
TREEDC Newsletter

July 2018

TREEDC Celebrates 10th Year Anniversary

TREEDC held its 10 year anniversary celebration at the Annual Tennessee Municipal League Conference in Knoxville on June 10, 2018. TREEDC Board Members Livingston Mayor Curtis Hayes and TREEDC President/Dunlap Mayor Dwain Land welcomed over 50 local officials and business executives who enjoyed the festivities. Mayor Land recognized former TREEDC President James Talley and TREEDC Founder University of Tennessee President Emeritus Dr. Joe Johnson for their roles in helping build TREEDC's mission of connecting renewable energy with economic development for communities worldwide. Special thanks to our sponsors EnerG3 and TREEDC Chairman/University of Tennessee Martin Chancellor Dr. Keith Carver for supporting the celebration.



From left to right President/Dunlap Mayor Dwain Land, TREEDC Board Member/Livingston Mayor Curtis Hayes, Founding TREEDC Board Member/Crossville Vice Mayor JH Graham III, TREEDC Board Member /Memphis Councilman Dr. Edmund Ford, Jr. and MTAS Consultant /TREEDC Director Warren Nevad

Franklin Mayor/ TREEDC Middle Tennessee Coordinator Ken Moore Wins TML Mayor of the Year



TREEDC Member/Franklin Mayor Ken Moore and Nevad at TML Conference

During the Tennessee Municipal League Annual Conference, TREEDC Member/Franklin Mayor Ken Moore was recognized as Tennessee Mayor of the Year for his leadership in helping shape Franklin as a progressive sustainable community. During his tenure, Mayor Moore has hosted several TREEDC forums, served as TREEDC Middle Tennessee Coordinator, oversaw a new campus at TREEDC Member Columbia State Community College and developed a state of the art solar array system at the city's wastewater facility. Congratulations, Mayor Moore!

TREEDC Welcomes Former ECD Commissioner Randy Boyd to TREEDC Member Sequatchie County



From left to right: Mayor Keith Cartwright, Randy Boyd, Jenny Boyd and Mayor Land

On May 31, 2018, TREEDC Mayors Dwain Land and Keith Cartwright welcomed Former Tennessee Economic & Community Development (ECD) Commissioner Randy Boyd in Dunlap, Tennessee for a community wide reception. Mayors Land and Cartwright updated Commissioner Boyd regarding the status of Dunlap and Sequatchie County's comprehensive energy efficiency improvements. Commissioner Boyd was presented a 10 year TREEDC Anniversary hat to commemorate the growth and progress of Dunlap, Sequatchie County and TREEDC.

West Tennessee TREEDC Mayors Host Informational Luncheon with Former Tennessee Governor Bredesen



From left to right: Milan Mayor B.W. Beasley, Former Tennessee Governor Bredesen and Brownsville Mayor Bill Rawls, Jr.

On April 14, 2018, Tennessee Renewable Energy & Economic Development Council (TREEDC) mayors from West Tennessee hosted a lunch in Jackson to recognize TREEDC'S 10TH year anniversary of connecting communities to renewable energy. TREEDC President/Dunlap Mayor Dwain Land thanked Governor Bredesen for giving TREEDC the impetus to start renewable energy back in 2008. During 2008, the State of Tennessee had embarked on statewide programs for solar, biofuels and energy efficiency. As a result, four (4) rural Tennessee Mayors and Former University of Tennessee President Dr. Joe Johnson and the Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) formed TREEDC. Today, TREEDC is also actively promoting compressed natural gas (CNG).

Today, TREEDC has 108 mayors who are working together to create a path to fast track renewable energy in Tennessee. Thanks to lower costs in solar, more availability of compressed natural gas and more sophisticated energy capital, more rural communities are engaging in development of renewable energy facilities. TREEDC plans to hold more events across Tennessee in 2018 to recognize its progress during the past ten years.

United States Navy Vice Admiral Lee Gunn (Ret.) Discusses Clean Energy and the American Security Project (ASP).

On June 11, 2018, the American Security Project (ASP), and TREEDC Members Cooley Public Strategies, Environmental Defense Fund and the Nature Conservancy sponsored a listening session with TREEDC President/Dunlap Mayor Dwain Land and city officials across Tennessee. The objective of the listening session was to assess a bipartisan national security strategy on clean energy. United States Navy Vice Admiral Lee Gunn (Ret.) was the keynote speaker. Vice Admiral Gunn served the Navy for over 35 years. Admiral Gunn's awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, the Defense Superior Service Medal, six Legions of Merit, two Meritorious Service Medals, the Navy Commendation Medal (with Combat Distinguishing Device), the Navy Achievement Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon, and numerous theater and service awards.

