



**VERMONT**

## TIPS FOR CARPOOLING & VANPOOL

An easy way to cut your daily commute costs is by starting (or joining) a carpool or vanpool. By sharing a ride, you share the cost of gas and save wear and tear on your vehicle. Not to mention, it is much better for the environment.

### FINDING CARPOOL OR VANPOOL PARTNERS

To get started with carpooling, post or look for ridesharing neighbors in your community. Email your co-workers, post on your employer's bulletin board, or check out your local Front Porch Forum.

If you have 4+ people who share a similar commute and schedule, you can create a vanpool. Go! Vermont and their partner Commute with Enterprise, provide an SUV or van. Each rider then pays a low monthly fee, which covers all the costs, like gas, insurance, repairs - everything!

### GETTING TO KNOW YOUR FELLOW CARPOOLERS OR VANPOOLERS

Before you begin carpooling or vanpooling, you should meet your prospective travel partner(s) in a public place. Decide if a trial period is necessary to test compatibility between passengers. If at any time you are not comfortable, you are not obligated to continue.

**THIS SUV OR VAN CAN**



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### ESTABLISH THE RULES OF THE ROAD

Once you have met your partner(s) and decide to proceed, you should discuss and agree on some key questions, to help avoid any issues down the road, such as:

- How many days a week will you carpool/vanpool?
- How many passengers will there be?
- Who has a vehicle? If each partner has a vehicle, who will do the driving, or will you rotate? Consider establishing primary and alternate drivers in the event of an illness or emergency.
- Discuss payment - how much, when, and how will payments be made?
- Where will the designated pick-up point be? Some arrange for door-to-door service, while others prefer a meet-up location.
- What are the smoking/non-smoking policies?
- Is there a cell phone policy?
- Is eating/drinking allowed?
- Which station will you listen to on the radio?
- Will there be any unscheduled stops?
- How long will you wait for someone if they are late?

Lastly, compile a contact list, complete with home, work and cell phone numbers so you can contact each other in the event of weather delays, a change in plans or an emergency.

### TIPS FOR SAVING GAS

- Drive with a “soft foot” – accelerate/decelerate smoothly
- Maintain proper tire inflation
- Change the air filter regularly
- Slow down – most vehicles are most efficient at 50-55 mph
- Use the air conditioner sparingly
- Remove unnecessary weight from your vehicle



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