



NEWS RELEASE
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THIRD ANNUAL NATIONAL DUMP THE PUMP TO BE HELD ON JUNE 19
Take Public Transportation to Save Money and Help the Environment

Nantucket, MA - With high gas prices on everyone's mind, Nantucket Regional Transit Authority (NRTA) announced today that it will join with other public transportation systems nationwide to participate in the third annual national Dump the Pump Day on June 19. Sponsored by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), the 2008 National Dump the Pump Day is a day that encourages people to ride public transportation to save money, conserve gasoline, and help the environment.

"Using public transportation is a convenient way to beat high gas prices," said Paula Leary, NRTA Administrator. "If you want some relief for the high gas prices, then "dump the pump" and Catch the Shuttle on June 19."

According to a new study prepared by ICF International and titled *Broadening the Connection between Public Transportation and Energy Conservation*, public transportation reduces our nation's carbon emissions by 37 million metric tons annually – equivalent to the electricity used by 4.9 million households.

"By participating in the third annual national Dump the Pump Day, we hope people who have never used the NRTA will decide to give it a try instead of driving their car," said Paula Leary "We will welcome new riders and thank our regular riders by offering half fares and have items to give away, including reusable shopping bags provided by Greenhound."

"Dump the Pump Day is a great event everyone on Nantucket can support. We hope new riders will see how easy and convenient it is to catch the bus," said Melissa Philbrick, spokesperson for Greenhound, LLC. Greenhound, a nonprofit project established by Wendy Schmidt, President of the Schmidt Family Foundation, is working to enhance transportation on Nantucket by exploring ways to improve how we get around while reducing our environment impact. "By collaborating with NRTA and Nantucket Visitor Services, we have tried to provide a facility at 10 Washington Street that will encourage residents and visitors alike to explore Nantucket gently – by bus, on bike, or on foot," said Philbrick.

"With gas prices higher than ever and financial concerns affecting everyone, now is the time to save money and ride public transportation," said APTA President William W. Millar. "The National Dump the Pump Day on June 19 is an opportunity for people across the country to make a difference in their wallet, as well as in the environment."