Bike Red. Ride Green.

“Going Green” and “Reducing Your Carbon Footprint” have become terms the world is increasingly concerned with. As a result, “greener” forms of transportation are constantly being investigated, implemented and utilized. Bicycling, when used as an alternative form of transportation, is healthier and “greener.” Also, it is frequently more convenient than driving a car or waiting for public transportation.

On June 1st, the Environmental Stewardship Department implemented a newly created Bike Share program at Stony Brook University. After going to the Bursar’s Office to pay $30 to join the Bike Share program for the semester, students will then be required to watch a short video on bicycle safety before picking up their helmet and key. At the end of the semester, $15 will be refunded when the keys and helmets are returned by the participants. Students registered with the program will have access to one of the 25 newly purchased bicycles once they have received their key. They will be allowed to use the bicycles on or off campus, but the bicycles are not intended for extended off-campus use and students are asked to lock the bicycles up at any one of the bike racks on campus when finished using them. In addition, the use of the Bike Share bicycles is strictly for the individuals selected for the program.

The program’s purpose is multifold: it reduces the campus carbon footprint, supports overall health and is more convenient than other forms of transportation commonly used on campus. Bicycling is a practical way to get around campus quickly, and is a great way to explore areas off campus. The bicycles used in the Bike Share program were purchased from, and assembled by, a local company. Reducing the distance the finished bicycles needed to be transported further reduced emissions. Lastly, bicycling can aid in weight loss and overall health.

Students wishing to participate in the future should visit http://www.studentaffairs.stonybrook.edu/studentlife/bike_share.shtml to fill out an interest form or email bike_share@notes.cc.sunysb.edu.
The Faculty Student Association at Stony Brook and WeCar by Enterprise Rent-A-Car recently launched a car-sharing program for students, faculty and staff. Members of the program are given access to the three Nissan Altima hybrids on campus at any time of the day. Licensed drivers that are 18 years or older can reserve the use of a car online by the hour, day or overnight use. Not only does the WeCar program reduce the financial burden and need for resident students to bring a personal vehicle to campus, it also reduces our campus carbon footprint and congestion on campus roads by decreasing the number of vehicles on the road.

Carpooling further reduces congestion, emissions and the campus carbon footprint. It has been estimated that a passenger car annually emits 80 pounds of hydrocarbons, 606 pounds of carbon monoxide, 41 pounds of nitrogen oxides and 10,000 pounds of carbon dioxide while consuming 550 gallons of gas! By reducing the number of cars on the road, we reduce these emissions.

To find out more, go to www.wecar.com/join. The usual $20 application fee has been waived and the annual membership fee only costs $35 per year. Once reserved, renting one of the hybrids will cost $10/hr, $52.31/daily or $35/overnight (6pm-8am). These rates include 200 free miles, gas, a parking spot and basic protection. In addition, mileage beyond the 200 free miles only costs $.35 per additional mile and 18-20 year old drivers are required to pay an extra $2.50/hr. So join Enterprise in their support of alternative fuels and technologies by reserving one of the three Nissan Altima hybrids today!

**Energy Tips**

Using a bicycle as an alternative to a motor vehicle conserves energy and materials. In fact, the energy used to manufacture a single motor vehicle can be utilized to create a hundred bicycles!

**Reduce Your Carbon Footprint**

On average, 1 pound of CO2 is produced for every mile driven in a car. Walking, bicycling, carpooling or using public transportation just once a week can eliminate 1,500 pounds of CO2 per year based on an estimated commute distance average of 30 miles round trip.

**4th Annual Move Out Event**

*Spring 2011*

Every September, thousands of students move into the Stony Brook University Residence Halls with clothes, appliances, furniture and food. And each May, thousands of students move out, leaving behind many items that they accumulate throughout the year. Normally, it is common to see a sharp spike in the amount of trash collected as students toss out various belongings.

For four years now, Stony Brook has been offering students a greener option... the Move Out program. The program aims to collect and sort these items for either recycling or donation. Food and clothing are donated to local charities. Paper is removed from the waste stream and recycled. Appliances and other school supplies are retained and offered to incoming students in the fall during the wildly popular Freecycle event.

Below are the stats for the super successful Spring 2011 Move Out event:

- Clothing - 7,020 lbs.
- Appliances - 1,320 lbs.
- Food - 785 lbs.
- Paper - 3,512 lbs.

Many thanks to everyone that helped make our 4th Annual Move Out such a great success. See you at Freecycle!