

WORLD CARFREE DAY
MENU
OF ACTIVITIES

CARFREE CITIES ALLIANCE

WWW.CARFREEALLIANCE.ORG

Appetizers

Leading up to WCD:

- Invite like-minded people, including NGO/CSO people working on environment/climate/right to play/other related issues to discuss jointly organizing a seminar, webinar, in-person celebration, and/or other events for WCD 2024.
- Create original posts, and repost other posts, on social media about the high cost of cars and the benefits of fewer/no cars in cities. Also invite people to join your local celebration(s).
- Organize a talk show, webinar, or seminar to share with others (and with journalists) why carfree cities are a great idea and how it makes sense to subsidize people, not cars.
- Write letters or opinion pieces and send to the newspaper or local magazines.
- Visit schools and universities; collect signatures demanding better infrastructure for walking and cycling rather than ongoing investments in car-based infrastructure.
- Free public ads, DIY. Print out posters and put them in sympathetic shops, cafes, or anywhere else. Flyers are also possible.

Main Course

Leading up to WCD:

- Organize, preferably together with other local organizations and universities/colleges/schools, a fun, colorful, vibrant event on or near WCD 2026 (Tuesday, 22 September). Possibilities include:
 - A street party, complete with music, food, presentations, and information
 - A group walk with banners
 - Cycling training/maintenance workshop/cycle riding: cycling is safer and more fun in groups. You can also teach useful skills to new cyclists Slow Cycle Race
 - Street theater
 - Outdoor film screening
 - Zumba
 - Games
 - An information fair with signs explaining why we want carfree cities and some of the international cities that celebrate World Carfree Day; can then have a quiz where the answers are found on the signs
 - Chess with huge pieces
 - An outdoor demonstration, with clear messages and demands

Main Course (continued)

- An art competition, preferably with participants drawing/painting on a street that is taken back from cars, with the topic being a carfree street/neighborhood
- Human scale games:
<https://www.wired.com/2008/01/human-scale-gam/>
- A “Reclaim the Streets” flash mob where people come together and occupy a public road or other street space. You can also set up folding chairs or spread out a mat and encourage people to sit and chat and play games.
- Reward a local climate champion: a livelihood cyclist you see every day, or someone you see walking all over the city, or someone who regularly takes public transit. The reward can be a badge or a cycling helmet or a good pair of footwear.

Side Dishes

Leading up to WCD:

- A leaflet campaign
- An essay competition
- A film showing (there are lots of great videos out there about carfree cities! Here are some of our favorites: Let's ban cars (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rSSNlM3AulA>), Why cities are banning cars around the world (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sCSkNiyYv8g>), Can we make cities car-free? (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g9-9CxCxrVE>), Why we need a world without cars (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zpoliiuSumM>), Adam ruins cars (short animation (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=skm6hp99-5A>), How the Dutch got their cycle paths (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XuBdf9iYj7o>)
- Pop-up events such as pillow fights, dancing/singing, badminton, or other fun activities in the streets.
- Placard at the traffic signals: Hold a placard with a message and show it at the traffic signals when the traffic light is red.

Side Dishes (Continued)

Leading up to WCD:

- Travel by public transport or walk or cycle and make a travel log. In the travel log, discuss some of the issues you face and changes you would like to see to improve the situation. Share it on social media with appropriate hashtags.
- A Pop-up Parklet:
<https://wellington.govt.nz/news-and-events/news-and-information/our-wellington/2021/03/communities-embracing-innovating-projects-pop-ups>
- Asphalt art:
<https://issuu.com/streetplanscollaborative/docs/asphalt-art-guide>
- Photo exhibition featuring images of wonderful carfree areas (from your own city or collected on the internet); display them on a footpath wall/public space/public parks

Dessert

Leading up to WCD:

- Document (by writing and photos/videos) what you did for WCD 2024 and send to local newspapers, as well as posting on social media.
- Invite your co-organizers and volunteers to a party to celebrate your successes; show a slideshow or video of the activities, and thank everyone warmly for their support.
- Send documentation of your event, along with specific policy demands (a protected bicycle lane, better walking conditions, higher parking fees, a congestion charge, improvements to the bus system, better maintenance of public spaces, etc.) to local policymakers.
- Write an article about your event and share with us at CCA.
- Join the post-WCD networking meeting to show pictures and share stories of your event.