

## **NOTES FROM THE FIELD: MINDING OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT**

When people think of hazardous waste site remediation projects, they rarely think of economical and low emissions activities. Yet, for a number of years now, Emilcott has been trying to cut down on unnecessary energy consumption out in the field. Meet the EMILCART!

Emilcott purchased a used golf cart while working at a sprawling former MGP site in the heart of Manhattan. It was quick, easy to drive on the complex and very energy efficient. When that project was completed, the golf cart was transported to our 34-acre project site in Jersey City, where it has become the transportation of choice under all conditions except rain and freezing temperatures.

The vehicle is on charge overnight and can run all day on blacktop, packed sand, or gravel. There is no engine start-up or idling while short tasks are conducted away from the vehicle. With seven air sampling stations collecting 24-hours/day, seven days a week samples, there could be a considerable amount of engine starting and stopping during daily pump calibrations. Or, if the engine is allowed to idle while the calibration takes place, a considerable amount of would be consumed while a gas-powered vehicle parks. But by using the golf cart, electricity stored in batteries is used to power the vehicle; and when the vehicle sits, no electricity is used at all. There is no time when fuel is wasted!

The EMILCART has a utility bin attached to the back where a significant amount of instruments, tripods, tools and PPE can be placed for transportation to remote areas. The Emilcott on-site staff says they can't imagine a time when they wouldn't want to use the vehicle....except when it's cold or raining.

