

SEMCOG Information

Carpooling to work saves money!

Everyone is looking for ways to save money. SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, has a great idea that can save commuters nearly \$3,000 a year. Carpool to work...and find a carpool partner through MiRideshare!

MiRideshare has served Southeast Michigan commuters since 1980 with a free, safe carpool matching program. In these challenging economic times, sharing a ride to work has many advantages – it saves money, decreases commuter stress, and is good for the environment. Find a carpool partner through MiRideshare’s easy-to-use online matching software. Those in the database are also eligible for incentives and prizes in addition to saving money.

Students, volunteers, employees – any commuter over age 18 with a regular schedule whose work/school location falls within Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, Washtenaw, and Wayne Counties – can use this service. You can carpool all the time, or just a few days a week. Carpooling is as flexible as you need it to be since you work out the details of your commute with potential partners.

And in the event of an emergency, MiRideshare offers “commuter insurance” through the Guaranteed Ride Home program. We’ll get you home safely if you need to leave early or work late with free taxi rides up to six times per year.

According to the AAA, a commuter who drives alone to work (25 miles one-way) spends about \$5,800 per year on gas, maintenance, taxes, depreciation, and finance costs. That same commuter can save as much as 50 percent of these costs by carpooling with just one other person! No matter how high gas prices go, sharing a ride is a great value.

Commuters may also be able to save more once out of the ride alone commute by letting their auto insurance know about their new commute status. Many offer discounts for lower mileage usage on vehicles.

It’s easy to get started. Go to www.semcog.org and click on MiRideshare under “Hot Topics.” There, you’ll also find our get started video. Please call us with questions at 866-510-POOL.

SEMCOG is a regional planning partnership of local governmental units serving 4.9 million people in the seven-county region of Southeast Michigan striving to enhance the region’s quality of life. Our community is a proud member of SEMCOG.