



CORRECTION:

The link for the Summer Bike Challenge was not correct in the original send of this newsletter. We apologize for the confusion. Please see the updated newsletter below with the correct link to learn how you can participate in Way to Go's new [Summer Bike Challenge](#).



Yay, it's Colorado Bike Month!

It's officially bike season, and we are so excited! Dust off that bike and get out and enjoy some of Colorado's most beautiful months. Going back to the office? Give bike commuting a try. Still working remotely for a while? Pedal to the grocery store or the park!

For even more fun – as if we could make biking more fun – Way to Go is challenging everyone to participate in a regionwide scavenger hunt to be entered to win prizes! Here's how to join in:

1. Download the Pedal Pursuit scavenger hunt checklist at BikeToWorkDay.us/summerbikechallenge.
2. Visit destinations on the checklist and track trips on mywaytogo.org
3. Pro tip: Connect your Strava account to mywaytogo.org for easy trip tracking — [learn how](#).
4. Complete five or more destinations on the checklist
5. Email a photo of your completed checklist to waytogo@drcog.org to will be entered to win prizes!
6. Post photos of your bike adventures with #SummerBikeChallenge for more chances to win.

For more information, contact waytogo@drcog.org.



Bike to Work Day postponed until Sept. 22

Bike to Work Day will not take place this month, due to the unprecedented and constantly evolving effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Instead, Bike to Work Day will be Sept. 22, 2020, which will also be the day commuters nationwide celebrate Bike to Work Day. This year's theme is Rejoin the Movement, so note the rescheduled date on your calendars and celebrate biking with us — and everyone else in the nation — this September. We can't wait to see you!

For more information, contact us at btwd@drcog.org.



Bike throughout the year

Our friends at Bicycle Colorado have been working hard to ensure people can continue biking — and doing so safely — throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Check out a few of the resources they've published in the past few weeks by visiting the [Bicycle Colorado website](#), including [comprehensive guidance](#) for riding a bike during the pandemic and how to safely interact with bike shop employees; [tips for riding safely](#) and folks who are new to biking; and an article on what cities, businesses, elected leaders and individuals can do to [encourage biking for transportation](#).

Bicycle Colorado envisions a Colorado where riding a bicycle is *always* safe and convenient for *everyone*, where bicycling is the top choice for recreational and everyday trips and where the benefits of bicycling are experienced and valued by all people in our state. They've been working since 1992 to make that a reality.





Telework Tomorrow

Way to Go is offering Denver region employers support while we many employees work from home through [Telework Tomorrow](#). While the long-term workplace effects of COVID-19 remain unclear, Way to Go can help your company formalize and implement a telework policy that fits your needs. Our commuter consultants offer free one-on-one assistance. Check out the [toolkit](#) to get started.

For more information, contact Way to Go's commuter consultants at waytogo@drcog.org.



mywaytogo.org offers commuters air quality information

A partnership among the Way to Go and Regional Air Quality Council's "Simple Steps. Better Air." teams has resulted in a new integration of air quality metrics into mywaytogo.org. When they track trips, commuters can see their immediate positive effects on air quality, their health and their wallets. Commuters can also plan their trips and find potential carpool and vanpool buddies using the site. Sign up at mywaytogo.org or download the Commute Tracker app for [Android](#) or [Apple](#) to start planning and tracking your trips, and be entered in fun challenges (sometimes with prizes)!



2020 Association for Commuter Transportation conference goes virtual

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and after careful review by the Association for Commuter Transportation's Board of Directors, this year's conference has been cancelled. Denver was scheduled to host the Association for Commuter Transportation's International Conference Aug. 2-5. The virtual event will include the keynote speakers that had been confirmed for the in-person event, more than 75 presentations and sessions, a virtual exhibit hall, the awards ceremony and networking events.

Registration will reopen for virtual conference this month. If you're already registered, watch for an email from the association regarding your options. For more information, [email the Association for Commuter Transportation at info@actweb.org](mailto:info@actweb.org) or call 202-792-5801.

Register



Aurora's first protected bike lanes open this month

Aurora's first — and long-awaited — separated bike lanes will be ready to ride this month. The project provides improved connections between regional trails and the Florida Station, in recognition of the need for safe travel for all transportation modes. Plans were developed with input from residents and emphasize safe ways for bicyclists and pedestrians to get from the Westerly Creek Trail and Toll Gate Creek Trail to the R Line. The project route includes three schools, medical facilities, businesses and residences.

Improvements include 10-foot, barrier-separated bidirectional bicycle lanes, on-street bicycle lanes, pavement markings, signage, lighting and physical separation for bicycle facilities, bicycle racks, crossing improvements and a Florida Station Kiss-n-Ride area. Separated bike lanes have been installed on portions of Potomac Street from Jewell Avenue to Louisiana Avenue, Florida Avenue from Abilene Street to Chambers Road, and Mexico Avenue from Idalia Street to Buckley Road.

For more information and videos for drivers and bicyclists on how to use the new separated bike lanes, visit the [City of Aurora's website](#).



Vouchers for electric lawn mowers at The Home Depot

Gas-powered lawn mowers emit greenhouse gases and contribute to ground-level ozone pollution in the Denver area and along the north Front Range. In partnership with The Home Depot, area residents can apply for a \$150 voucher for the purchase of a new electric mower through the Regional Air Quality Council's Mow Down Pollution program. A limited number of vouchers will be available, and participants must recycle their gas-powered mowers.

Participants will use an online application system and vouchers will be redeemable at one of eight participating Home Depot stores in the area. In the past, the program has offered vouchers for other lawn and garden equipment, but this year's program is limited to lawn mowers. Keep an eye on the [Mow Down Pollution website](#) for full program details later in June.



Ozone Season is Near

Summertime ozone season officially begins on June 1. Sign up for email or text Ozone Action Alerts [at the Simple Steps. Better Air. website](#). Discover simple steps you can take to [minimize ozone emissions](#) (and watch for a refreshed website) early this month!



Funding available for electric vehicle charging stations and infrastructure

The Regional Air Quality Council's [Charge Ahead Colorado](#) program — an electric vehicle and infrastructure grant funding program formed in partnership with the Colorado Energy Office — has reached a significant milestone. Since the program began in 2013, the Regional Air Quality Council has funded 713 electric vehicle charging stations within the Denver metro area and the Colorado Energy Office has funded 353 charging stations outside of the Denver metro area, bringing the total electric vehicle charging stations funded throughout the state to more than 1,000. The current Charge Ahead Colorado funding round is open through June 15. Visit the [Clean Air Fleets website](#) to apply or learn more.

Complementing the Regional Air Quality Council's Charge Ahead Colorado program, Xcel Energy is offering Colorado businesses and organizations an opportunity to add electric vehicle charging infrastructure to their locations through its [Electric Vehicle Supply Infrastructure Program](#). The new program helps organizations install the electrical infrastructure needed for electric vehicle charging stations at no cost.

The Xcel Energy program provides an opportunity to supplement Charge Ahead Colorado funding, making providing charging stations an affordable option. Project implementation timelines for both the Xcel Energy and Charge Ahead Colorado programs are flexible enough to allow companies to take advantage of both funding opportunities.



Upcoming Events

Bike to Work Day | Sept. 22, 2020



Denver Regional Council of Governments
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