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Students Organize Alternative Modes Of Transportation On Election Day

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DURHAM, N.H. -- For students at the University of New Hampshire, how you get to the polls on Tuesday may be just as important as who you vote for when you get there. Students are taking advantage of Election Day as a way to highlight alternative modes of transportation, which they are offering to voters on the UNH campus heading to the Durham polls.

"We understand that oil consumption is a problem. It is creating global conflict between civilizations and damaging fragile ecosystems through the effects of global warming. We are committed to exploring and demonstrating effective solutions and are asking the same of our policy makers," says Bill Errickson, graduate student in natural resources at UNH.

Various student organizations and individuals will join together Tuesday, Nov. 7, 2006, to provide more sustainable transportation options for voters on the Durham campus who need to get to the polls at Oyster River High School. The options will include mass transit, biodiesel and vegetable oil-fueled cars, bicycles, and feet.

"By walking, biking, taking transit, and using alternative fueled vehicles to get to the polls to vote, these students are lowering their carbon footprints and ensuring that the growing problem of climate change is not ignored this election year," says Sara Cleaves, associate director of the UNH Office of Sustainability. "With their smart transportation choices and their votes, they are addressing climate change and making a difference. These students are model sustainable citizens."

The students will hold demonstrations of alternative fuel vehicles that run on biodiesel and vegetable oil at the polls. The Durham polls are at Oyster River High School and are open from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

The following alternative modes of transportation to the Durham polls are available:

Bus Rides: noon to 7 p.m.

Car Rides: noon to 4 p.m.

Departure Location: Sawyer Hall and Holloway Circle Bus Stop

Group Walks/Bikes: On the hour at noon and 3 p.m.

Departure Location: Holloway Circle Bus Stop