

GREEN ROUTE

IN THIS ISSUE ...

- ☞ Introduction
- ☞ Town Heading in “Green” Direction with GPS
- ☞ For More Information
- ☞ Glastonbury’s Green Initiatives Program

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The Town of Glastonbury



INTRODUCTION

The age of electronics affects almost everything in our daily lives, both at home and at work. The Town of Glastonbury is no exception in utilizing the latest technology to increase productivity and reduce operating costs. In the Spring of 2009, the Town will begin installing Global Positioning System (GPS) devices on many of its non-emergency vehicles and large trucks. These devices and their recording capabilities have been referred to as the “black-box” of vehicles.

TOWN HEADING IN “GREEN” DIRECTION WITH GPS



This Piccolo-ST unit (*shown at left*) will be installed in selected Town vehicles.

When residents buy GPS devices for their personal vehicles, it is usually to get them from one place to another, like maps have done for decades. The Town’s planned use of GPS devices is somewhat different and has many other benefits. With the use of the GPS device in a Town vehicle, the Town is able to increase productivity, reduce costs and increase route efficiencies with live vehicle tracking and mapping information. Some of the features that the units are capable of include:

- ☞ real-time vehicle location and status, such as idling and how fast the vehicle is traveling
- ☞ vehicle route tracking to minimize annual operating costs
- ☞ graphs and reports to analyze data

In addition, just knowing that the device is located within a vehicle encourages safe driving techniques by Town staff. The tracking system also allows the Town’s management to locate vehicles throughout the day and efficiently dispatch vehicles when necessary to respond to matters requiring immediate attention. The ability to monitor speed, driving routes and idling time of a vehicle also assists in responding to various resident inquiries.

There are three main types of GPS devices available for consumer and commercial use: GPS navigation, GPS tracking and GPS location.

- ☞ **GPS navigation** is used to help you locate where *you* are right now, and get you from Point A to Point B.



- ☞ **GPS tracking** records a log of all vehicle (or personal) activity and travel over an extended period of time. These devices are usually hidden under the dash. GPS tracking is useful in eliminating time-consuming and poor quality automotive use logs; increasing productivity and accountability by maximizing business use of vehicles; and decreasing or eliminating personal use.
- ☞ **GPS location** is used to provide real-time positioning of a vehicle or the GPS device, so you pin-point the current exact location of your device.

Source: Global Positioning Systems on Internet

FOR MORE INFORMATION

For additional information on related topics, please see the following Glastonbury Goes Green Bulletins:

- ☞ [Green Fleets](#)
- ☞ [Testing Synthetic Engine Lubricants](#)
- ☞ [ClearLane™ Deicer and Liquid Salt Brine](#)

GLASTONBURY'S GREEN INITIATIVES PROGRAM

Glastonbury's Green Initiatives program operates under the direction of the Town Manager. The committee is chaired by the Purchasing Agent and the Superintendent of Sanitation. Committee members from across Town departments participate and contribute ideas and suggestions committed to a "greener" community.

The committee assembles information about products and services and makes the information available to specific departments that can evaluate them and develop applications in Town projects with the approval of the Town Manager.

These "Go-Green" bulletins contain information about the results of product evaluations and other accomplishments of Town departments. We hope this information can provide you insight to the Town's green initiatives and also lead others in the community to find ways to use environmentally preferable products. Please contact us if we can help you with further information or if you have additional suggestions. ■

