** The East Tennessee Clean Fuels Coalition (ETCFC) partnered with teachers and students who want to work on these issues.

**WHAT:** The participating student group will start with 25 emissions clouds. They will achieve status as a “Clean Fuels School” by eliminating all 25 emissions clouds during the school year. A combination of at least 4 different types of activities (movie showing, community outreach, volunteering...etc.) and specific activities must be completed to gain Clean Fuels School Status. For the students’ achievement, the school will be given a set of street signs with “Your school’s name” and “is a Clean Fuels School” printed as the street names. Additionally, the ETCFC will work with the school to hold a press conference to get local media attention focused on the school’s “clean fuels team” for their achievements.

**HOW:** The ETCFC will give a 30-minute presentation on the basics of air quality, petroleum, and alternative fuels. Then we will work with the students to provide more information, supply appropriate materials, and help coordinate activities as necessary and requested. However, the students are responsible for taking the initiative and completing the activities themselves.

**Clean Fuels Schools Activities:** Students must complete all four parts to each activity.

1. **Brainstorm** - Focusing on air quality/health, oil dependence, and alternative fuels, students will think of ways to impact their community and decrease their school’s ecological footprint. They can use the ideas set up by the ETCFC, their teachers, or their own imaginations.
2. **Research** - The Students will learn specifics on the topic they have chosen, develop ideas on how to accomplish the activity, and make a plan to take action. The ETCFC will be available as a major resource.
3. **Action** - Complete the activities and project!
4. **Presentation** - Students must relay information to the rest of the group (or school) using any creative method they choose. Ex: PowerPoint, posters, skits, songs, speeches... (This can be quick ~5 min long)

### Activity Ideas:

Activity Name	Description/Guidelines for Team Members	Clouds
Local Fleets Outreach	Talking with local companies <i>who have a fleet</i> about using alt fuels like B20 or E85, supplying information to them, and connecting interested parties with the ETCFC. ETCFC will supply students with alternative fuel information. Students will coordinate how/when they will communicate with the fleets.	1 cloud for each business reached
Community Outreach	Students will identify local groups and put together a presentation with the help of the ETCFC. Examples include but are not limited to the school’s PTA, local Rotary or Kiwanis Clubs, local city or county governments or community environmental organizations.	1 cloud for each organization reached
Movie Hosting	Students will choose a date, time, and place to show the movie	1 cloud for every 10

Event – “A Crude Awakening”	and create materials to promote attendance. The students will be present to participate in a question and answer session afterwards (and either the ETCFC or another local, educated supporter will be in attendance to help out, too). Students will identify resources of advertising and getting the word out for people to come. They may choose to sell refreshments as well. Minimum 40 attendees to receive points.	people that attend (max. of 10 clouds credit)
School Bus Driver commitment campaign	Students will work to get a meeting with the school’s bus drivers to speak with them about pledging to reduce their idling and/or using B20 if locally available. This effort will be a crucial one to creating local action. The ETCFC will support students through providing direct information and video as necessary. Students will be responsible for setting up the meeting and getting the pledge cards signed and back to the ETCFC.	1 cloud for each bus driver pledged as a result (max. of 10 clouds credit)
Boiler initiative	Students will develop a relationship with school maintenance personnel to determine whether they have oil- or diesel-fired boilers onsite, to begin a discussion about switching to using a biodiesel blend. Students will have a chance to understand the inner workings of the school (how it is heated) and become involved with promoting cleaner burning biodiesel in generator/boilers.	1 cloud for finding out about how the schools is heated; 5 clouds for assisting in a switch to using a biodiesel blend
Run For Clean Air Teams	Students will design posters, send out flyers, and creatively recruit teams (of 4 or more) to run in the Run for Clean Air, in addition to participating themselves. The ETCFC will give students team flyers to distribute. Additionally, the ETCFC will offer a reduced fee for the teams to participate (likely to be \$10). <i>2009 Run will take place on Saturday, April 11, 2009!</i>	1 cloud for each team brought to the Run, or 1 cloud for each four members for a larger team
EarthFest volunteers	Students may join the ETCFC at EarthFest and discuss their projects and the need for wiser use of petroleum and increased use of alternative fuels with festival attendees. Students will need to come up with their own signage for the event to draw in attendees; setting up a posterboard of activities you’ve worked on throughout the year will be helpful.	5 clouds for 3 volunteers attending for the day
Sports Event booth	Put together table or booth at one or more school sports events from which to talk with attendees about clean fuels, the ETCFC and the projects going on at the school	2 clouds for each event attended
The School’s GHG Footprint	Students will gather energy usage information for the school for one year and utilize materials provided by the ETCFC to calculate the school’s greenhouse gas footprint, and put together a plan to let all the school’s students and teachers know what that number is in both total and per student form.	4 clouds
Student group/self designed program	Students may create an event or project that addresses the needs or interests of their community. Just present this idea to the ETCFC when presenting	TBD

In addition to the above points, if the team is able to get media coverage associated with any single activity, more clouds will be awarded as follows: 2 clouds for each TV station, 1 cloud for each newspaper or radio station that covers the event. Also, we recommend that students take pictures of themselves at work during all activities to help document their effort – a picture can be worth 1,000 words!