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**PRESS RELEASE**  
Tuesday, April 19, 2011

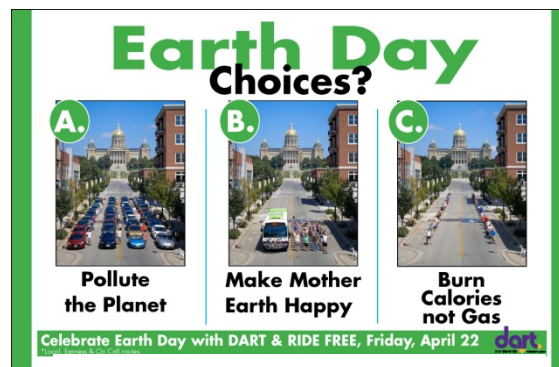
## **DART Offers Free Transit Rides on Earth Day**

The Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority is offering free bus rides this Friday to encourage commuters to park their cars for Earth Day.

The promotion is part of a larger campaign by DART to increase public awareness of the environmental benefits of public transit. According to the American Public Transportation Association, private vehicles account for as much as 55 percent of the carbon footprint of a typical two-car household. A single person commuting 20 miles roundtrip, who switches from car to transit, can save 4,800 pounds of CO2 emissions annually.

“Public transit is a great alternative for many of the trips you might otherwise make by car, and it’s better for the environment,” said Angela Connolly, Polk County Supervisor and Chair of the DART Commission. “We hope people will take advantage of this offer to see how they can use transit to reduce the number of trips they make by car.”

In addition, DART has begun a print advertising campaign featuring the series of photos taken last fall as part of “Shoot Your Commute,” showing the same city street (Locust Street, in the East Village with the Capitol in the background) filled with 40 drivers with 40 cars the first frame, 40 passengers with one bus in the second frame, and 40 cyclists with 40 bicycles in the third frame. DART was one of several partners in the photo shoot organized by Urban Ambassadors.



Photos by [www.tobinbennett.com](http://www.tobinbennett.com)

More information about routes and schedules is available by calling 515.283.8100, by emailing [dart@ridedart.com](mailto:dart@ridedart.com) or by going online to [www.ridedart.com](http://www.ridedart.com).

The Des Moines Area Regional Transit Authority is the public transportation provider that serves Polk County. DART operates a family of transportation services that makes getting around the Greater Des Moines area easier and more convenient. For more information about DART services, schedules, route changes, or directions to the nearest DART stop, visit our website at [www.ridedart.com](http://www.ridedart.com) or call 515.283.8100.