Vice Admiral Gunn stated that America must lead in the pursuit of common energy goals and shared security. To accomplish this objective, Vice Admiral Gunn stressed the need for a bipartisan consensus here in the United States. Vice Admiral Gunn also urged more funding for alternative transportation fuels to keep our armed forces prepared and ready for any contingencies.

ASP brings together prominent American business leaders, former members of Congress, retired military flag officers, and prominent former government officials. ASP conducts research on a broad range of issues and engages and empowers the American public by taking its findings directly to them via events, traditional & new media, meetings, and publications. Their website is <https://www.americansecurityproject.org/>. Special thanks to Martin Penny, Vice- President of Cooley Public Strategies for organizing this event.



*TREEDC President Dwain Land/Navy
Vice Admiral Lee Gunn*

TREEDC Member City of Dunlap Wins 2018 TML Green Leadership Award

During the 2018 TML Conference, the City of Dunlap received the Annual Excellence in Green Leadership Award. During the past few years, the City of Dunlap has been committed to sustainability and promoting energy efficiency in both the private and public sector. Incoming TML President/TREEDC Mayor Wallace Cartwright of Shelbyville praised Dunlap for being a role model across the nation in merging municipal operational savings with rural energy efficiency while creating local jobs.

To promote both energy and cost savings, the town of Dunlap partnered with energy services company NORESKO to upgrade 130 city streetlights to LED bulbs, install high-efficiency LED interior and exterior lights at all city buildings, upgrade water meters, and install solar arrays on the roofs of nine municipal buildings including city hall, the fire department, police department, a city park, town maintenance facility, water treatment plant, and wastewater treatment plant. In total, the projects cost the city around \$2.76 million. Dunlap Mayor Dwain Land, who also serves as president of the Tennessee Renewable Energy & Economic Development Council (TREEDC), said the upgrades will eventually pay for themselves over several years with energy savings being used to pay back loans used to finance construction.

Businesses around Dunlap have also followed the city's lead and begun installing solar panels of their own to promote energy efficiency and savings across the community. Congratulations, City of Dunlap.

From left to right: Ben Farmer, Farmer Morgan, Land and TML President Bo Perkinson



TREEDC Member Knoxville Wins TML Award for Excellence in Public Works

Congratulations to TREEDC Mayor Madeline Rogero and the City of Knoxville for winning the Excellence in Public Works Award at the 2018 Tennessee Municipal League (TML) Conference. Knoxville was also recognized for its opening of Knoxville's first public compressed natural gas (CNG) fueling station to help expand Knoxville Utility Board's (KUB) fleet of alternative fuel vehicles in 2017. CNG, an environmentally friendly gasoline and diesel alternative, powers the cleanest vehicles in commercial production today. The fuel is made by compressing natural gas to less than 1 percent of its volume at standard atmospheric pressure. Costing about half as much as gasoline or diesel fuel and releasing about 90 percent fewer emissions, CNG protects the environment and makes driving more affordable. KUB's commitment to stewardship and sustainability was the impetus behind the decision to invest \$2.5 million to open the publicly accessible CNG fueling station. It replaces an outdated station that was available only for KUB's fleet.

Natural gas vehicles, fueled by CNG, are available for all vehicle classes – from light-duty compact cars to heavy-duty buses, refuse trucks and semis. CNG light-duty vehicles currently include the Chevrolet Impala and Silverado 2500, Dodge Ram 2500, Ford F-150 and F-250 pickups, Chevrolet Savana vans and Ford Transit and Transit Connect vans. It also is possible to convert a traditional vehicle to one that runs on CNG.

KUB hopes opening the fueling station to the public will help broaden the use of CNG in the Southeast and across the country. According to General Electric (GE), natural gas currently powers more than 12 million vehicles around the world, but only about 250,000 CNG vehicles currently operate in the United States. Please contact TREEDC Vice President Pat Riley at pat@gcud.net to receive more information about CNG.



KUB CNG Station

TREEDC Member City of Rockwood Wins TML Small City Progress Award



TREEDC Mayor Rockwood Mayor Brillo Miller and City Recorder Becky Ruppe receive TML Small City Progress Award.

Congratulations to TREEDC Member City Rockwood for winning the 2018 TML Small City Progress Award. During the past several years, Rockwood has received more than \$2.5 million in grants with an overall average match of 15 percent. These grants have allowed for the construction of comfort stations, trails, greenways, congestion mitigation and air-quality projects, safe routes to school sidewalks and repairs, a bridge replacement, and numerous recreation grants. These grant funded accomplishments helped catapult Rockwood in obtaining a TML Small City Progress Award.

The city has also entered into a \$3.2-million energy performance contract to provide more energy efficient infrastructure for the city. The project will convert more than 800 street lights and all municipal interior lights to LED bulbs. Additionally, HVAC systems will be replaced in most municipal buildings with new weatherized roofs being installed at the city hall, library, community center, and fire and police complex. The energy savings resulting from the project will allow the city to stay within its same debt structure without tax increases.

