

The West Milford Messenger

Enrollment meetings set up for EZ Ride program

June 30, 2011

West Milford — West Milford Community Services and Recreation will be holding two open enrollment/informational meetings for West Milford residents 60 years and older on the EZ Ride program. The meetings are on July 13, 2011 at Hillcrest Community Center, 1810 Macopin Road, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and at Bald Eagle Commons, 21 Richmond Road - Grange Hall in the game room from 12:30 to 2 p.m.



EZ Ride is a service providing transportation to qualified residents to and from local doctors, hospitals and shopping malls, including Rockaway Mall and Willowbrook Mall.

This service will begin on July 11, 2011. The cost is \$5 each way up to 10 miles per trip; 50 cents per mile after that. The cost is half price if sharing the ride. For additional information call the Recreation Department at 973-728-2860. During the trial, volunteer drivers will operate a single vehicle owned by EZ Ride. Riders, who will be exempt from the program's \$15 registration fee throughout the experiment, will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis.

The program will officially begin next Monday, after unresolved issues concerning insurance coverage for the program's loaner vehicle helped push back the program's April 4 start date, according to township officials. However, the three-month holdup is not expected to hinder the trial, as the additional time has allowed the township to build its base of prospective clients and its ever-critical stable of volunteer drivers.

According to EZ Ride, the lack of personnel expenses allows the program to provide transportation to seniors at less than half the actual cost of rides on average – taking into account maintenance, insurance, and fuel costs.

For more information on the service, including how to enroll or become a volunteer driver, call the West Milford Department of Community Service and Recreation at 973-728-2860.

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