



CONTACT US:

Administration

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Wethersfield Repair Facility

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Wethersfield, CT 06109
860-566-7826

Norwich Repair Facility

171 Salem Turnpike
Norwich, CT 06360
860-885-2153

New Haven Repair Facility

140 Pond Lily Avenue
New Haven, CT 06515
203-397-4590

After Hours Emergencies

Call **1-877-454-4204** (toll free). Your call will be answered through the Department of Environmental Protection Dispatch Office, which will assist you.

Online

Go to www.das.state.ct.us and click on **FLEET OPERATIONS** for additional information on fueling locations, accident forms and mileage reports.

They're back!! Over the past six months Fleet Administration has been working with the Commissioner's Office to first identify and then coordinate the turn-in of hundreds of DAS-owned cars. This effort was in response to Executive Order 22 issued by Governor Rell in January. We recognize that many agencies were forced to make difficult decisions regarding fleet assignment and want to thank everyone for their cooperation with this initiative. While we are still in the process of determining the total number of vehicles returned, we are confident that the mandate of 20% has been achieved.

Fleet Vehicles Turned In

Since we still have a number of 2001 and 2002 vehicles in service, and the purchase of replacement vehicles is currently not an option in all but the most extreme circumstances, we will use many of the recently turned-in cars and trucks to replace the oldest and highest mileage vehicles in our fleet. However, vehicles returned with high mileage or that are seven to eight years old will not go back into service.

Instead, they will be sold at our next vehicle auction. Fortunately, many of the vehicles returned are just a few years old with low or moderate mileage. They will be reassigned to serve as reliable replacements for many of the older, high-mileage vehicles that, even after this significant fleet reduction, remain in use.

Our intention is to complete most, if not all, of the vehicle reassignments during July and August. Once the turn-ins have been inspected and our database updated, we will start the process of getting them back into service. This will be a significant stride in upgrading the overall quality of our fleet.

As mentioned earlier, purchasing replacement vehicles is not an option at this time, so when the reassignment piece of this project is complete we will thoroughly review our fleet to identify, and make note of, the oldest and highest mileage vehicles that remain. This will help us to be prepared to move forward once we have the authorization to do so.

Who's Your ATA?

Since the deadline for taking the big RIP was July 1, we suppose that anybody still around will likely be here for some time, which means that now is a good time to update our contact list for ATAs.

If there haven't been any changes pertaining to the ATA assignment at your agency, or if you have already contacted Fleet to report a change, you do not need to respond again. Agencies that have had a change in their ATA do need to make Fleet aware – we will update our records so that we know who to contact with fleet-related questions, and where to send each issue of Inroads.

When Servicing Cars



Timing is everything, communication is key. Because of the support you have provided over the past months we have made significant progress in getting vehicles that were long overdue for service scheduled and into one of our shops.

Like doctors, dentists and other businesses that rely on appointments, our shops have learned that this system can work quite well for completing scheduled service. Ultimately, success is measured by a combination

of timely arrival and having maintenance ready to go to work at the scheduled time.

To help make the process work as well as it can, please encourage drivers to arrive on time for their scheduled appointments and to call when they are going to be late.

A second way to minimize the potential delay for drivers is for the shop to be aware in advance of any potential mechanical problems prior to vehicles arriving. This would help to ensure that the necessary parts are in stock, or possibly to make arrangements to immediately supply a loaner so drivers can be on their way with only a minimal delay.

And be sure to share any concerns you have regarding a shop not being prepared to service a driver who has reported at the designated time.

Get Your Bids In

Auction time is coming again. As most everyone is aware, the State of

Connecticut uses public auctions as the primary disposal method for unwanted assets; including cars, trucks, and police cruisers that have reached the end of their useful life in state service. Vehicle auctions are held at the Wethersfield garage (right behind DMV) periodically throughout the year. Our next vehicle auction will be Saturday, August 15. If you are interested and would like some additional information, check the DAS website as the date nears.

The fleet reduction initiative and associated vehicle reassignments will result in many 2002 and older cars and trucks being disposed. Besides the August 15 auction, we also expect that there will be an auction in mid-September, and if the final tally on the vehicles turned in is high enough, there will likely be the need to hold another auction around the beginning of November.

Approximately 200-225 vehicles are sold at each auction. The primary source of cars and trucks for the auction is the DAS fleet, which supplies around 150 for each event. There will typically be 50-60 vehicles from State Police, with the remainder being made up of vehicles that had been owned directly by an agency or college, or that the state ended up owning for any of a variety of reasons.

So if you're interested in a great deal on a state car, or even if you are just a bit curious about how the process works - come on down! It costs nothing to show up and watch. If you decide to bid there is a \$5.00 registration fee.