

“Go Green with OTS” Poster Contest for 5th Grade Students

The Oshkosh Transit System (OTS) invites all City of Oshkosh fifth grade students to participate in the “Go Green with OTS” poster contest. The purpose of this contest is to present public transit as an environmentally-friendly option for travel within the City of Oshkosh.

Winning designs will be displayed on our recently purchased hybrid buses. Please contact Dave Vickman at 232-5341 or email dvickman@ci.oshkosh.wi.us should you have any questions.

Information about this contest is described below. Have fun!

Poster Contest Criteria:

- Each entry must have a completed entry form taped on the back (see attached). The entry form requests the following info from each student: first name, last name, classroom teacher’s name and school name. Entry form can be copied as needed.
- Only one entry per 5th grade student
- Use 8.5” X 11” paper only (landscape orientation is preferred)
- Students may incorporate eight words or less of text into the design - students can create an original slogan that promotes the environmental benefits of riding Oshkosh Transit System buses
- All artwork must be original and free hand - no stencils and no computer assistance
- No errors in grammar or spelling
- Deviation from the above criteria will result in elimination

Poster Submittal:

Submit artwork on or before November 3, 2010. No exceptions. Please send or deliver entries to Dave Vickman (232-5341), Oshkosh Transit System, 926 Dempsey Trail, Oshkosh, WI 54902.

Winning Designs and Judging:

Four designs will be selected as first place winners. First place will receive recognition by having their artwork displayed on an Oshkosh Transit System hybrid bus (one design on each bus). First place will also receive a free 3-month bus pass or a \$100 savings bond. All 5th grade participants will receive a Certificate of Appreciation.

Members of Oshkosh Women’s Arts Club will conduct the judging according to the criteria above. Once judging results are finalized, winners will be contacted by the Oshkosh Transit System. Before results can be finalized, the parents of first place winners will need to sign a consent form, which permits OTS to display the artwork.

Why is the Bus Green? – The Environmental Benefits of Public Transit:

Transportation by bus has a significant positive impact on many aspects of our community, including the environment. Individuals that choose to take the bus, instead of their personal vehicle, reduce fossil fuels consumed, lower carbon emissions, and decrease congestion in the City of Oshkosh. These daily benefits help to improve the air we breathe, decrease our dependence of fossil fuels, lessen traffic and reduce the need for more parking space.

Quick Facts:

- Each day, OTS buses provide approximately 3,000 rides.
- One full load of bus riders can take 30 or more cars off the road.
- Public transportation's overall effects save the United States 4.2 billion gallons of gasoline annually: more than 3 times the amount of gasoline imported from Kuwait.*
- Communities that invest in public transit reduce the nation's carbon emissions by 37 million metric tons annually: equivalent to if the combined areas of New York City; Washington, DC; Atlanta; Denver; and Los Angeles stopped using electricity.*

*Source: American Public Transit Association



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The “green” factors of public transit are consistent with sustainability initiatives at the City of Oshkosh and at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh (UWO). One of the transportation goals of UWO’s Sustainability Plan is “to reduce automobile trips to campus by 20 percent by 2012.” Public transit use also dovetails into the goals of the Oshkosh Area School District’s Energy Committee, which recently established energy savings guidance for all area schools.

In March 2009, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) announced an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) award for the Oshkosh Transit System to purchase four (4) 40-foot hybrid diesel-electric buses. The buses were recently delivered to Oshkosh and will be put into service on September 21st. Below is an image of the new hybrid bus.

The environmental benefits of public transit are magnified by the use of hybrid buses. OTS’s hybrid buses utilize a combination of diesel and electric power. The main advantage of a hybrid bus is a reduction in fuel consumption. Each hybrid bus is projected to use 20% less fuel when compared to Oshkosh Transit’s conventional diesel buses.

Although, hybrid buses have been used in transit service across the nation for a number of years, they are relatively new to Wisconsin. The only other Wisconsin communities to utilize this technology are Madison and Superior. We are excited to be at the forefront in the region.



Oshkosh Transit System's "Go Green with OTS" 5th Grade Poster Contest

Entry Form

Please complete this form and tape it to the back of each poster entry.

Student's First Name: _____

Student's Last Name: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Classroom Teacher's Name: _____

School Name: _____



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