

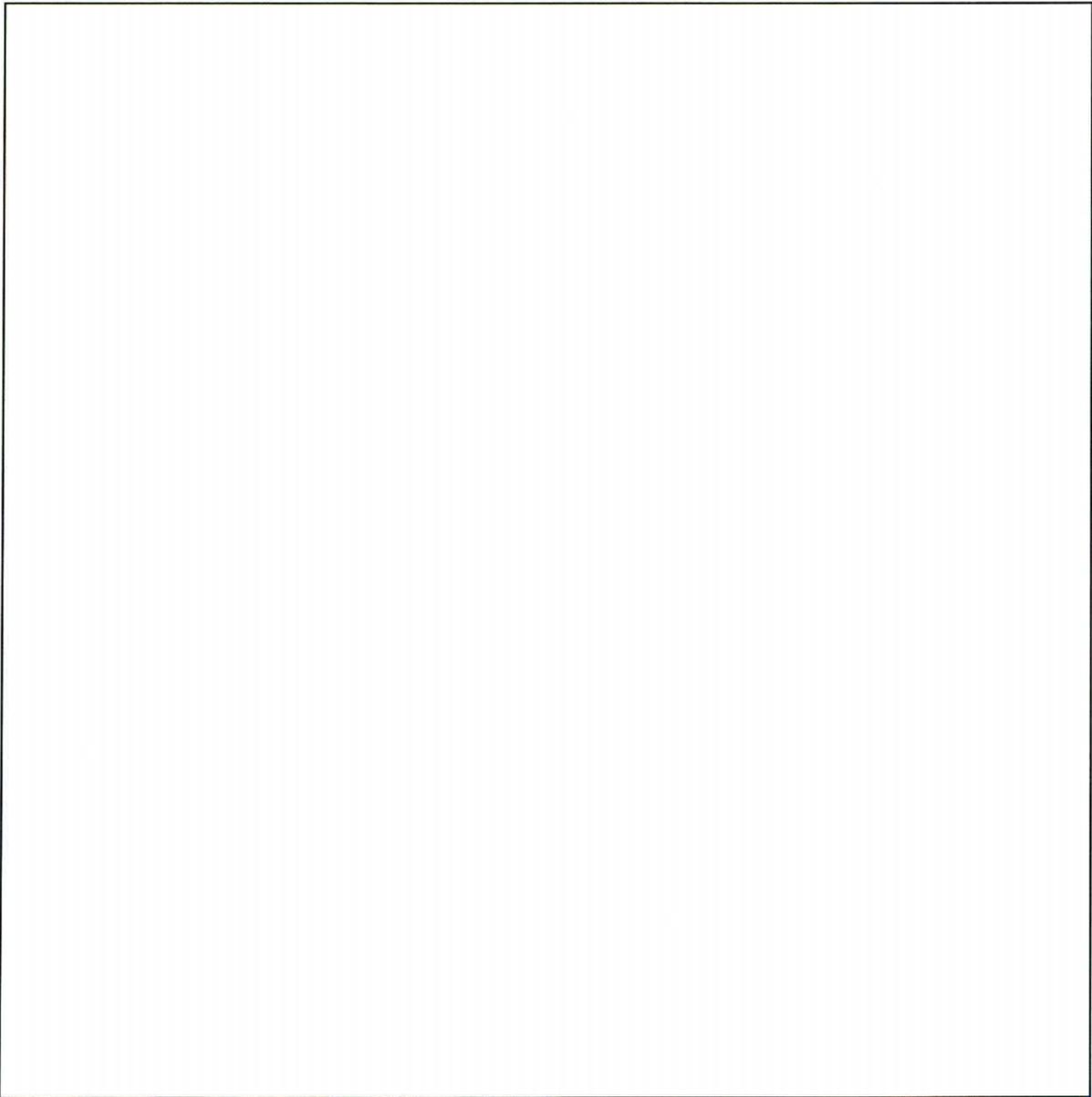


Masser, Michelle

From: Lashway, Lisa
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2012 12:24 PM
To: Masser, Michelle; Canning, Sean
Subject: FW: TransOptions Monthly Newsletter

Lisa Lashway
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From: TransOptions Inc. [mailto:info@transoptions.org]
Sent: Thursday, February 23, 2012 12:16 PM
To: Lashway, Lisa
Subject: TransOptions Monthly Newsletter



The Commuter Monthly

February 2012

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It "Pays" to Carpool

It's still winter and too early to think about spring. As commuters, we're collectively joyous that getting to work has been less stressful this year because of milder weather. However, our commute euphoria may soon be squelched; gas prices have increased 9 percent from a year ago to \$3.30 a gallon as of January 13, 2012 according to a survey by AAA Mid-Atlantic.

