



CONTACT: Anne Marie Corbalis (845) 855-7077 / amcorbalis@archstreetcommunications.com
Steven Kania (202) 962-3249 / skania@mwcoq.org

Wanted: All Drivers

Commuter Connections Announces Car Free Registration Now Open!

Take the Pledge to go Car Free or Car-Lite on September 22

Washington, D.C.— Commuter Connections, a regional commuter transportation network coordinated by the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, announced today that registration for Car Free Day is now open at www.carfreemetrodc.com. The September 22, 2011 event is anticipated to be the largest Car Free Day yet. Last year, about 7,000 people took the pledge to go Car Free or Car-Lite, and contributed to improving the region's air quality and reducing their carbon footprint, and many won raffle prizes.

Car Free Day is a world-wide event that challenges everyone who drives a car, not just commuters. Event participants have an opportunity to explore alternative transportation modes or more efficient uses of their cars like sharing a ride to the shopping center, grocery store, or to school, and other daily activities. By taking the pledge to go Car Free or Car-Lite, on September 22, participants will be eligible to **win great prizes** such as an **Apple iPad**, a **bicycle**, **SmarTrip Cards** and more! Filling out the pledge form is free and easy at www.carfreemetrodc.com.

"Car Free Day is a great catalyst for families to discuss how they can reduce their reliance on cars. Each member of the family can contribute, from children taking the bus, carpooling or bicycling to school or sharing a ride to soccer practice with neighbors, everyone can contribute to helping reduce the region's carbon footprint and decrease traffic congestion," said Nicholas Ramfos, Commuter Connections Director.

With the high cost of gasoline, Car Free Day is a great opportunity for commuters to try Car Free and Car-Lite alternatives and see the positive impact on their daily commute. For more information and to pledge to go Car Free or Car-Lite on September 22, visit www.CarFreeMetroDC.com.

#

Commuter Connections is a program of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. Commuter Connections promotes bicycling to work, ridesharing and other alternatives to drive alone commuting, and provides ridematching for carpools and vanpools and offers the free Guaranteed Ride Home program. Commuter Connections is funded by the District of Columbia, Maryland, Virginia and U.S. Departments of Transportation. www.mwcog.org, www.commuterconnections.org.