



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **KATS offers free rides to celebrate “Dump the Pump” Day**

The Kingsport Area Transit Service (KATS) will offer free rides on all bus routes next week (June 12-16) to celebrate National “Dump the Pump” Day.

“Dump The Pump Day” is meant to encourage people to use public transportation instead of driving. When the economy is tight and gas prices are high, using public transportation is a great alternative, providing people with an excellent way of saving money.

Many Kingsport residents use public transportation every day to visit family members, run errands, and commute to and from school and work.

“Using public transportation is not only a great way to save money on fuel, but it also reduces the daily wear and tear on your vehicle,” said Transit Director Chris Campbell. “Next week is the perfect time to re-think the way you travel on a daily basis.”

Dump the Pump Day first started in June of 2006 and its purpose has been to present public transportation as a convenient travel option that helps people save money.

For more information about KATS’ services, call 423-224-2613 or visit [www.kingsporttransit.org](http://www.kingsporttransit.org).

### ***About the City of Kingsport***

Founded in 1917, the City of Kingsport (pop. 55,400) is located on the Tennessee-Virginia border at the crossroads of I-81 and I-26 near the geographic center of the eastern U.S. The city is widely known as a planned community, designed by renowned city planner John Nolen and wrapping around the foot of Bays Mountain – a 3,650-acre park, nature preserve, planetarium and observatory. Kingsport is recognized as an International Safe Community by the National Safety Council, a Healthier Tennessee community, and won the 2009 Harvard Innovations in American Government Award for its higher education initiatives. While many city names are duplicated throughout the U.S., there’s only one Kingsport – a fact that invokes community pride, known locally as the “Kingsport Spirit.”