



**A program of the Knox County Metropolitan Planning Commission's
Transportation Planning Organization
www.knoxsmartrips.org**

For release May 27, 2011

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2011 Commuter Challenge Underway

Knoxville – Since May 1, participants in Smart Trips 2011 Commuter Challenge, www.knoxspat.com, have removed more than 66,000 pounds of harmful CO2 emissions from the air.

"Due to the high gas prices this year, we've seen increased participation and involvement from both individuals and businesses," says Smart Trips coordinator, Alisa Ashouri.

In the Business Challenge, the University of Tennessee is the current overall leader with 50 points and 5,993 pounds of CO2 reduced. Elizabeth Eason Architecture leads the 1 to 20 employees' category. The Metropolitan Planning Commission has the top spot in the 21 to 99 employees' category, while 21st Mortgage currently holds the lead in the 100 to 350 employees group. Other leaders include TVA in the 351 to 1,499 employees group and UT in the 1,500 and up employees' category.

Smart Trips is a regional organization that promotes alternatives to driving alone and helps commuters find carpool partners, bike and transit buddies, save money on gas *and* help the environment. Each year the organization holds a Commuter Challenge to increase participation and raise awareness. More information about the Challenge and the Smart Trips program is available at www.knoxsmartrips.org.

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