

Car Free Day Pledge Site Now Open!

Drivers Invited to Pledge to go Car Free or Car-Lite on Saturday, September 22

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Washington, D.C. — Millions of people around the world will ditch their cars on Saturday, September 22 to celebrate World Car Free Day. In metropolitan Washington, nearly 12,000 area residents pledged to go Car Free or Car-Lite as part of last year's regional celebration. Registration is now open for Car Free Day 2012 at www.carfreemetrodc.org. Car Free Day will be celebrated on a weekend this year, providing a unique opportunity for residents to see how alternative transportation options can easily fit into their daily life for trips other than simply commuting.

Commuter Connections, a regional commuter transportation network coordinated by the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board at the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, invites drivers in metropolitan Washington to pledge to go Car Free or Car-Lite on Saturday, September 22!

Participants are encouraged to use the event to explore alternative transportation modes or more efficient uses of their cars like sharing a ride to sporting events, concerts or other special events. To find others who may be interested in sharing the ride to a special event, drivers can visit <u>Commuter Connections</u> to set up a free account and then request a special event ridematch. Even residents who already use alternative modes of transportation, such as bicycles, transit, walking, and carpooling, can make a pledge to go Car Free or Car-Lite September 22. Plus, those who pledge will become eligible to **win great prizes** such as an **iPad**, a **bicycle**, **SmarTrip Cards** and more! Pledging is free and easy at www.carfreemetrodc.org.

"Car Free Day is a great catalyst for families to discuss how they can reduce their reliance on cars not just on Car Free Day but on all workdays and weekends. Each member of the family can contribute, from carpooling to the children's soccer game, bicycling or sharing a ride to the mall, or taking transit to Nationals stadium for the game or a museum. Everyone can contribute to helping reduce the region's carbon footprint and decrease traffic congestion," said Nicholas Ramfos, Commuter Connections Director.

Car Free Day is a world-wide event that challenges everyone to leave their car at home and find a more environmentally friendly way to travel.

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