

Spinning into Spring Celebrate Bike to Work Week

Bike to Work Week is taking place May 16-20, 2011. Commute Connection, in conjunction with major sponsors: San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District, R.E.I. and Diamond Foods are organizing exciting raffles and events in San Joaquin, Stanislaus, and Merced Counties. These events will be held during the annual nationwide event promoting bicycling to work as a way to reduce congested roadways and improve air quality. Now in its twenty-third year, the event is more than just an awareness campaign. It's a call to action for commuters, urging them to get out from behind the wheel and give biking or walking to work a try.

The following is a sample of the great program and events happening this year:

- Commute Connection will hold drawings to give away \$2,500 worth of REI gift cards. Pledge to bike or walk to work, or to a location where you can take transit to work, at least one day during Bike to Work Week. Register to enter a drawing to win one of two: \$250 REI gift cards or a “*Smart Commuter*” gift basket to participating commuters who work or live in San Joaquin, Stanislaus or Merced County. In addition, all participants will receive a Bike to Work T-Shirt and other promotional items.
- Several community events will be taking place with vendors providing free services and drawings, such as t-shirts, breakfast treats drawings for gift cards and electric mower to participating commuters:
 - Earth Day, Modesto Junior College: Thursday, April 14th, 2011
 - Family Bicycling Festival, Modesto: Saturday, May 14th, 2011
 - Bike to Work Day, Modesto: Tuesday, May 17th, 2011
 - California Amgen Tour, Modesto: Tuesday, May 17th, 2011

Commute Connection is a program of the Stanislaus Council of Governments, designed to help commuters make the transition from driving alone to a convenient rideshare options such as carpooling, vanpooling, transit, walking or riding a bike. Help the environment and have fun doing it! Participate and check out other events and resources through our website at <http://www.CommuteConnection.com/bike.htm>. For more information call Anne-Marie Poggio at 209-235-0600 or to register with Commute Connection, call 1-800-52-SHARE (74273) or go to our website at www.CommuteConnection.com. You can also visit us on our Facebook page.