

Carpooling is good for you 😊

Stop-and-go traffic leads to stress, which makes people unhappy and less productive when they get to work.

Carpooling helps to reduce air pollution

Driving a car is probably one of the most polluting things an individual can do. Motor vehicle emissions contribute to ground-level ozone—a major component in smog—which contributes to health and environmental problems.



A commuter vanpool is a group of up to 15 people who ride to and from work together in a passenger van. Vanpool groups generally have one dedicated driver in the group (usually with one or two volunteer backups), and passengers share the monthly cost of the van, which is based upon travel distance and van luxury.

How to get started:

Forming a vanpool will only be cost effective if you are traveling from a great enough distance and there

are enough pool members to share the costs. You will also need to determine which type of vanpool will best suit your needs. Cross County Connection will not only help you in the vanpool formation, but will map out your route as well.

Benefits to you:

Vanpooling can eliminate the need for a personal vehicle for commuting which can translate into cost savings on your auto insurance. Since vanpool members usually don't have to drive every day, they can sit back, relax and enjoy the trip.

Vanpools also reduce the demand for parking spaces, which could lead to a cost savings for employers.

Vanpool Sponsorship Program:

Through the NJ TRANSIT Vanpool Sponsorship Program, Cross County Connection offers a financial incentive to vanpools in areas where public transportation is not available or not a practical commuting mode. The program will provide \$175 per month for either new or existing vanpool groups with vans of seven to 15 seats. The vans need to be obtained from vanpool providers approved by NJ TRANSIT.

Commuter Benefits Program:

The Commuter Benefits Program is a qualified transportation benefit that is approved by the Internal Revenue Service and administered by your employer. Under this program, your eligible monthly commuting costs for vanpooling and public transit can be paid for through payroll deduction from your pre-tax salary. Since these deductions are taken on a pre-tax basis, you save money because you are not paying income or Social Security taxes on the wages used to purchase your vanpooling or transit fares. In 2009, employees may deduct up to \$120 per month (\$1,440 annually) from their salary, through payroll deduction, for public transit and vanpooling costs. Talk to your employer to see if your company offers this benefit.

Get on the Road to Ridesharing

Call 1-800-245-POOL (7665) and Cross County Connection will send you a rideshare application, or take your information over the phone.

For more information on Ridesharing, please contact:



www.driveless.com

4A Eves Drive, Suite 114
Marlton, NJ 08053-1530
Phone: 856-596-8228
Fax: 856-983-0388
E-mail: ccctma@driveless.com

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CARPOOL & VANPOOL



RIDE\$HARE
TO GET THERE



DRIVELESS.com

TYPES OF VANPOOLS



- **THIRD-PARTY VANPOOLS** are managed by an independent vanpool company that provides the vehicle, insurance, maintenance and repairs. The vanpool company leases the van to a member of the pool and charges a monthly fare to the vanpool participants.
- **OWNER-OPERATED VANPOOLS** are managed by an individual who takes the responsibility of buying, insuring and maintaining the vehicle. The participants in the vanpool pay a monthly fare to cover the operating costs. The van owner is typically the driver and does not pay a monthly fare.
- **EMPLOYER-SPONSORED VANPOOLS** are managed by an employer, having the responsibility for obtaining the van, and for the cost of insurance and maintenance. The employer may change a fare and designate a driver. Typically, participation is limited to employees of one company.

SHARING THE RIDE

www.DRIVELESS.com

Ridesharing— The convenient, money saving way to get there.

Ridesharing in a carpool or vanpool is a less stressful and cost saving alternative to commuting alone by car.

Ridesharing:

- Reduces commuting costs
- Decreases traffic congestion
- Promotes clean air by reducing auto pollution
- Reduces driver stress and "road rage"
- Leads to fewer overcrowded parking conditions
- Provides "safety in numbers" in case of breakdowns or accidents
- Promotes camaraderie between co-workers

Ridesharing saves money and is environmentally friendly:



The Automobile Association of America (AAA) calculates that the average cost of operating a mid-size car 15,000 miles annually in 2008 was 55.2 cents per mile. Based on an average daily round-trip commute of 24 miles in a 21-day work month, driving to work by yourself costs approximately \$280 per month—over \$3,300 per year. The cost is even higher for larger cars and sport utility vehicles.

