



Department of Public Works

**Jeffrey J. Mantes**  
Commissioner of Public Works

**James P. Purko**  
Director of Operations

## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

For Immediate Release: Tuesday, May 19, 2009

For Additional Information Contact: Cecilia Gilbert, Permits & Communications Manager, 286-3261 or 708-2295 (cell)

### **Department of Public Works' Eco-Driving Program is the First in the Nation Hybrid Vehicles Displayed at DPW Field Headquarters**

On Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 a.m. Mayor Tom Barrett will speak regarding the Department of Public Works' Eco-Driving Program as a part of National Public Works Week. The Eco-Driving Program is the first of its kind in America since the Department of Energy's Conservation Awareness Training program in 1976. Eco-Driving is a driver program designed to educate Department of Public Works Fleet drivers about the techniques and methods of maintaining and operating their vehicle in the most efficient manner possible.

The Eco-Driving Program is a partnership between DPW, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Wisconsin Clean Cities Program and the Milwaukee Area Technical College. The program was funded through a grant from the Department of Natural Resources and is aimed at reducing air pollution. The use of Eco-Driving techniques can save the average driver between 4% and 20% on the amount of fuel burned.

DPW's Fleet Services has been purchasing hybrid vehicles as part of its' green initiatives. Hybrid vehicles improve mileage and reduce tailpipe emissions. Most hybrid vehicles are gasoline and electric as opposed to diesel or nuclear. The City owns several hybrid vehicles; the most recent purchase is a 40 foot aerial lift truck. The vehicle is expected to save approximately 1500 gallons of fuel per year, significant reductions in carbon monoxide, hydrocarbon and nitrogen oxide emissions. There is also significant reduction in noise levels at the jobsite.

There will be demonstration of how the aerial lift truck operates on Thursday. Eco-driving trainers will be available to demonstrate the techniques.

**WHO:** Mayor Tom Barrett  
Jeff Mantes, Commissioner, Public Works  
Francis Vogel, Wisconsin Clean Cities Program  
Wayne King, Fleet Services

**WHAT:** Eco-Driving Program & Hybrid Vehicles

**WHEN:** Thursday, May 21, 2009  
11:00 a.m.

**WHERE:** 3850 North 35<sup>th</sup> Street