



## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 3, 2002

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:**

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

*Code Red Day #5 .... It's that time of year again...*

The Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOCG) has issued a bad air alert for tomorrow, Wednesday, July 3rd. 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 MWCOCG 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](http://www.cleanairpartners.net) or (202) 962-3299. Specific route information can be obtained by calling these transportation providers:

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

##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 by cell 703/597-4970.

##NVTC##