

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The City of Hobart Mayor, Brian Snedecor, is Inducted into the Green Fleet Hall of Fame: Hobart's Environmental Sustainability Efforts



Pictured:

Department Of Energy -Indiana State Green Fleet Program Manager -Ryan Lisek

Executive Director -Carl Lisek

Mayor City of Hobart -Brian Snedecor

[\(Image URL file found here\)](#)

HOBART - Drive Clean Indiana (DCI) in conjunction with the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) recently honored to induct Mayor Brian Snedecor of City of Hobart, into DCI's/NIRPC Green Fleet Hall of Fame. Hobart's efforts toward environmental sustainability began ten years ago when staff showed interest in having the city recognized as a Clean City through the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) Initiative. They were successful in building their *Green Team*, starting a list of ways they could improve their environmental mindset, applying them to their operations and were ultimately successful in their application to join the program. From there it was an avalanche of ideas and practices that became part of their administration's DNA.

Their **Green Team** came to them with ways to save energy on lighting their building by converting to LED lights well before it came into vogue. They

approached them with ideas to cut down paper usage by going digital with most of their city documents, and then started a recycling program. Following that, they began converting their City Sanitation Fleet to Compressed Natural Gas (CNG). This was done with the support of then, South Shore Clean Cities and now, Drive Clean Indiana, to help them find state/federal grant funding to purchase CNG powered packer trucks.

All of these small steps became the platform for bigger leaps as the years went on. Going digital in documents doesn't necessarily sound like a big thing, but because their staff had a lot of familiarity working in digital when the pandemic hit, they easily transitioned to working digitally. When they switched to CNG trucks they realized that their fuel costs and maintenance expenses dramatically dropped. They were freed from the wild swings in the fuel marketplace. These little victories created in the city a desire to explore other ways they themselves could benefit, along with the environment.

They doubled down on CNG by adding more CNG powered vehicles to their fleet, building a slow-fill/fast-fill CNG fueling station, installing a public electric-vehicle charging station in their downtown and replacing their downtown streetlights with LED before NIPSCO replaced their streetlights.

All these years later, Mayor Snedecor, has been converted to a mayor who is glad his legacy will be of a City Administration that sought to protect their environmental assets. He is proud that Hobart's people come to us with new energy-saving, clean air or clean water ideas all the time. He is glad that their Assistant Fire Chiefs drive hybrid vehicles. They are excited that their Police Department will soon have 12 electric powered vehicles for administrative use. He is proud that their Sanitation and Public Works Department are expanding their commitment to buying more CNG powered vehicles and will expand their fueling station to accommodate them. He is happy that their PCC building will finally finish retrofitting all the 40-year-old lighting fixtures on all three floors with LED lights.

They will continue to explore new ways to protect their air and water resources in the City of Hobart, even after he is gone. Their staff and citizens have step-by-step seen the benefits that their environmental efforts have brought to the quality of life and financial stability of their city. In recognition of your exceptional accomplishments, it is an honor to present you with the DCI Hall of Fame Award.

About Drive Clean Indiana

Drive Clean Indiana is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization managed by **Legacy Environmental Services, Inc.**, an Indiana Certified Women's Business Enterprise, and serves the entire state of Indiana. Designated as the 71st Clean Cities coalition on June 15, 1999, Drive Clean Indiana is one of the U.S. Department of Energy's more than 75 **Clean Cities** coalitions and is the only Clean Cities coalition in the state of Indiana. The organizations support the nation's energy and economic security by building partnerships to advance affordable domestic transportation fuels, energy efficient mobility systems and other fuel-saving technologies and practices. Learn more at

About Northern Indiana Regional Planning Commision (NIRPC)

NIRPC is the official council of Northwest Indiana governments that brings communities together to address issues of regional concern. It is organized under the provisions of Indiana Code 36-7-7.6 to serve the citizens of Lake, Porter, and La Porte Counties by planning for transportation, the environment, and economic development. Learn more at nirpc.org.

About IDEM

IDEM (idem.IN.gov) implements federal and state regulations regarding the environment. Through compliance assistance, incentive programs and educational outreach, the agency encourages and aids businesses and citizens in protecting Hoosiers and our environment.



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