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## Carbon Offsets

### Better World Club Announces Latest Carbon Offsets

For the 1st Time, All are in the U.S.

And It Didn't Even Require a Tariff!



Better World Club announced it's annual Carbon Offsets for the past fiscal year:

- In Kentucky, Recast Energy is switching from a coal-fired boiler in Louisville, KY, to biomass combustion.
- In Florida, Better World Club is assisting Lee and Hentry County to convert waste to electricity. Methane emissions that would have been produced if the waste were directed to a landfill are avoided. As is fossil fuel generated electricity.
- In Mississippi, Nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O) is an undesired by-product gas from the manufacture of nitric acid, formed specifically during the catalytic oxidation of ammonia. The Terra Yazoo N<sub>2</sub>O Abatement Project aims to reduce the emissions of N<sub>2</sub>O, a carbon dioxide-equivalent greenhouse through secondary catalytic reduction technology. Annually, the project abates over 200,000 metric tons of N<sub>2</sub>O that would have been emitted into the atmosphere absent this technology.

Every year, Better World Club donates 1% of our revenue to environmental cleanup and advocacy. Carbon offsets are a large part of that effort, and we're careful to choose projects that have a lasting and non-trivial impact on global warming, pollution, and resource management.

These donations offset the first 2,000 miles of our insurance customers as well as the average flights of our travel customers and the carbon produced by the company itself and out roadside assistance. Better World is purchasing 900 tons of offsets through Climate Clean and the Bonneville Environmental Foundation, bringing our total offsets to over 50 million pounds of CO<sub>2</sub>/Methane over the past 17 years.



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## Blinded by the Light?

### Better World Club Will Support NHTSA to Continue Research on Headlights

#### Too Powerful? Survey Results Aren't Decisive



In the last Kicking Asphalt, we asked you to tell us what you think of the latest, more powerful headlights permitted on U.S. automobiles. The results came back mixed:

Nearly 90% of you did say that the effects were blinding, but 50% said they helped you see pedestrians better.

Therefore, we are supporting the National Highway Traffic Administration to do more research and we will be back to you with their findings.

## The Member Spotlight

### Steve Brumme Wants to Take You for a Ride

*Last Kicking Asphalt, we introduced a new feature: The Member Spotlight.*

*Kicking Asphalt is sent to tens of thousands of our members--and is featured on Facebook as well.*

*Now we want to feature you! Send us information on something you are working on...or achieved. We want more people to know about it.*



BWC member Steve Brumme is a hand cycle professional, specializing in goodwill endurance rides,

He is also an author.

His book *Moving Fast, Sitting Still Moving Fast Sitting Still: A 900 Mile Journey to Feed the Soul* describes his 900 Mile Rotary International End Polio Now and

Challenged Athletes Foundation Bike Tour in 2013.

You can find copies on his site <https://www.movingfastsittingstill.net>. The site also has links to the Rotary International and Challenged Athletes Foundation, as well as information about his annual endurance rides.

And you can see Steve's gallery, including his paintings and print (hey, go ahead and buy one...or more.) The site also promotes his book *Martial Arts for Disabled Warrior* and a children's book, *Harry and the Cat*, a story about how nature is saving us.

Now, if we could only get him to write for Kicking Asphalt! Nah, he's too important for that. But he is a member of the Club! And the focus of this month's Member Spotlight.



## Washington Wire

### Trump Reducing Auto Fuel Mileage Standards

### California Resisting--As Are Certain Automakers

### Uh, oh...Should Liberals Be Rethinking Federalism? (Maybe sometimes...)



The Trump Administration proposes reducing fuel economy standards approved by President Obama--which would require automakers to average 50 miles per gallon by 2025. The State of California, which has its own mileage standards, is taking the Trump Administration to court--and has been joined by 11 other states that sued the Trump administration to halt a planned reduction in penalties automakers pay when they fail to meet federal fuel-economy standards.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, the target of the suit, is moving to decrease penalties of \$14 per one-tenth of a mile per gallon back to \$5.50, where it had been since the mid-1970s, prior to the Obama rules going into effect..

And a number of automakers are siding with California--sorta. California has come to a deal with automakers that resist the Trump Administration rollback, although not all environmentalists think it's the right deal. Dan Becker, who directs the Center for Auto Safety's Safe Climate Campaign in Washington, D.C., says there are too many loopholes in the California arrangement. (He also accuses Ford Motor Company of pushing the Trump Administration to dilute the Obama Administration standards before saying they supported stronger standards.)

This is all taking place within a confusing auto market. Sales of hybrid and electric cars are flat. Meanwhile, trucks and SUV sales are growing--and are where automakers are earning profits.

Becker and James Gerstenzang, the Climate Campaign's editorial director, recently detailed how critical this issue is for the future of the U.S. economy..(The Center for Auto Safety has been the recipient of some of the 1% of gross revenue that Better World Club donates annually.)

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## Member Discount

### EcoProducts BWC Discount

"EcoProducts makes sustainable disposable products perfect for a restaurant, picnic, or any event. Enter the Entrance Code: GoGreen to receive a 20% discount on your order."

<https://gogreen.ecoproductsstore.com/>



## Recall Alert

### Takata Airbags in the Recall Spotlight.

### Airbags? Is Every Auto Part Subject to Malfeasance?

### What's Next? Turn Signals?



The National Highway Traffic Administration: Tens of millions of vehicles with Takata air bags are under recall. Long-term exposure to high heat and humidity can cause these air bags to explode when deployed. Such explosions have caused injuries and deaths. NHTSA urges vehicle owners to take a few simple steps to protect themselves and others from this very serious threat to safety.

Roughly 41.6 million vehicles equipped with 56 million defective Takata air bags are under recall because these air bags can explode when deployed, causing serious injury or even death

The companies that are mainly involved are Honda and Acura as well as Mazda and

Ford Trucks. But NHTSA encourages everyone to take a look.

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