

What Can You Do?

- Take advantage of school bus service: it's the most cost-effective solution you can find to save energy, reduce pollution, and control congestion.
- If you're a teenager, swap your car keys for a bus pass; you'll save money and the planet—and arrive alive.
- Make sure your state officials provide adequate funding so that school bus transportation is available for every child who needs it.
- Call on Federal officials to provide the financial support necessary to keep the nation's yellow school bus system running.
- Ask if your school district and school bus transportation provider have idle reduction programs to minimize bus idling at school, in the bus yard, and on the road.
- Urge your school district to use newer technology buses, especially on high mileage routes, and modify older buses with emissions control technology to reduce soot and smog-forming gases.
- Work with your local community leaders to identify and secure Federal and state funding to help retrofit your local school bus fleet with available clean technologies.

The National School Transportation Association proudly sponsors the Go Yellow, Go Green campaign to encourage greater use of America's yellow school buses as a way to conserve energy, reduce pollution, and save young lives.



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GO YELLOW, GO GREEN

SCHOOL BUSES

**save
LIVES
ENERGY
MONEY
and the
ENVIRONMENT**



www.yellowbuses.org/gogreen

Yellow School Bus Facts

- The U.S. school bus fleet is the nation's largest public transportation fleet at **two and a half times** the number of vehicles of all other forms of mass transportation combined.
- Each day, 26 million children in the U.S. take 480,000 buses to and from school.
- School buses travel about 12,000 miles per year per bus or almost 6 billion cumulative miles per year.
- The typical school bus replaces an average of 36 cars that would each travel 3,600 miles per year transporting children to and from school.

School Buses Save Lives

- School buses are designed specifically to protect students; special safety features not available on any other vehicle ensure the safest possible ride for our children.
- According to the National Academy of Sciences, half the students in the country go to school by school bus and half go to school some other way (private vehicles, walking or biking). Among the half that use the school bus, there are an average 20 fatalities per year; but among the half that go some other way, there are 800 fatalities each year. In particular, teenagers are 44 times more likely to arrive at school alive if they take the bus than if they drive or ride with friends.

School Buses Save Energy and Money

- Each school bus, at an average 7 mpg and 12,000 miles, uses 1,700 gallons of fuel per year. But the 36 individual vehicles each bus replaces would collectively use 6,500 gallons of gas for the trip to and from school. This is a savings of 4,800 gallons of fuel per bus per year.
- Total savings per year for the country is 2.3 billion gallons of fuel, and more than \$6 billion.
- A teenager living 5 miles from school can save \$686 in gas money annually by taking the bus to school.

School Buses Save the Environment

- New diesel engine standards make today's buses 98% cleaner than buses manufactured just two decades ago.
- Today's diesel fuels contain 97% less sulfur than the diesel fuels sold just a few years ago.
- Thousands of older buses have been modified with high tech filters and catalysts to reduce emissions by up to 90%, producing \$13 in health benefits for every dollar in cost.
- A teenager living 5 miles from school and driving a 2008 Honda Civic emits 1.27 tons of CO₂ by driving to school. By taking the bus, she can reduce her carbon footprint to 0.12 tons—less than one-tenth as much.
- By replacing an average 36 private vehicles per bus, school buses ease traffic congestion, reduce road wear, and reduce potentially harmful soot and smog-forming emissions to help prevent global warming.