

EcoCAR Fact Sheet

We know the problem...Will you be part of the solution?

- *EcoCAR: The NeXt Challenge* is a three year collegiate competition sponsored by General Motors, Argonne National Laboratory, and the Department of Energy.
- The competition challenges students from 16 different universities throughout North America to explore alternative fuel solutions.
- *West Virginia University's proposal to participate in the program was one of seventeen accepted, ranking fourth overall.*
- Teams are re-engineering a GM donated stock vehicle with the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing fuel efficiency while maintaining performance and stability.
- Students are encouraged to explore a variety of solutions including electric, hybrid, plug-in hybrid and fuel cells.
- **Year One** of the competition was essential for building the foundation teams will use to build their model; teams received \$10,000 to begin developing and testing their vehicle designs. After the successful completion of Year One, they received their Saturn VUE.
- During Year One, teams also began developing an outreach plan to promote their university's involvement in and create awareness surrounding the competition.
- In **Years Two and Three** of the competition, student teams will build their model Saturn VUE and continue to refine, test, and improve the vehicle.
- At the end of **Year Three**, student teams will engage in a week-long competition to test their respective vehicles to determine if they meet the following goals; incorporate technologies that reduce petroleum energy consumption, increase vehicle fuel efficiency, reduce green house gas emissions, and maintain consumer acceptability in areas of performance, utility, and safety.
- WVU's EcoCAR design will use a two mode hybrid transmission, powered by a 1.3 liter turbo diesel engine and a lithium ion battery pack. The vehicle will use a blend of B20 biodiesel fuel.
- WVU's EcoCAR Team is comprised of students from the College of Engineering and Mineral Resources, the Perley Isaac Reed School of Journalism, and the College of Business and Economics.
- For more information about the competition, visit www.ecocarchallenge.org
- For more information about WVU's EcoCAR Team, visit <http://ecocar.wvu.edu> or follow the team on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/WVUEcoCAR>
- Please email Nick Cavender at ecocaroutreach@gmail.com with questions or comments.