



# News Advisory

## Blue Water Area Transportation Commission

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 5, 2015

### Ride Public Transit on June 18:

### Fares are FREE on Dump the Pump Day!

PORT HURON, MICHIGAN — Blue Water Area Transit invites you to ride buses free of charge on Thursday, June 18, when the agency celebrates **Dump the Pump Day**. The American Public Transportation Association introduced Dump the Pump Day ten years ago to promote the money-saving value of public transportation.

“We like showing people how our buses provide a safe and convenient way to travel and meet their neighbors,” says BWAT general manager Jim Wilson. “When people learn how much money they can save, they often continue to use transit.”

APTA reports that households that use transit and downsize by one car save an average of more than \$9,394 annually. The national association also encourages people to ride public transit in order to protect the environment, reduce our country’s dependence on foreign oil, and improve American quality of life.

BWAT buses transport passengers along fixed routes within the City of Port Huron and Fort Gratiot Township, as well as commuter routes to and from Macomb County. BWAT dial-a-ride buses also serve Marysville, as well as Fort Gratiot, Burtchville, and Port Huron Townships.

The adult BWAT bus fare is 80 cents. Fares are discounted to 65 cents for youth (6-17 years old) and to 40 cents for seniors (60+ years old) and riders with disabilities. Children who are five years old and younger ride free of charge when traveling with an adult.

“When more people ride the bus, everyone benefits,” says Linda Bruckner, Blue Water Area Transportation Commission Board chair and Fort Gratiot Township trustee. “It helps reduce congestion and air pollution.”



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To learn about bus routes and schedules, call BWAT's dispatchers at (810) 987-7373 or visit [www.bwbus.com](http://www.bwbus.com). Current information about BWAT programs is available online from Blue Water Wave, the agency's blog ([bwwave.com](http://bwwave.com)).

Blue Water Area Transit has served a proud tradition of innovation in public transit for nearly a century and a half. It was one of the nation's first communities to operate an electrified trolley 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, BWAT has carried more than 27 million riders.

BWAT started producing its own compressed natural gas in 1996 and now ranks as Michigan's largest producer of the alternative fuel. It runs the state's largest fleet of natural gas fueled buses.

The agency operates four public CNG fueling stations that are certified by the State of Michigan and equipped with video surveillance monitoring and a technical "call out" feature that notifies a BWAT CNG specialist if problems arise.

All four BWAT fueling stations charge \$2.30 per gasoline gallon equivalent and accept Discover, Master Card, and VISA.

Three stations are open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. A Marine City station is in front of the Department of Public Works, in the 500 block of Parker Road (M-29). A Capac station is near Allenton Collision in Mussey Township, at Downey Road (Old M-21) and Capac Road. A Port Huron station is near Cawood Auto on Hancock Street.

BWAT's fourth station, which is open Monday-Saturday, 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m., is in the agency's Port Huron headquarters (2010 Lapeer Avenue).

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