Gas prices aren't the only costs creeping upward. Tolls on the New Jersey Turnpike and Garden State Parkway have risen 50 percent, heating oil has increased and food prices are expected to follow the upward trend.

Carpooling is a fast, easy way for commuters to instantly lower the cost of their ride to work by. Savings increase the more you share a ride and by increasing the number of carpool riders:

Commute Option	Commute Miles	Annual Estimated Cost	Estimated Savings
Drive Alone	60	\$8,325	\$0
Carpool with 2 People	60	\$4,162	\$4,162 or 50%
Carpool with 3 People	60	\$2,775	\$5,494 or 66%

Savings are approximate, based on a 5 day commute/week, incorporating operating costs for gas and maintenance at the Internal Revenue Service allowance of \$.555/mile which includes depreciation, insurance, fuel and all other estimated costs of owning a car.

Why should I carpool?

- Reduce the cost of your commute
- Save vehicle wear and tear
- Lower your stress by alternating driving or being the passenger
- Conserve natural resources by using less fuel
- Reducing traffic congestion which puts less pollutants into the air

The Emergency Ride Home program is a Ridesharing safety net. Carpool commuters registered with TransOptions are eligible to receive a free ride home, up to two times per calendar year, should an emergency or unscheduled overtime arise. Some rules apply.

How do I join or start a carpool?

Carpooling is a flexible option; you only need a minimum of two people to form a carpool and the riders decide the number of days they want to commute together. For each day that you carpool, commuting expenses are significantly reduced.

If you're riding to work with a neighbor, friend or spouse, you're "casually" carpooling! Be certain to register your existing carpool with TransOptions to be eligible to receive an Emergency Ride Home.

How do I find a carpool companion?

If you're riding to work with a neighbor, friend or spouse, you're already carpooling! If you need to find a carpool companion, TransOptions Ridematch Service can help. And

for free!

Ridematch Service

Our free "Ridematch" service helps you find commuters with a similar schedule and route to work. Complete a Ridematch application at TransOptions.org. We'll check for compatible commuters and connect you.

Remember Park & Ride Lots

Are you looking for a convenient place to connect with your carpool? Meet at one of the many Park & Ride lots located in northwestern New Jersey. Find a location at TransOptions.org.

Did you know?

- TransOptions *free* Ridematch service can help you find or start a carpool.
- Only 2 people are needed to form a carpool.
- Carpooling is flexible; you decide how many days per week to share a ride.

A free *Emergency Ride Home* is available to registered carpool riders. Some rules apply.

\$100 Gas Card

[Would a \\$100 gas card motivate you to try carpooling?](#)

TransOptions is motivating northwestern New Jersey commuters to learn that "It Pays to Carpool" during our commuter challenge. Northwestern New Jersey commuters who join or start a carpool and share a ride for 12 days from March 1 to April 30, 2012, are eligible for a drawing to win a

\$100 gas card. Three winners will be chosen!

Why should I carpool?

- Reduce the cost of commuting
- Save vehicle wear and tear
- Lower your stress by alternating driving and riding with another person
- Conserve natural resources by using less fuel
- Reducing traffic congestion which puts less pollutants into the air
- FREE Emergency Ride Home should emergency or unscheduled overtime arise *(Some rules apply.)*

What Can I Win?

- Three \$100 gas cards will be awarded. All qualified participants are eligible to win.
- TransOptions will randomly draw (3) three carpooling winners during the first week of May 2012.
- The date of the drawing will be posted at TransOptions.org. Winners will be notified by TransOptions.

Who is Eligible?

- Only carpooling commuters working in or commuting to northwestern New Jersey are eligible. *(Northwestern New Jersey includes Morris, Sussex and Warren counties and suburban areas of Essex, Passaic and Union counties.)*
- Commuters starting or joining a new carpool.
- Commuters joining an existing carpool. (Riders already carpooling are not eligible.)

How Do I Qualify?

- Complete the "Register Your Commute" form on the TransOptions website.
- Carpool a minimum of 12 days from March 1 to April 30, 2012.
- Complete and submit a tracking log of the days that you carpool to TransOptions by May 1, 2012.

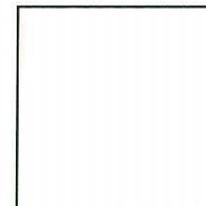
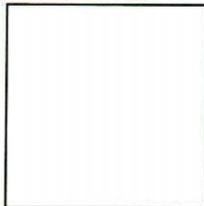
If you need to find a carpool companion, complete the free Ridematch Application on TransOptions' website.

Learn more and register at TransOptions.org or contact Danielle at dscassera@transoptions.org or 973-267-7600.

TransOptions' mission is to deliver programs that improve mobility, the environment and quality of life in northwestern New Jersey.

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