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U.S. EPA recognizes Wisconsin Clean Cities as 2017 SmartWay Affiliate Challenge honoree

Six-time honoree one of nine selected for national award

MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN -- Wisconsin Clean Cities is one of nine national U.S. Environmental Protection Agency 2017 SmartWay Affiliate Challenge Honorees, representatives announced Thursday.

The U.S. EPA recognized Wisconsin Clean Cities Thursday as part of its Earth Day celebrations.

Wisconsin Clean Cities is the only Clean Cities coalition – of nearly 100 nationwide -- to earn the award and one of 215 SmartWay Affiliates to be honored. The 2017 award marks the sixth consecutive time since 2007 Wisconsin Clean Cities has been named a SmartWay Affiliate Challenge Honoree status.

“Wisconsin Clean Cities shares SmartWay’s values and commitment to cleaner air, sustainable business practices, emissions reductions and a strong economy,” Wisconsin Clean Cities Lorrie Lisek said. “We are honored to receive this recognition and thank the U.S. EPA for this designation.”

The SmartWay Affiliate Challenge is a national challenge developed by the U.S. EPA to acknowledge organizations contributing to a clean energy economy by reaching out to inform and educate businesses, their communities and other stakeholders about steps they can take to reduce freight emissions and their other environmental impacts.

“EPA commends the SmartWay Affiliate Challenge honorees for their extraordinary level of commitment and enthusiasm in supporting more efficient and sustainable business practices in moving goods,” said Christopher Grundler, Director of EPA’s Office of Transportation and Air Quality. “These organizations represent diverse industry

sectors and stakeholders who are showing that American prosperity and protecting the environment can go hand in hand.”

The challenge was open to all SmartWay Affiliates who submitted an application and supporting materials describing various activities they accomplished from March 1, 2016 to March 1, 2017. Honored Affiliates represent 4 percent of the total affiliate membership.

As a SmartWay Affiliate Challenge Honoree, Wisconsin Clean Cities completed activities in a variety of areas, such as:

- Conducted educational Webinars for members focused on incorporating sustainable goods movement into their operations.
- Promoted clean diesel practices and sustainability with the Wisconsin State Energy Office.
- Discussed and encouraged the use of SmartWay strategies on the Wisconsin Clean Cities Website and various social media platforms.
- Collaborated with other Clean Cities coalitions to host a conference in which participants discussed efficient fleet practices and fuel-efficient technologies.

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About Wisconsin Clean Cities

Wisconsin Clean Cities (WCC) is a nonprofit coalition focused on promoting cleaner energy for transportation in Wisconsin. WCC is one of nearly 100 coalitions across the country that are affiliated with the U.S. Department of Energy’s Clean Cities program, which brings together stakeholders to increase the use of alternative fuel and advanced-vehicle technologies, reduce idling, and improve fuel economy and air quality. WCC concentrates its efforts on educating businesses and municipalities in the entire state of Wisconsin. To learn more, visit www.wcleancities.org.

About SmartWay

EPA launched SmartWay in collaboration with business stakeholders to strengthen competitiveness and energy efficiency while contributing to cleaner air. Since 2004, over 3,500 companies have relied upon SmartWay data and assistance to lean their supply chains while shrinking their environmental footprints. Collectively, SmartWay partners have saved \$27.8 billion in fuel costs, while cutting over 1.7 million tons of NO_x, 70 thousand tons of PM_{2.5} and 84 million metric tons of carbon from our nation’s freight transportation networks. More information on SmartWay: <http://www.epa.gov/smartway/>