



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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Code Red Day Tomorrow Means Free Bus Rides on N. Virginia Routes

It's that time of year again...

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOG) has issued a bad air alert for tomorrow, Wednesday, June 26th. Ozone levels are predicted to be extremely high and air quality very poor.

In a region-wide effort to encourage citizens to drive less during the summer and help the region stay within federal clean air standards, **bus service providers in Northern Virginia will suspend fare collection tomorrow and any other days declared by MWCOG to be Code Red.** Funding for this free fare project is provided through a federal transportation grant obtained by the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation (VDRPT) for the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC).

For more air quality information, next day forecasts, tips on improving air quality, and links to other air quality sites, contact Clean Air Partners at www.cleanairpartners.net or (202) 962-3299. Specific route information can be obtained by calling these transportation providers:

Alexandria DASH	(703) 370-DASH (3274)
Arlington Transit (ART)	(703) 228-RIDE (7433)
Fairfax City CUE	(703) 385-7859
Fairfax Connector	(703) 339-7200
Loudoun Commuter Bus	(703) 771-5665/Metro (703) 478-8433
Metrobus	(202) 637-7000
OmniRide/OmniLink	(703) 730-OMNI (6664)

##MORE##

Make the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission (NVTC) your first call for information, interviews, and quotes from local elected officials and experts about public transportation issues in Northern Virginia.

For the most up-to-date information call Kala Quintana, NVTC's Director of Public Outreach, at 703/ 524-3322 or cell phone at 703/ 597-4970.

##NVTC##