Each year the Tennessee Municipal League honors cities throughout the state for overall excellence, improvement, specific outstanding programs, or department accomplishments. Other award winners for 2018 include Dunlap, for Excellence in Green Leadership; Gatlinburg, for Excellence in Police Services; Jonesborough, Excellence in Community Planning and Development; Kingsport, for Excellence in Governance; Knoxville, for Excellence in Public Works; Martin, for Excellence in Technology and Economic Development; and Unicoi for Excellence in Entrepreneurial Leadership.

TREEDC Member Montgomery County Wins Governor's 2018 Environmental Award

On May 23rd, 2018 Tennessee Governor Bill Haslam and Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Commissioner Shari Meghreblian announced Montgomery County as one of their 2018 Governor's Environmental Stewardship Award (GESA) recipients. Montgomery County was recognized in the category of energy and renewable resources for their energy upgrades throughout County facilities.

In October 2016, the Montgomery County Government partnered with TREEDC Member Ryan Ball to complete a year-long, large-scale lighting retrofit and HVAC upgrade in the Montgomery County Historic Courthouse, Courts Center, Jail, Health Department and the Veterans Plaza property. Over 23,000 lights and fixtures were retrofitted with LED bulbs. Three chillers and four boilers were replaced with more efficient units. Two 500-gallon hot water storage tanks were replaced, four cooling towers were refurbished and the HVAC automation and variable frequency drive systems were upgraded to increase efficiency at multiple locations. An ozone laundry treatment system for the jail was installed as well as upgrades to over 600 toilets with low flow components.

The \$5 million retrofit and upgrade is a self-funded energy efficiency project, saving Montgomery County Government \$358,827 annually in its first year. Data collected from October 2017-February 2018 show a total savings of approximately 674,200 kWh. Natural gas savings during the same period is approximately 35,100 CCF and water savings total approximately 5,046,700 gallons.

The University of Tennessee Institute for Public Service and TREEDC Conducts Philippines Mission Trip on Renewable Energy and Collegiate Opportunities



TREEDC President/Dunlap Mayor Dwain Land visits Palompon Institute of Technology solar booth

Representatives from the University of Tennessee Municipal Technical Advisory Service (MTAS) and TREEDC attended the 24th annual Philippine Commission on Higher Education (CHED) Conference on Global Trends in Community Colleges held during the week of May 14th, 2018. TREEDC International Affairs Director/Pasig City University President Dr. Amihan April M. Alcazar was the Master of Ceremony for the conference. Presentations were given by Philippine Congressman Karlo Alexei B. Nograles of Davao City and Matt Keener, Cultural Affairs Officer for the United States Embassy in Manila. TREEDC President/Dunlap Mayor Dwain Land expressed his support for the Philippines' advancement for more affordable and free educational opportunities for students. Mayor Land compared the new Philippine educational initiatives to the Tennessee Promise Program and the Drive to 55 Alliance which have resulted in more Tennesseans embarking in higher education and completing their college degrees. Mayor Land pledged TREEDC's outreach resources and sister city and college connections to assist with this free tuition program in the Philippines. Mayor Land concluded his remarks by stressing that renewable energy in Tennessee can also create economic and educational benefits to Tennesseans and Filipinos. Attendees also heard presentations from educational professionals from Australia, England and Canada. There were nearly 800 students in attendance.



TREEDC President/Dunlap Mayor Dwain Land, TREEDC International Affairs Director Dr. April Alcazar, MAAP President Santo and MAAP External Relations Director Dr. Baylon

The delegation visited Maritime Academy of Asia and the Pacific (MAAP) to share information about municipal officer training programs and to extend the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with TREEDC which was originally approved on February 27, 2014. The purpose of the MOA is to continue to provide information and technology exchange between TREEDC and its Philippine members. MAAP External Relations Director Dr. Angelica Baylon and MAAP President Santo discussed the opening of the Center for Advanced Maritime Studies (CAMS) which is a joint project with peer organizations in Japan and South Korea. CAMS has a visiting professor program which offers to improve the lives of Filipino seafarers by expanding welfare services through education and training and advanced degrees.

The delegation also visited Technological University of the Philippines (TUP). TREEDC met with TUP officials including TREEDC Manila Ambassador Dr. Gina Basa to discuss and recommend energy efficiency improvements to its campus operations.

TREEDC will host its 5th Annual International Renewable Energy Conference on December 13-14, 2018 at TREEDC Founding Member Tennessee Tech University.



TREEDC President/Dunlap Mayor Dwain Land, TREEDC International Affairs Director Dr. April Alcazar, MAAP President Santo and MAAP External Relations Director Dr. Baylon