

Guide to Happy Carpooling

After you find people interested in sharing a ride with you and ideally before you ever ride together, it is helpful to discuss:

Driving and Vehicle Details

- How often do you want to carpool? Daily? Three times a week? Other?
- Who drives and when?
- Discuss driving styles. Be clear at the outset about safe driving practices.
- How will vehicle expenses be shared?
- Discuss and share car insurance coverage.

Pickups and Drop-offs

- What are the arrangements for pickups and drop-offs, including locations and times?
- How long will you wait if someone is late?
- What will you do if a member has to stay late or leave early? Discuss all options.

Emergency Information

- How will you contact each other during the day in case of an emergency?
- Share emergency contact information for each partner (home, friends or family members)
- Create a back-up plan in case of a vehicle breakdown.

Personal Preferences

- What radio stations will be played and how loud is acceptable?
- Will eating be allowed in the vehicle?
- What conversation topics are acceptable? Which ones are best left alone?
- How comfortable is everyone with silence and quiet relaxation?
- What about perfumes? Does anyone have allergies?
- What stops, if any, are you willing to make along the way?
- Will anyone have to transport children or large equipment? How often?