



For Immediate Release
September 9, 2014

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Capital Area Car Free College Campus Challenge

DC Area Universities Unite to Support Greener Environment Five Schools Rally Behind the Annual Car Free Day Event

Washington, D.C. — Five area universities – The George Mason University, University of Maryland, American University, George Washington University, and the University of the District of Columbia – are part of a healthy inter-campus competition to encourage students, faculty, and staff to leave their cars at home and walk, bike, carpool, or use public transit to and from campus on the region's Car Free Day event Monday, September 22. Those who do drive are asked to go car-lite by carpooling. Pledging to go car free or car-lite on Car Free Day is open to all residents in the region at carfreemetrodc.com/pledge-to-car-free.php.

Commuter Connections, a regional transportation network coordinated by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, hosts the annual Car Free Day event to demonstrate the benefits of alternatives to drive-alone travel, such as mass transit, ridesharing, bicycling, and telework. All drivers in the Washington metropolitan region, not just commuters, are encouraged to take the Car Free Day pledge to help reduce the region's carbon footprint and decrease traffic congestion.

"We are excited that these five universities have chosen to participate in the challenge and show support for transportation alternatives that reduce traffic congestion, demands for surface parking, and allow individuals to explore new and fun ways to get to and from their campuses, and around the region," said Nicholas Ramfos, Commuter Connections Director. "We encourage everyone to pledge to go car free or car-lite and enjoy the benefits of using alternative transportation options."

By pledging to go car free or car-lite at www.carfreemetrodc.org, registrants become

eligible to win great prizes such as a Solé custom bicycle, an annual Sport & Health gym membership, a pair of SEE prescription eyeglasses, a Kindle Fire, and more. Capital Campus Car Free Day Competition participants must take the pledge using their university email addresses to be counted in the challenge. The Kindle Fire is courtesy of the Tri-County Council for Southern Maryland.

Stay up to date on Car Free Day Metro DC on Facebook and Twitter. Promote the event using #CarFreeDayDC2014.

Commuter Connections is a program of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments and is funded by the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia Departments of Transportation as well as the U.S. Department of Transportation. Commuter Connections has provided free trusted ridematching services since 1974 and promotes alternatives to drive-alone commuting, and offers the free Guaranteed Ride Home program.
www.commuterconnections.org

www.mwcog.org / TPB & COG on Facebook: [Click Here](#)

COG is an independent, nonprofit association where area leaders address regional issues affecting the District of Columbia, suburban Maryland and Northern Virginia.

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