

Our Environment Sept 13, 2009

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Attached is a PowerPoint presentation announcement that can be used for in-class announcements or can be printed and posted.

## Bicycling as a form of Transportation

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7:00 PM Sunday September 13, 2009  
Lecture Hall 001 Earth and Space Sciences (ESS) Building, Stony Brook University  
[www.geo.sunysb.edu/our-environment/](http://www.geo.sunysb.edu/our-environment/)  
Admission is Free and Everyone is invited.  
Free refreshments after the presentation

In the United States, most communities consider bicycling as a form of recreation and place little emphasis on encouraging people to use bicycling as a form of transportation.

The arguments communities use against developing a network of bike paths are

- Expensive for small number of recreation bikers

- Only used during day

- Only during good weather

- Only during the summer

In some communities, however, bicycles are used all year long, in all kinds of weather and at night for transportation.

In this presentation I will present what Munster, Germany, one of the most bicycle friendly communities (Fahrad freundlich), is doing to encourage the use of bicycles for transportation and how some communities in the United States are becoming more bicycle friendly.

The reasons for encouraging the use of bicycles for transportation are

- Reduce production of CO<sub>2</sub> the anthropogenic greenhouse gas.

- Reduce ground level ozone.

- Reduce vehicle traffic.

- Reduce need for large parking lots.

- Improve physical fitness and health

Long Island was developed with the concept that cars should be the preferred form of personal transportation. A question that we need to consider is "Should we (or, How can we) convince the public, transportation agencies and politicians that there should be more encouragement of bicycling as a form of transportation on Long Island?"



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