Ridesharing takes cars off the roads, reducing pollutants that produce ground-level ozone, which can cause a variety of health and respiratory problems.

HOW DO I START CARPOOLING OR VANPOOLING?

Here are some guidelines to help you start sharing the ride:



FIND A RIDESHARE PARTNER

The most convenient way to find a rideshare partner is to have Cross County Connection enter your name into the statewide computerized rideshare system of the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT). Cross County Connection is NJDOT's official agent for this free service in the seven-county southern New Jersey region.

SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

Submit the application with all of your information to be entered into the rideshare system. The system contains the names of thousands of people in southern New Jersey who are interested in ridesharing.

GET RIDESHARE LIST

When your application is received, it will be entered into the system and a match list will be generated with the names of all the people with whom you can share a ride.

ARRANGE YOUR CARPOOL OR VANPOOL

When you receive your match list, all you have to do is call the people that are on your list and arrange a carpool or vanpool.

CONTACT POOL MEMBERS

Call the people on your list and arrange an initial meeting. Meet during lunch, or get together for a cup of coffee to discuss your commuting needs.

CONSIDER STARTING ON A TRIAL BASIS

Try out ridesharing for a month or two. Agree to change your arrangements if they do not seem to be working for you.

DECIDE ON SCHEDULES & PICK-UP POINTS

Discuss waiting times and side trips. Agree on such personal preferences as playing the radio, smoking, eating and drinking, and car temperature, to make it an enjoyable trip for all.

DECIDE ON PAYMENT SCHEDULES, IF NEEDED

Non-drivers of the pool should contribute to cover expenses. If everyone shares the driving, payments may not be needed.

COMPILE A PHONE LIST FOR ALL POOL MEMBERS

Be sure to call each other in the event of illness, mechanical trouble, inclement weather conditions, or schedule changes that may interfere with the pool routine you have.

CALL YOUR AUTO INSURANCE COMPANY

Check with your auto insurance company for possible discounts for carpooling or vanpooling.

REMEMBER, STAY IN TOUCH WITH CROSS COUNTY CONNECTION

We can help you find new riders when current members leave the carpool or vanpool. If you move or change jobs, we will match you with new ridesharers who are going your way. Learn more about ridesharing at:

{ www.driveless.com }



Extra added attractions for ridesharers:

- These days, special features to make the rideshare commute easier are being made available by an increasing number of businesses. These include:
- Emergency ride home programs—where a ride will be made available to you if you have to leave early due to an emergency, or need to stay late
 - Preferred parking for carpoolers and vanpoolers
 - Flexible work schedules
 - Financial incentives

I CARPOOLING
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Carpools usually include a group of two to six people traveling in the same car to the same work location or to multiple work locations near each other. One person can be responsible for the driving—or all carpool participants can share the driving. If one person takes the responsibility of driving, a fare may be paid by the other participants to help cover the driving expenses.

Benefits of Carpooling

Carpooling saves money \$\$\$

A two-person carpool will cut commuting costs in half—a three or four-person carpool will reduce costs even more.

Carpooling reduces traffic congestion

In 1950, there were 37.5 million cars on the road in the U.S. Now, roads are jammed with over 193 million cars. Reducing traffic on the roads means greater efficiency in delivering the goods and services that are important to all of us.



**CROSS
COUNTY
CONNECTION**

TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Cross County Connection TMA
4A Eves Drive, Suite 114
Marlton, NJ 08053

Carpooling ▪ Vanpooling ▪ Mass Transit ▪ Telecommuting ▪ Flex Scheduling ▪ Walk to Work ▪ Bike to Work

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CARPPOOL & VANPOOL

RIDE\$HARE

TO GET THERE

{ *Registration Form* }



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RIDESHARE INFO 1-800-245-POOL