



**Bill de Blasio, Mayor**  
**Stacey Cumberbatch, DCAS Commissioner**  
**Keith T. Kerman, Chief Fleet Officer**

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## CITY MARKS EARTH DAY WITH A GREENER FLEET

*KEITH T. KERMAN*

On Earth Day, April 22, Parks and Sanitation displayed some of their greenest trucks at Union Square Park, as part of a day long event which was highlighted by a major environmental announcement by Mayor de Blasio regarding the City's air code. The City's fleet also continues to make substantial progress in sustainability. In FY14, the City will spend \$30 million on 838 new alternative fuel vehicles which will replace older and less fuel efficient vehicles.

The City's newest fleet units will include 61 additional all electric plug in vehicles, 50 of which will be Nissan Leafs. The City will also procure 13 additional Kenworth hybrid diesel electric trucks, adding to 43 diesel electric units already in the fleet. The new order will include our first hybrid Parks forestry bucket trucks where the buckets will be operated exclusively on battery power.

The Ford Fusion and Toyota Prius hybrids remain the largest alternative fuel fleet investments. The City will buy 399 more Fusion hybrids and 242 Prius units, adding to the 5,242 light duty hybrids we already operate. NYC will also make its first large investment in alternative fuel vans ever with an order of 72 compressed natural gas (CNG) cargo and passenger vans for Parks, Health, and DCAS.

Finally, we are also focused on compliance with various new local laws governing fleet sustainability which will increase biodiesel use, reduce idling, and further decrease tailpipe emissions. With each Earth Day, our fleet gets greener, and we look forward to doing even more.



## SPOTLIGHT: AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE USER'S VIEW

*ARMENOUS ASLANIAN-PERSICO*



NYC's fleet includes 6,143 alternative fuel vehicles of which 695 are electric (EV) plug in models of various types. Among these are 44 new 2013 Nissan Leafs in use at several agencies including NYC Parks. With 238 electric vehicles, Parks runs the largest EV fleet among City agencies.

One daily Parks EV Leaf user is Bronx Director of Forestry Jim Lemyre. Jim drives up to 225 miles a week in Car 10, inspecting trees in parks and on streets throughout the borough. On average, he can drive more than a day on a single overnight charge.

Jim and other drivers on his team find that the Leaf has sufficient power, handling, visibility, and ground clearance for the varying profiles of park terrain they encounter. Jim has worked with Parks for 15 years and prefers the Leaf over his previous vehicle, a 2010 Ford Escape Hybrid.

The Leaf also has ample cargo space to transport Forestry inspection equipment including shovels, saws, and manual and electronic measuring devices. In the picture here, Forester Mike Miecznikowski is measuring wood density and potential tree decay with a PiCUS Sonic Tomograph. The Tomograph is being powered by the Leaf.

NYC operates one of the nation's largest EV fleets. We also operate New York's largest EV Chargepoint charging network with 153 chargers currently operating at City agencies, with 40 more on order. EVs are quiet and zero emission vehicles and proving themselves in various critical functions. We'd like to hear more stories of how EVs are working in your agencies. Please contact us with EV story ideas at [NYCfleet@dcas.nyc.gov](mailto:NYCfleet@dcas.nyc.gov).