



May 2009  
Newsletter

## Gabriel Gazette

May 2009

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### IL Cleanup Programs Awarded Stimulus Funds

On April 15th, the EPA announced that \$600 million of funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), would be invested in the Superfund program to accelerate the hazardous waste cleanup underway at many of these sites. On May 15th, the EPA submitted their formal plan to the Office of Management and Bureau (OMB).



By using this funding on Superfund clean-up projects, ARRA aims to have dual benefits of accelerating waste cleanup of harmful pollutants as well as jumpstarting the local economies.

EPA Administer Lisa P. Jackson states, "The EPA has an answer to these challenging economic times. Under the Recovery Act, we're getting harmful pollutants and dangerous chemicals out of these communities and putting jobs and investment back in."

In Illinois, [the EPA allotted between \\$10 to \\$25 million in Recovery Act funds](#) to finish the cleanup on a [site in Waukegan, Illinois](#) which has been listed on the National Priorities list since 1983.

Other ARRA funds have also been set aside to provide additional grants to clean-up LUST sites around Illinois. The IEPA expects up to \$7.4 million to clean-up these projects which will hopefully spur redevelopment. To find which sites are on the initial list for consideration for funding, or if you are interested in submitting your site for consideration, visit the IEPA website at:

[www.epa.state.il.us/land/economic-stimulus](http://www.epa.state.il.us/land/economic-stimulus)

Additionally, the EPA announced in early May the availability of \$3.55 million in grants to help communities in Illinois clean up brownfields sites. About \$3 million of the funding is coming from the EPA brownfields program, with an additional \$550,000 made available out of the Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

### CJA Visits Gabriel!



On May 18th, the seventh grade class from [Chicago Jesuit Academy](#) visited Gabriel for a field trip to learn more about environmental science.

While here, in addition to a presentation and Q-and-A session on pollution and renewable energy, the kids were treated to a tour of our lab and solar panels, as

### Chicago's Bike to Work Week

well as a soil boring demonstration.

## Environmental Links

[Environmental Protection Agency](#)

[Illinois Environmental Protection Agency](#)

[Gabriel Environmental Services' New Website!](#)



Gabriel is proud to take part in Chicago's annual Bike Commuter Challenge 2009, which will be held during Chicago's [Bike to Work Week June 13th-19th](#) this year.

### What is Bike to Work Week?

During Bike to Work Week, companies and their employees citywide take a week to put aside the cars and use their bikes to commute instead.

Chicagoland's Active Transport Alliance is once again sponsoring this year's Bike to Work Week. Every team who enters is eligible to win prizes-winning teams are determined by which company or department has the largest percentage of their employees who bike to work. To register yourself or your company as a Commuter Challenge team, visit their website at [www.activetrans.org](http://www.activetrans.org)

### But Biking to Work is Too Hard for Me!

Light biking has actually been found to be not much more strenuous than walking. And Bike to Work Week is the perfect opportunity to try it out.

If you live too far to bike all the way to work, think about biking to the train or to a coworker's house to carpool.

### Still Need More Reasons to Bike?

Biking to work not only will save you hundreds (if not thousands) of dollars every year in gas, parking, and car maintenance costs, but is also one of the best things you can do to maintain or improve your health. Additionally, many cyclists find that biking to work actually cuts their commute time significantly.

Even our politicians are getting into the spirit - Newly elected U.S. Rep. for the IL-05, [Mike Quigley, is reported to have recently purchased a bike](#) to use while in Washington, D.C. instead of a car.

Gabriel is proud to be participating in this year's Bike Commuter Challenge with a team of our own. *Additionally, Gabriel is encouraging our employees to bike to work throughout the entire summer by providing a small bonus to those who do so.*

## June Geothermal Seminar



## Free Water Bottle



Biking Season is here! Get ready to bike all across Chicago this summer, accompanied by the most fashionable of warm weather accessories: the **Gabriel Water Bottle**.

