

Clean Fuel Advanced Technology Success Story: Friends of Great Smoky Mountains National Park



Project

A total of \$2M in funding was provided to the NC Solar Center at NC State University by the NC Department of Transportation, State Energy Office and Division of Air Quality. Funds were used for the Clean Fuel Advanced Technology (CFAT) Project to reduce transportation-related emission in NC counties that do not meet national air quality standards. Friends of Great Smoky Mountains National Park received \$33,680 to purchase a tank to store and dispense biodiesel, a cleaner burning renewable fuel that can be made from a variety of feedstocks such as soy oil, animal renderings and waste vegetable oil. The park purchases biodiesel that is produced locally by Blueridge Biofuels in Asheville.

CFAT Impact by the numbers

4000 gallon B50 Tank

12,000 gallons of B50 per year

46,000 lbs of avoided emissions per year (NO_x, CO, PM, VOC, CO₂)

On the Road to Success:

- Great Smoky Mountain National Park has been aware of air quality problems in their park for some time, but an analysis by the National Park Conservation Association gave the park hard data to use as they set out to improve park air quality.
- The Smokies has made improving air quality a major part of its 2007-2011 strategic plan.
- The park's resource education staff has incorporated biofuels in their air quality education programs which they deliver to thousands of school children and visitors each year. The park's vehicles also display bumper stickers which advertise their use of biodiesel.
- Friends of the Smokies used CFAT funds along with over \$6000 in matching funds from the Smokies "black bear" license plate program to purchase a 4,000 gallon tank, expanding the park's biodiesel storage capacity and allowing for more economical refueling.
- B50 is a blended fuel, composed of 50% biodiesel and 50% petroleum diesel. B50 can be used in any diesel-powered vehicle without modification or special maintenance.
- The park anticipates using 12,000 gallons of B50 each year to fuel at least 22 diesel vehicles.



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