About Go Vermont

At Go Vermont, we know how expensive and challenging commuting can be. That’s why we provide Vermonters with great resources – from a Guaranteed Ride Home, to ridesharing, vans, and other affordable means of transportation. We help by encouraging thousands of Vermonters to choose smarter, more efficient travel options.

Our online clearinghouse (connectingcommuters.org) is a one-click resource for information on each mode of transportation. We encourage individuals, businesses and groups to reach out and make an appointment. Our team will meet with you to discuss your commute options. By partnering with Go Vermont, you and your employees save money, stress, and wear and tear on personal vehicles.

Why Partner with Go Vermont?

Our mission at Go Vermont is to reduce the cost and environmental impacts of transportation, and help you promote efficient transportation options.

Employer Challenges

Employers commonly face transportation challenges including parking, employee retention, recruiting, and access. Common issues that arise include late arrivals, employee complaints, decreased productivity, and requests for raises due to rising household costs for the employee. Some employers are experiencing problems with hiring interested/qualified staff due to length of commute. Vanpooling expands the commuter-shed by offering a reliable and cheaper transportation option.

The Facts - Did you Know?

- The average cost of car ownership is roughly $8,000 per year (according to AAA)
- Fuel and repair costs are increasing (on average, drivers spent 25 cents/mile for fuel and 4.5 cents/mile for maintenance costs in 2013)
- Transportation is often the largest household budget item for a Vermont family (when factoring car payment, insurance, repairs, and fuel)
Carpool Matching Service

This is the first step for anyone looking to reduce their commuting costs. The Zimride matching service helps take the “what if” out of carpooling by letting you see other riders’ profiles and setting the financial arrangements up front. Once registered, you will automatically qualify for the Guaranteed Ride Home.

Vanpool Program

This is the lowest cost option for many employees. A group of 5-15 people agree on the time and route to and from work, then enter into discussions with our vanpool provider, vRide. Cost estimate sheets will be provided (based on mileage and type of vehicle), and a fully insured van is provided (along with a gas card, emergency roadside assistance, and vehicle maintenance vouchers).

Guaranteed Ride Home Benefit

If you face an unforeseen change of plans such as a work-related or family emergency that prevents you from traveling via your carpool, GRH reimburses travel fees up to $70.

Public Transit

Learn more about the existing services available. Our regional transit providers will work with you to identify any service gaps and opportunities that need to be addressed.

The Average Annual Commute Cost for Single-Vehicle Is Over $5,600!

Compare costs when you switch to a Carpool or Vanpool

DID YOU KNOW?

$7,000
$6,000
$5,000
$4,000
$3,000
$2,000
$1,000
$0

Single Occupancy Vehicle 2-Person Carpool 12-Person Vanpool

$5,638 $2,819 $1,095

*Based on 30 average round trip commute miles Data from vRide and AAA, 2014, rounded to the next dollar.

Other Information and Programs:

As your resource for transportation options in Vermont, our online site also provides links to City to City and local transit (bus) service, Park and Ride locations, a Commuter calendar to track your options and details on “511” roadside conditions.

Please visit our Employer page for more information. We make it easy by providing great promotional materials and resources that can be downloaded and shared with friends, groups or employees.
Ross MacDonal

**TITLE:** Go Vermont Program Manager & Public Transit Coordinator for Vermont Agency of Transportation  
**PHONE:** 802-828-5577 D  
**EMAIL:** ross.macdonald@state.vt.us

Ross has spent nearly a decade in Vermont State Government as public transit coordinator and Go Vermont program manager at VTrans, where he works with many partners statewide to encourage Vermonters to reduce the costs and environmental impacts of driving alone. Ross oversees all aspects of the Go Vermont program and he is responsible for public outreach and engagement for all efficient transportation options. He does this in partnership with approved vendors including: vRide, Zimride, Safe Routes to Schools, CarShare VT, Local Motion, Go Chittenden, Go Addison, Chittenden Area Transportation Management Association (CATMA), Community Climate Action, Upper Valley Transportation Management Association and Vermont Environmental Investment Corporation (VEIC).

Debra Sachs

**TITLE:** Go Vermont Business Outreach Coordinator  
**PHONE:** 802-658-8487 D | 802-238-9807 C  
**EMAIL:** dsachs@ecostrategiesllc.com

Deb has more than 20 years of experience advancing transportation efficiency. She is the Business Outreach Coordinator for Go Vermont, and is responsible for statewide business outreach, providing technical and marketing assistance to businesses in order to help encourage smart commuting. She partners with more than two dozen entities to address specific commute problems – namely improving access to transit, ridesharing, vanpooling, biking and walking – to engage all Vermonters to use more efficient means of travel.

Ms. Sachs advances a multi-layered marketing program that includes special events and on-site employee fairs, and designs creative outreach strategies to encourage participation and long term behavior change. Ms. Sachs is the principal fundraiser for special Go Vermont program events, including the award winning Way to Go Commuter Challenge and Capital Commuters Program.

Aaron Brown

**TITLE:** Transportation Program Manager  
**LOCATION:** Vital Communities, 195 North Main Street, White River Junction, Vermont 05001  
**PHONE:** 802-291-9100 ext. 111 D | 802.-291-9107 F  
**EMAIL:** aaron@vitalcommunities.org

Aaron runs the Smart Commute Program, helping workplaces develop commuting programs for employees. He also advocates for mobility improvements. He designs, administers and synthesizes results for employer and employee surveys, writes case studies and supports efficient transportation management for a growing association of members located across the Upper Valley Region.

Mr. Brown is available to provide technical assistance to businesses, supply and administer surveys, and present results and suggestions to advance efficient transportation in the workplace.

**ConnectingCommuters.Org  800-685-RIDE (7433)**