



inroads

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CONTACT US:

Administration

Frank Sanzo, *Director*
713-5155
Jim Palmer, *Asst. Director*
713-5153
Mike Gosselin 670-4744
Al Landry 713-5152
Pam Bowe 713-5157

Wethersfield Repair Facility

60 State Street (rear)
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.

With the exception of a few vehicles that are expected to be turned in soon, all of the cars and trucks have been returned, parked, and accounted for. In total, close to 900 vehicles that have come back to DAS since January as part of Governor Rell's Executive Order to reduce the fleet by 20% (exempting vehicles used for law enforcement). Thanks to all agencies for their support and cooperation. With your help we achieved our goal. Our new total for DAS-owned cars and trucks is approximately 3,500 vehicles.

The Final Tally

Cars and trucks returned that are seven years old or older, or have in excess of 100,000 miles will not be reassigned to agencies. Instead, they have been designated for auction. Newer and lower mileage vehicles are being reassigned within Fleet to allow us to cycle out older, higher mileage units. We expect this process will be completed in September. Reassigning newer cars and trucks to replace older ones is especially helpful considering that we do not have any plans for buying new vehicles at this time.

Vehicle auctions were held in May and June to dispose of the cars and trucks deemed to have been fully utilized. The next auction is scheduled for Saturday, August 15th with more expected later this year.

With fewer vehicles directly assigned to agencies, there may be times when having a car available to meet an important agency need might be a bit more of a challenge than in the past. To help minimize any negative impact caused by the newly reduced vehicle

Regional Inter-Agency Motor Pools?

pool, Fleet Operations is working to implement inter-agency motor-pools in strategic locations throughout the state. These pools will provide rental vehicles for multiple agencies to use during those times when a car is needed and there isn't one available. Our goal is to provide daily rentals that are at least as convenient as using an outside vendor, but more cost-effective.

Fleet Operations is currently in the preliminary planning stages for several such locations. If you have a specific need that could be served by having a multi-agency pool vehicle nearby, please give Frank Sanzo or Jim Palmer a call at (860) 713-5160.

Since February, employees in our maintenance facilities have been installing bumper stickers on every vehicle that comes in for service or repair.

At this point, almost 100% of our fleet should have an "Am I Driving Safely?" sticker on the rear bumper. We have found the quality of the sticker and adhesive to be quite good, so there should be little chance of one fading, wearing out, or falling off. With that in mind, we ask that you take a look at your fleet of vehicles to verify that they all have

a bumper sticker. If not, then one needs to be applied. Fleet can help with any re-installs. When you notice a vehicle without a bumper sticker, send the driver to the closest maintenance location so that a new one can be applied. Additionally, as vehicles come in for service any missing stickers will be replaced. To help ensure that agencies are aware of cars with missing stickers, the plate number will be noted and reported to the agency ATA. Besides helping to identify state vehicles, these bumper stickers provide an easy-to-use tool for Connecticut

motorists to communicate their concerns about the operation of a vehicle or the practices of its driver.

To help ensure that the stickers, once applied, stay on the cars, we need your help. We ask that you communicate to all drivers, especially those that happen to be using vehicles that currently do not have a bumper sticker, the responsibility that they have to comply with all aspects of General Letter 115 (copy located at www.das.state.ct.us/fleet/fleet_blue.asp) including reporting motor vehicle

violations and prohibiting the removal of any vehicle markings, e.g. bumper stickers.

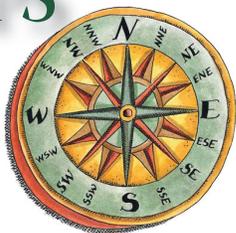
We have not, nor will be installing these bumper stickers on law enforcement or unmarked cars. We recognize and appreciate that certain circumstances dictate that a car has no visible connection to the state. However, all other vehicles must have a bumper sticker.

Bumper Stickers

Am I driving safely?

FLEET.CT.GOV

GPS



In July, DAS met with several agencies to discuss Global Positioning Satellites (GPS). These agencies expressed interest in learning more about how GPS can enhance and support the effective delivery of the services they provide while increasing the safety of employees that spend much of their time on the road. Because this entails technology-related activities, representatives from DOIT helped to run the meeting and will play a critical role in determining and supporting a possible future action plan.

GPS systems are being discussed as part of Executive Order 22. Besides complying with this order, the goal would be to gain operational experience with GPS systems to help identify any specific benefits that they may provide to various agencies.

We are working to clear the hurdles so that we may move forward by implementing a test phase. Possible participants in a pilot program include the Department of Consumer Protection, Department of Motor Vehicles and Judicial, as they have all identified applications that once tested, will help us to determine just how valuable, or not, GPS systems would be to us.

Once we have more to report on this we will provide an update. Stay tuned.



Lawrence Gore, a 20-year state employee, who for the past 19 years has been part of the DAS Fleet team, has transferred from Norwich to Wethersfield. While drivers and agency contacts that work with and visit our Norwich location will miss him, those that count on the Wethersfield garage for their vehicle maintenance needs will appreciate his customer service focus.

Welcome Larry!

