



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

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University of Tennessee Wins Smart Trips 2011 Commuter Challenge

Knoxville – Participants in Smart Trips 2011 Commuter Challenge removed more than 359,000 pounds of CO2 emissions from the air and saved nearly \$70,000 in fuel costs this summer. The number of participants increased by 26% during this year's Challenge.

The University of Tennessee is the 2011 Challenge winner with 100 participants removing more than 36,000 pounds of CO2 emissions. Their Employer

Oak Ridge National Laboratory is the Green Spirit Award winner, an honor given to the company which shows the most enthusiastic participation during the Challenge. ORNL's Employer Transportation Coordinator, Ed Bodey sums it up, "We really tried to encourage participation in the Challenge this year. We held 3 events during the summer to promote Smart Trips and also provided information about vanpools to our employees." UT was last year's Green Spirit Award winner.

The Metropolitan Planning Commission captured its category of 21 to 99 employees and came in third place in the Challenge overall. Other category winners are Elizabeth Eason Architecture in the 1 to 20 employees; 21st Mortgage in the 100 to 399 employees' category; and TVA in the 400 to 1,499 category.

Individual winners of prizes provided by AAA Travel of East Tennessee, Magpies Bakery, Tomato Head, Smart Trips, Café 4, and the Crowne Plaza Knoxville are Daniel Pelfrey, ORNL; Daniel Dyer, City of Knoxville; Brian Pitcher, TVA; Angela Mayes, City of Knoxville; Chris Layton, ORNL; Emily Austin, UT; Ceris Hamilton, ORNL; Daniel Barrett, 21st

Mortgage; Gary Warden, Kimberly Clark; Sam Bounds, Knox County and UT student Austin Milt.

Winners will be recognized at a reception on Tuesday, September 13 from 5 to 7 p.m. at Latitude 35 on Market Square.

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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