

The University of Michigan Supermileage Team will be having a Send-Off event hosted by Shell Co. on Thursday, April 3rd, 9:00 AM at the Cobo Center in Detroit! At this event, Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan will be speaking, as well as representatives from Shell and other businesses and NASCAR driver Brad Keselowski. This event is to celebrate the completion of the vehicle build and to prepare the team for departure to the Shell Eco-marathon competition held in Houston, TX from April 25th to April 27th. In addition, Shell officials will be announcing an important and exciting change to future competitions at this event.

UM Supermileage is a multidisciplinary student design team whose goal is to design and build a vehicle that achieves 3,300 miles per gallon. UMSM participates in two yearly international competitions, one hosted by Shell Co., the other hosted by the Society of Automotive Engineers. The team is comprised of about 30 students from the UM College of Engineering, the College of LS&A, and the Ross School of Business. The team is four years old, and has grown from only six members in the first year to its current size. The team builds an aerodynamic shell formed from carbon fiber, while the vehicle is powered by a modified Briggs & Stratton lawnmower engine. The team also engineers its own steering system. This year, based on a rigorous computer model and optimization program, the team predicts a mileage of 2,300 miles per gallon. This forecast puts UMSM among the top teams at Shell Eco-marathon, where they will be competing against the reigning North American record holder at 3,587 MPG.

UM Supermileage prides itself on continuing the rich Southeast Michigan tradition of excellence and innovation in the automotive field. The team works with several local companies including Ford, Michigan Fiberglass Sales, Pi Innovo, and Eaton Corporation.

For more information please visit <http://umsm.engin.umich.edu/> or contact Public Relations Chair Agney Deshpande at agney@umich.edu. For more information on the Shell Eco-marathon event, please visit www.shell.com/ecomarathon

Twitter: @umsupermileage and @Shell_ecomar

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