Reusable water bottles not only help reduce our global waste, but also provide you a way to save money and encourage yourself to stay hydrated.

Gabriel offers our clients one BPA-free reusable water bottle, made from recycled products, for the low low cost of nothing!

If you are interested in receiving a free water bottle, email [Erin Polich](mailto:Erin.Polich) today!

### Update Your Address Book Before It's Too Late!



Time is running out to update your address book to include **Gabriel's new ZIP Code!**

[New US Postal Service zoning efforts have changed Gabriel's ZIP Code](#) from **60622** to **60642**.

After **July 1st 2009**, any piece of mail addressed to Gabriel at our old ZIP Code will **not** be delivered to our office.

Please update your records accordingly!

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### Back again by popular demand!

### Tapping Into Geothermal How a cleaner and more efficient HVAC system can save money.

Gabriel is offering a **FREE** seminar on June 4th, 2009 on the promise and economic return that geothermal technology offers to businesses and consumers.

Come learn about the technology the EPA calls **the most energy-efficient, environmentally clean, and cost-effective system for temperature control.**

#### Event Details:

[Tap Into Geothermal:](#)  
**Thursday, June 4th, 2009**

8:15 a.m. -Breakfast and Registration  
8:30 a.m. -Seminar begins

[1421 N. Elston Ave.- Chicago, IL](#)

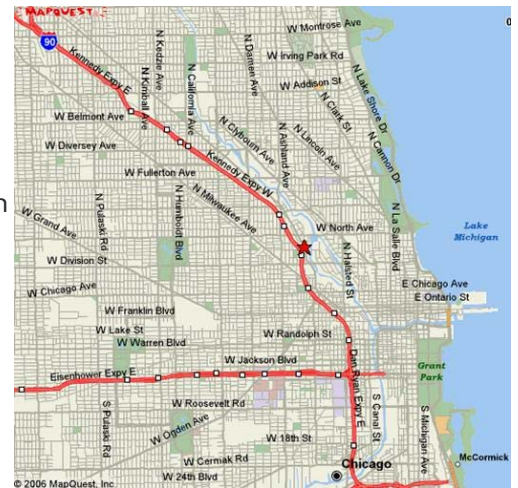
**All of Gabriel's seminars are completely FREE, but they do fill up quickly, so make sure you RSVP as soon as possible.**

To RSVP for either of these seminars, contact [Sara Scardina](mailto:Sara.Scardina) at [gabriel@gabrielenvironmental.com](mailto:gabriel@gabrielenvironmental.com) or (773)486-2123.

For a full calendar of upcoming Gabriel events, visit our [online calendar](#).

### New Fuel and Emission Standards

On Monday May 18th, 2009, President Obama announced that a plan which would implement new national requirements for the emissions and mileage of all cars and light trucks sold in the US. In an effort to streamline guidelines for fuel and emissions standards, the Obama administration has worked in conjunction with the EPA, US car manufacturers, the United Auto Workers Union, and several state politicians.





Currently, several different industries and government branches separately regulate fuel and emission standards. One aim of these new requirements is that they will bring together these groups in a multilateral effort to streamline and update these guidelines.

New mileage regulations would require that by 2016 the national fleet mileage rule would be **35.5 miles a gallon**. Current standards are set at 27.5 mi/gal, which will be gradually increased until reaching the government's newly proposed limit by 2016.

These new standards are estimated to add approximately \$1300 to car sticker prices by 2016, but will save consumers an estimated \$2800 in gas costs through the life of the vehicle.

Additionally, the Administration projects that this increase will be the equivalent of removing more than 58 million cars from the road for an entire year, and significantly reduce our dependence on foreign oil. In a statement made May 18th, President Obama stated that due to these new measures, "We will save 1.8 billion barrels of oil over the lifetime of the vehicles sold in the next five years. Just to give you a sense of magnitude, that's more oil than we imported last year from Saudi Arabia, Venezuela, Libya, and Nigeria combined."

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