



Eden Local Agenda 21 Cumbria Green Build Fortnight 2007

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Sustainable fuel & transport



Building Green for sustainable homes, businesses and leisure facilities is about more than just the physical structures and intrinsic energy requirements of buildings. It is also about where developments are located, how people move between places, and sourcing the energy that gives people their personal mobility. In a large county with a low population density and dispersed communities, like Cumbria, transport and fuel for transport is always going to be an important facet of Green Build.

Cumbria Green Build Fortnight 2007 included an event at the Newton Rigg Campus: "Sustainable Fuel and Transport", hosted jointly by The University of Cumbria, Eden Valley Oils and Lloyd Honda, Carlisle.

The first part of the visit looked at the use of oilseed and waste oil products for transport fuel. Vegetable oil derived biodiesel is a very clean fuel which runs as diesel in most diesel engines. It has vastly reduced emissions and produces no CO₂. Rapeseed oil can also be used to run domestic boilers, again with a substantial reduction in emissions and no net CO₂ release.

Ed Rowbury of the University hosted a tour of biofuel crops being grown on the site. He explained the process of converting this into a biofuel that can replace diesel in road vehicles.

Eden Valley Oils produces similar biodiesel fuel in a process that recycles used vegetable oils. They have been trading for 20 years and collect all types of waste cooking oil and fats, which are then refined to produce a biodiesel to replace the use of conventional diesel for transport uses and in heating boilers.

In the second part of the event, Colin Vickers of Lloyd Honda demonstrated and explained the thinking and mechanics behind their new Honda Civic electric hybrid, which was available to view. This brings greater energy efficiency to vehicles using conventional fossil fuels. Colin went on to discuss the future of the hydrogen cell car.

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