



News Advisory

Blue Water Area Transportation Commission

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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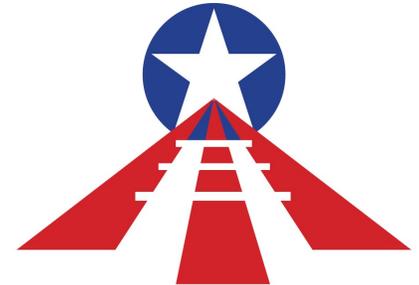
Celebrating Veterans Day...

Blue Water Area Transit Offers Free Rides to Veterans Plus Active Military and Their Families

PORT HURON, MI — Blue Water Area Transit invites veterans, active military, and the immediate families of active military to ride the bus for free on **Veterans Day (Tuesday, November 11)**. The agency offers fixed-route transit service throughout Port Huron and all the way to Macomb County, plus dial-a-ride service in Marysville and three townships.

“We deeply appreciate those who serve our country,” says Jim Wilson, general manager, BWAT. “We salute their sacrifice.”

BWAT’s celebration of Veterans Day is part of a national effort called **‘Public Transportation Supports America’s Veterans,’** organized by the **American Public Transportation Association.**



PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SUPPORTS
AMERICA’S VETERANS

Veterans Day was originally celebrated as Armistice Day in 1919 to commemorate the end of World War I. Congress later changed the national holiday to Veterans Day in 1954 and President Dwight D. Eisenhower proclaimed it “a day to honor all veterans.”

BWAT buses travel in 45-minute intervals along seven fixed routes that start in downtown Port Huron, as well as a Shoppers Shuttle that visits popular north-end stores and malls. In addition to waiting at designated bus stops, passengers can wave to bus drivers to stop at any safe place along a route.

Monday thru Friday, commuters can travel to Macomb County via an I-94 express route or an M-29 local route that stops in Marysville, St. Clair, Marine City, Algonac, Clay and Ira Townships, and Anchorville. Both commuter routes connect with SMART buses going to New Baltimore, Mt. Clemens, Macomb Mall, Roseville, Eastpointe, and Detroit.

Dial-a-ride service is available in Marysville, as well as Fort Gratiot, Burtchville, and Port Huron Townships. Buses usually arrive within an hour after calling (810) 987-7373. Buses can also be scheduled to arrive at a specific time when reservations are made one day in advance.

The **American Public Transportation Association** is a nonprofit international association of 1,500 public and private sector organizations, engaged in the areas of bus, paratransit, light rail, commuter rail, subways, waterborne services, and intercity and high-speed passenger rail. APTA members serve the public interest by providing safe, efficient and economical transit services and products.

Blue Water Area Transit continues a proud tradition of innovation in public transit that has served Port Huron for more than a century. The agency started producing its own compressed natural gas in 1996 and now ranks as Michigan's largest producer of the alternative fuel. It also runs the state's largest fleet of natural gas fueled buses.

Port Huron 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 26 million riders.

To learn more, call (810) 987-7373 or visit www.bwbus.com and www.bwwave.com.

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