

The challenge returns

Seattle Youth CAN launches second annual Summer Transportation Challenge



WHAT: Seattle Youth Climate Action Network (CAN) is excited to announce the launch of its second annual Summer Transportation Challenge. The eight-week-long challenge, which runs from July 1 to August 27, is led by teen leaders from Woodland Park Zoo, Seattle Aquarium and Pacific Science Center and aims to encourage other teens to explore and use alternative modes of transportation to reduce carbon emissions.

To kick off the challenge, Seattle Youth CAN will hold an event at Woodland Park Zoo on Tuesday, June 28, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Seattle area teens interested in the challenge are encouraged to attend. To sign up, please visit tinyurl.com/TranspoChallenge.

In partnership with Seattle Aquarium, Pacific Science Center, King County Metro and Sound Transit, teens participating in the challenge will log and share their daily transportation choices through their own social media channels and Seattle Youth CAN's [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) accounts. The challenge will feature a new theme every week and include events and contests correlating with that week's theme. In addition, youth leaders will continue to work with staff at King County Metro to build a new youth page on Metro's website and help with communications to increase youth interest in using public transit.

WHO: A group of teens from the Seattle area who are involved in Seattle Youth CAN as well as the partnering organizations: Woodland Park Zoo, Pacific Science Center, Seattle Aquarium and King County Metro. All teens living in the greater Seattle area are encouraged to participate in the Transportation Challenge.

WHEN: Seattle Youth CAN Summer Transportation Challenge **begins Friday, July 1 and runs through Saturday, August 27.** Transportation Challenge weekly events and themes include:

- June 28** **Kickoff event** at Woodland Park Zoo, 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.: learn how to take conservation action this summer, meet other challenge participants and gear up for Week 1.
- Week 1** **Bus it:** ride the bus, raise awareness to bus riding benefits.
- Week 2** **Do it for wildlife:** discover how wildlife is affected by climate change.
- Week 3** **Bike 4 a better future:** ride a bike, learn about bikes on public transit, bike safety and planning bike trips.
- Week 4** **Get (Re)used to it:** go a week without buying anything new and find a new use for something old.
- Week 5** **Action for oceans:** learn how oceans and marine wildlife are affected by climate change.
- Week 6** **Sustainable city:** explore Seattle; discover what makes the city green.
- Week 7** **Local food:** explore the countless locally grown food options available in the Pacific Northwest.
- Week 8** **Light up light rail:** take Link light rail, learn about future light rail plans.
- August 27** **Polar bear party** at Golden Gardens. Celebrate a successful summer of conservation action with a polar bear themed party at the beach.

**Weeks run Friday to Thursday with week 1 being July 1-7.*

INFO: The youth-led Summer Transportation Challenge is open to all interested teens living in the Seattle area. The challenge aims to raise participant awareness about the connection between CO2 emissions from vehicles and climate change, get teens to make more sustainable transportation choices and increase the

overall number of teens who are actively engaged in Seattle Youth CAN. Teens interested in Seattle Youth CAN are encouraged to participate in the Summer Transportation Challenge as well as attend the Seattle Youth Climate Action Summit in October. To register for the challenge or for more information, visit seattleyouthcan.org.

Seattle Youth CAN empowers teens to address climate change in their communities through education, leadership and action. Seattle Youth CAN was launched in January 2015 with initial funding from [The Ocean Project](#), and represents a new partnership between teen programs at [Woodland Park Zoo](#), [Seattle Aquarium](#) and [Pacific Science Center](#).

In 2015, more than 150 teens participated in monthly events, trainings, action campaigns and a Youth Climate Action Summit. In the past year, Seattle Youth CAN teens have attended reputable events including the [Adirondack Youth Climate Summit](#) and the [Climate Leadership Conference](#).

Teens living in the Seattle area who are interested in joining the program can submit a [form](#) to receive information about upcoming events and activities. To learn more about Seattle Youth CAN, visit seattleyouthcan.org and view their featured video projects on Climate.gov and [Seattle Channel](#).

Accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums, award-winning Woodland Park Zoo is famed for pioneering naturalistic exhibits and setting international standards for zoos in animal care, conservation and education programs. Woodland Park Zoo is helping to save animals and their habitats in the Pacific Northwest and around the world. By inspiring people to care and act, Woodland Park Zoo is making a difference in our planet's future. For more information, visit www.zoo.org.

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