

Media Advisory Blue Water Area Transportation Commission

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**Ride the bus for FREE
on June 16th
and meet Paul Miller**
Broadcasting Live the
“WPHM Morning Show” aboard a
Blue Water Area Transit bus!



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 8, 2011

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Ride the Bus For FREE on Thursday, June 16!

Blue Water Area Transit Celebrates

Sixth Annual National Dump the Pump Day

With FREE FARE Day and Guest Radio Show Host Paul Miller

PORT HURON, MI — Blue Water Area Transit will cover collection boxes and bus drivers will not accept fares when our local transit agency offers free fares all day long on Thursday, June 16, to celebrate national “Dump the Pump Day.”

“The goal of our free fare day is to encourage people to try transit as a great alternative to today’s escalating gas prices,” says Jim Fisher, Blue Water Area Transportation Commission Board chair and Port Huron City Council member.

Paul Miller, host of the “WPHM Morning Show” will broadcast live from a BWAT bus that morning. The show airs on 1380 on your AM dial, 6-10:00 a.m.

Paul has hosted his show from many interesting places, but never from a traveling bus. “I’ve broadcast from a train, from various castles and pubs in Ireland, and even while having a massage at a spa” he says. “This will be my first time broadcasting from a bus.”

The American Public Transportation Association introduced “Dump the Pump Day” six years ago to promote public transportation as a way to save money, protect the environment, reduce dependence on foreign oil, and improve American quality of life. This year’s theme is: “Save Money. Ride Transit.”

— more —

APTA reports that a two-person household that downsizes to one car can save an average of more than \$10,000 a year. They also report that one person switching to public transit can reduce daily carbon emissions by more than 4,800 pounds in a year.

“Our local impact on the environment is even greater, since most of our buses run on clean-burning compressed natural gas,” explains BWATC general manager Jim Wilson. “We have produced and used CNG as an alternative fuel since 1996.”

BWATC will offer free rides on June 16 on fixed-route buses, dial-a-ride buses, the shopper shuttle, and commuter route buses. To learn about routes and schedules, call the transit agency’s dispatchers at (810) 987-7373 or visit the agency’s website (www.bwbus.com).

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BWATC continues a proud tradition of innovation in public transit that has served Port Huron for more than a century. Port Huron was one of the nation’s first communities to operate an electrified transit system in the 1880s and one of the first to operate motor coaches when they became popular in the 1930s. Following an eight-year hiatus, the current bus service began in September 1976. Since then, BWATC has carried more than 22 million riders and continues the tradition of innovation by producing its own compressed natural gas alternative fuel since 1996.

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