



Vanpoolers enjoy camaraderie along with savings and free time

What is a Vanpool?

A vanpool is a group of commuters who share a ride to work on a regular basis in a 7- to 15-seat van. Riders share expenses. One person serves as the driver/coordinator and, in exchange, may receive additional benefits.

With a median one-way trip of 40 miles, Meadowlink vanpools connect the metropolitan region with New Jersey, New York, Connecticut and Pennsylvania.

Why Vanpool?

Vanpooling is the most cost-effective commuter option available today. At less than \$6 a day for a round-trip commute, vanpools offer all the benefits of riding in a private car at less than the cost of public transit.

On average, Meadowlink vanpoolers save more than \$8,000 annually in gas, insurance and depreciation.

Subsidies and tax breaks help

- To qualify for subsidies, your van must be leased from a NJ Transit approved provider.
- NJ Transit provides \$175 per month on an ongoing basis.
- An additional \$150 per month is provided if the vanpool uses the HOV (High Occupancy Vehicles) lane between Exits 11 and 14 on the NJ Turnpike any time from 6 to 9 a.m. and 4 to 7 p.m.

- Meadowlink provides a \$60 credit for every empty seat for the first three months, while vanpools build their membership.
- In addition, the IRS allows a pre-income-tax deduction of up to \$230 per month for individual riders who participate in a van lease program.

How Vanpools qualify for subsidies

Your van must be leased from a NJ Transit approved vanpool provider. Meadowlink helps you obtain a van on a 30-day, renewable lease program. A typical lease ranges from \$1,000 to \$1,500 per month, depending on the van and your monthly mileage. The lease includes maintenance, insurance, 24-hour Roadside Assistance and the Emergency Ride Home program.

Emergency Ride Home and more

- Meadowlink offers an “Emergency Ride Home” service, which guarantees vanpoolers up to three rides home per year for any unforeseen emergency.
- Riders can read, doze, listen to music or work on their laptops
- By leaving their cars at home, vanpool riders help reduce traffic and improve air quality.

To start or join a vanpool, call Joji Sai at **201.939.4242**. Or visit **www.ezride.org**

“With a commute of more than 120 miles, vanpooling saves wear and tear on my personal car and offers camaraderie among fellow riders. I wouldn't pick any other way to commute.”



Larry Williams
PSE&G EMPLOYEE