

# Students Taking Action & Responsibility Today

Please find out more about START at:

[www.KidsMakeADifference.org](http://www.KidsMakeADifference.org)

## WHY OUR VAN DOESN'T USE GASOLINE?

A prime focus of START is taking care of this planet upon which we live.

For our children's camp programs and for our weekend community service programs, We are proud to be mobile in our Ultra Low Emissions Eco-Van, which is powered by CNG, (Compressed Natural Gas).

As compared to other low emissions vehicles, NGVs, (Natural Gas Vehicles), have long distance driving capability, As well as relative ease of and accessibility to fueling.

Natural Gas is also cheaper than standard petroleum gasoline.

Natural Gas wears cleaner and better on the vehicle -

An engine running on CNG will last approximately 60% longer than on gasoline, (and 40% longer than on Diesel) -

Tune-up schedules can be extended by approximately 30,000 to 50,000 miles -

Oil changes can be extended by approximately 10,000 to 25,000 miles -

CNG does not effect vehicle metals, as Gasoline does, resulting in longer lasting pipes and mufflers -

CNG has about a 130 octane rating, yielding improved performance.

NGVs, despite the minimal pollution they do produce while being driven, (about 1-2% of their Gasoline versions),

Are actually more environmentally sound than EVs, (Electric Vehicles),

When considering an EV's entire fuel cycle - the source of electricity, the typical lead acid nature of the batteries, etc.

Hybrids, by the way, have been promoted as the environmental alternative, but they still use Gasoline -

They are a step forward, but only a babystep. [In the 1960s, Fiat was already making cars that got close to 60mpg.]

Hydrogen Fuel Cell technology is a great idea, in theory, but hydrogen is extremely explosive.

In 1990, there was a solar car race that went from California to New Hampshire -

Efficient solar panels, however, are so expensive, that production of such solar cars would right now be cost prohibitive -

The government should stop subsidizing Gasoline and stop funding research that will keep us Gasoline dependent - The first government funded, Fuel Cell vehicles now planned to be introduced are powered by Gasoline and not Hydrogen.

In the United States, motor vehicles emit more than 50% of all hazardous air pollutants.

CNG, as an engine fuel, however, can reduce emissions by over 90%.

Natural Gas is the only fuel to meet California's strict Ultra Low Emissions Standard.

[With such a vehicle, one can even drive in the carpool line when driving solo.]

The United States imports more than 50% of its petroleum from the Middle East -

Current government predictions are for an increase to 72% by 2010 -

NGVs would indeed be better for this country politically -

Increased energy security, improved balance of trade, and avoidance of complicated political dependencies.

The United States has more Natural Gas than any other country on earth -

Natural Gas is domestically and commercially available -

There is an extensive Natural Gas pipeline system in the United States -

Homeowners can even set-up to refuel from their Natural Gas pipes at home.

Currently, in the United States there are approximately 110,000 NGVs -

In other countries, there are currently over 1.5 million NGVs.

Until solar vehicles are developed to actual practicality, (which can and should be done),

Natural Gas is indeed the best option for this planet, (other than biking, walking, skating, blading, etc.).

If we are going to drive, then we must use Natural Gas instead of Gasoline, or at least use some other alternative.

Together, let's START taking better care of our planet - our home!



*Students Taking Action & Responsibility Today, (START),* is a 501c3 non-profit community service youth organization that provides and promotes education and hands-on opportunities for elementary school and middle school age children to reach out and make a difference in the world around them.

Tax Deductible contributions are welcome to help support

**START's** wonderful and worthwhile hands-on activities and educational programs.

To find out more, please check out **START** on the web at: [www.KidsMakeADifference.org](http://www.KidsMakeADifference.org), or e-mail [info@KidsMakeADifference.org](mailto:info@KidsMakeADifference.org), or call 818/344-7838.