

EZ Ride offers easy way to get around in Pompton Lakes

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Those who need a lift now have an economical option with EZ Ride's Community Cars program.

EZ Ride, which is offered through the [Wood-Ridge](#) based Meadowlink Transportation Company, is a carpool, vanpool, and shuttle service for businesses, colleges, universities, and municipalities.

"There are homebound people who can't get out, and there are senior citizens who are no longer able to drive and nobody can help them drive," said Mayor Katie Cole. "This program allows for volunteers to come pick them up on a scheduled basis and take them where they want to go for a particular dollar value."

Borough Administrator Kevin Boyle said the program in [Pompton Lakes](#) is targeted toward seniors and those with disabilities, but anyone can sign up for it.

The governing body introduced the program to the borough in the summer of 2012. Since then, the program has sought volunteers to serve as drivers.

EZ Ride spokesperson Sjockier Jackson said the program has been seeking volunteers over the year through various outlets, such as craigslist.

She said the program now has enough drivers to serve [Pompton Lakes](#), and it is just waiting for someone to call for a ride.

To join this program, members are required to establish a transportation account with at least \$15 in advance. Once this account is set up, any initial pickup charge is \$2.50 and trips within 10 miles are charged .57 cents per mile and those beyond 10 miles are charged \$1.14 per mile.

Fares are deducted from the personal transportation account, and there is no exchange of cash with the drivers.

Reservations must be made at least 48 hours in advance. There is a 50-percent discount for shared rides, and caregivers may ride for free if their pickup and drop-off points are the same as those of the riders.

Pompton Lakes residents looking to schedule a ride can call Jackson at 201-621-2577.