



CONTACT US:

Administration

Frank Sanzo, *Director*
(860) 713-5155
Jim Palmer, *Asst. Director*
(860) 713-5153
Mike Gosselin (860) 670-4744
Pam Bowe (860) 713-5157
Yanira Segarra (860) 713-5158

Wethersfield Repair Facility

60 State Street (rear)
Wethersfield, CT 06109
860-529-0500

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:
<http://das.ct.gov> and click on **FLEET OPERATIONS** for additional information on fueling locations, accident forms and mileage reports.

Closing Complaints

Having a fleet of vehicles can greatly improve your agency's ability to perform its mission. Advantages to in-house vehicles include cost-savings over the option of paying mileage reimbursement to employees who use their personal cars; ensuring that you have the ability to reach and serve your customers; or to possibly achieve a budget savings - e.g. using our own snow plow trucks verses hiring a contractor. These are all positive reasons we operate our own fleet.

Along with the advantages come the responsibilities - one of these is addressing and responding to any complaints that are filed. Once you receive notice that a complaint has been filed on the **fleet.ct.gov** website there are three steps to follow. The first is to investigate the report (this may include determining who was operating the vehicle and conducting interviews with the driver, supervisor, etc.) Second, once you have gained necessary knowledge of events that took place you must address the matter with the driver (as appropriate), and third, respond back to Fleet that this matter has been addressed. Step three is a critical step because without your response the complaint will remain open indefinitely. Besides not wanting a complaint to appear open, promptly addressing and closing complaints will send a positive message to the complainant that this event was investigated and addressed promptly.

Check Air Conditioning Now!

Despite the coldest March in years, the weather prognosticators are assuring us that it won't be long before summer is in full swing. With this thought in mind we encourage you to alert your drivers to test their air conditioning now.



Our shops can proactively address issues with air conditioning much more quickly if we have a few weeks notice. Conducting a pre-season test will allow us the time to schedule and repair any vehicles that you or your drivers have identified as not cooling properly. You may also find that scheduling AC maintenance now, enables us to schedule and repair any deficiencies before the hottest weather arrives.

Hybrid Electric Cars

Have you been considering adding an electric or hybrid vehicle to your fleet and were wondering how to do it? The DAS vehicle contract offers a number of super-efficient vehicle options, so we can help you make it happen.

You can access the contract by going to the DAS website, click on *State Contracting Portal* (under Services), this will take you to the *Doing Business with Connecticut* page. From there, click on the *Contracts* and *Solicitation Results* button to reach the Portal page. Then just type in the contract number **10PSX0239** into the appropriate box and hit the **search** button. The contract link will come up - just open it to view the list of vendors. About halfway down the page in red is the link

to supplements/contract documents – clicking on it will open the contract to the most recent supplement - which lists all of the makes and models, along with cost information currently on contract.

Some examples are:

- **Chevrolet Volt** – electric for the first 38 miles then reverts to gasoline – rated at 35/40 mpg
- **Chevrolet Malibu Eco** – a hybrid rated at 25/37 mpg
- **Ford C-MAX Hybrid** at 47 MPG, or the C-MAX Energi (a plug-in) rated at 41/44 mpg
- **Ford Focus Electric** - rated at 99/110 mpg
- **Ford Fusion Hybrid** - 47/47 mpg
- **Nissan Leaf** - all electric - 92/106 mpg
- **Toyota Prius** – three models including a plug-in hybrid rated at 50+ mpg

All mpg estimates taken from the government's official source for fuel economy information - www.fueleconomy.gov.

As you plan for vehicle replacements or adding vehicles to your fleet, keep models like this in mind. In addition to the obvious benefit of utilizing green technology in your day to day business, you will also realize lower operating costs based on increased fuel mileage.

One thing to keep in mind is vehicle cost (and for the electrics, battery range). Some of these cars cost more than \$30,000, whereas a basic Ford Focus only costs around \$14,000. Since monthly lease rates are based upon vehicle cost – i.e. the more expensive a vehicle is to purchase the higher the monthly rate. To date, Fleet has not purchased any of these vehicles for our stock. The primary reason we have determined that fuel savings alone cannot justify the higher acquisition cost, especially when we factor in the State government's continuing difficult fiscal climate.