



COAST Passengers Raise \$790

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Dover, NH – As a part of Green Commute Week (May 11 – 15), COAST encouraged seacoast residents not already doing so to make a change and ride public transit on Wednesday, May 13. COAST previously announced all cash fares collected Wednesday would be donated to local food pantries. As COAST is an integral part of the community, the organization felt it was important to be able to give back to those who are most in need.

Passengers, through the money they deposited in the fareboxes while boarding the buses on Wednesday, raised \$790. These funds are now being distributed to five separate food pantries in the region, to support local individuals and families in need.

“This year’s campaign, being our first, was very successful”, stated Jeremy LaRose, Manager of Operations & Planning at COAST. “We hope that with expanded marketing efforts, increased awareness of the issue of congestion and air quality, and the continued support of the Seacoast region, we will be able to raise even more money in the years to come.”

Now that Green Commute Week 2009 has drawn to a very successful conclusion, COAST encourages Seacoast residents to continue to take advantage of the region’s growing public transit network. Rad Nichols, COAST Executive Director, laid down the following challenge. “We challenge everyone to take public transit once a day, once a week, once a month...whichever you are able to commit to, stick with, affect change, and make a difference.”

Three top benefits of riding public transit are:

Relax! Instead of getting stuck behind the bus in your car, let COAST do the driving. You can read the paper, listen to your iPod, and relax to start and end your day.

Help the environment! If you can get there on the bus, you'll help reduce pollution. COAST buses use biodiesel, and our newest buses have some of the cleanest-burning engines on the road.

Save money! Riding the bus can save you hundreds of dollars over your car every year in fuel and maintenance alone.

The Cooperative Alliance for Seacoast Transportation (COAST) has provided public transit service to the Seacoast New Hampshire region for over 26 years. COAST is a public, non-profit transit system that relies primarily on federal and local government support to operate. For more information on COAST, and how to start riding the bus, visit www.coastbus.org or call the friendly staff at COAST at (603) 743-5777.