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## TRIANGLE TRANSIT TO PARTICIPATE IN FOURTH ANNUAL NATIONAL DUMP THE PUMP DAY ON JUNE 18

Research Triangle Park, N.C. (June 15, 2009) Triangle Transit will join with other transit systems in the fourth annual National Dump the Pump Day on June 18. The day encourages people to ride public transportation to save money, protect the environment, reduce our dependence on foreign oil, and improve our quality of life.

"America is facing a number of significant economic challenges right now," said John Tallmadge, director of commuter resources for Triangle Transit. "People that use public transportation are helping to answer those challenges for themselves and for their country. That's why we're asking people to join us and dump the pump on June 18."

The typical state government employee in Raleigh can achieve an annual savings of over \$375 by taking public transportation instead of driving just once per week. By taking advantage of the free GoPass or the \$15 per month vanpool subsidy provided by the Department of Administration for state Government employees in downtown Raleigh, these employees can save an average of \$1879 per year by leaving the car at home every day.

The American Public Transportation Association says public transportation saves 900,000 automobile fill-ups each day - 4.2 billion gallons of gasoline per year. And switching to public transportation can reduce individual carbon emissions by 20 pounds per day or 4,800 pounds per year.

"By participating in Dump the Pump Day, we hope people who have never used Triangle Transit, or any of the transit systems in the region, will decide to give us a try instead of driving their car," said Tallmadge. "We'll be welcoming new riders who are looking to save some money on National Dump the Pump Day. Hopefully, they'll make it a habit."

Triangle Transit has a trip planner, a commute savings calculator, and a how-to-ride guide online for new riders. It's all available at [www.triangletransit.org](http://www.triangletransit.org). Interested customers can also call 919-485-RIDE to talk to a customer service representative.

Triangle Transit improves the region's quality of life by connecting people and places with reliable, safe, and easy-to-use travel choices that reduce congestion and energy use, save money, and promote sustainability, healthier lifestyles, and a more environmentally responsible community.

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