

The Office of Governor M. Jodi Rell



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Governor Rell Awards Companies for Saving Gas and Reducing Driving

During a ceremony at the State Capitol today, Governor M. Jodi Rell recognized and presented awards to over a dozen Connecticut companies who actively participated in the “*Tri-State 5,000,000 Mile Rideshare Challenge*,” a unique event that challenged commuters and businesses in the tri-state region to work together and reduce driving by 5,000,000 miles from April 2007 through April 2008.

“I am very proud of the accomplishments that Connecticut commuters and businesses have achieved with this important event,” said Governor Rell. “Over the last year Connecticut commuters reduced their driving by 3.4 million miles, which is equal to having every major road and highway throughout the state being completely empty of cars for 1 hour. In addition, commuters also saved 153,000 gallons of gas, the equivalent of 17 tanker trucks of fuel worth over \$600,000!”

Commuters participated in the Rideshare Challenge by using NuRide, an online ridesharing service that rewards individuals for sharing rides. Businesses participated by sponsoring rewards and by promoting the event to their employees. The top awards were presented to:

- Aetna
- ASML
- Boehringer Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals
- Cartus
- Perkin Elmer
- Travelers, and
- UBS

Connecticut-based sponsors that received awards and were recognized during the event include:

- Lake Compounce
- Mystic Aquarium
- Mystic Seaport
- Peapod by Stop & Shop
- Bob's Stores
- Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo
- Splash Car Washes
- Essex Steam Train
- Dunkin' Donuts
- Black-eyed Sally's
- The Maid's Home Services
- Hartford Stage
- The Children's Museum and
- Bruegger's

Other businesses and organizations that were recognized for their participation in the rideshare challenge included:

- Department of Environmental Protection
- Department of Transportation
- Hartford Financial Services Group
- Health Net
- Hewitt Associates
- Merritt 7 Corporate Park
- Northeast Utilities
- Pfizer
- Pitney Bowes
- Sikorsky Aircraft
- State of Connecticut
- The University of Connecticut Health Center
- Unilever
- Yale New Haven Hospital
- Yale University

NuRide and the Rideshare Challenge are supported by the Connecticut Department of Transportation and administered through Connecticut DOT Commuter Services. For more information about the challenge, including a complete list of companies and sponsors please visit www.nuride.com/events/tri-state.