



Clean Commute Chronicle

September 2008

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Clean Commute Challenge 2008

September is an exciting month, especially with this year's Clean Commute Challenge! The Challenge will take place September 22-26th, with CATA and various local organizations teaming up to host free activities. Encourage your friends, family, and co-workers to "Get on Board!" for the Clean Commute Challenge and commit to riding the bus, carpooling, riding their bikes, or even walking.

Monday, Sept. 22nd: Bicycle Commuting Day

- "Pedal Pushers" bike commuting classed at MSU Bikes from 6:00-7:00 p.m. under Bessey Hall on Farm Lane.
- "Pedal Pushers" bicycle commuting class at LCC from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- "Pedal Pushers" bicycle commuting class at Delta Township Library from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 23rd: Carpool/Vanpool Day

- "Jump in the Pool" carpool/vanpool matching event at MSU International Center from 11:30a.m.-1:00 p.m.
- Some downtown Lansing parking meters will be bagged to offer free parking for carpools and vanpools.

Wednesday, Sept. 24th: Walking Day, Simple Steps to Cleaner Air!

- Noon walk by state workers and others throughout Eaton, Ingham, and Clinton counties.

Thursday, Sept. 25th: Bring a Buddy, Ride the Bus!

- CATA & EATRAN encourage everyone to bring a buddy on the bus today to try public transportation.
- Clinton Transit is offering a "Bring a Buddy, Ride Free" promotion today

Friday, Sept. 26th: Favorite Clean Commute/Anti-idling Kick-off with Local Schools

- Take the Clean Commute Option of your choosing, you can even try them all!
- Anti-idling campaign kicks off with local schools

Be sure to log on to cata.org to log every clean commute that you do!

Jump in the Pool with CATA & BIGGBY COFFEE

CATA & Biggby encourage you to invite others to "Jump in the Pool" and enjoy a grande time! If you know of anyone interested in carpooling or vanpooling, let them know about CATA's "Jump in the Pool" nights at BIGGBY COFFEE on September 15-19th. Not only can they save money on fuel and maintenance costs, but they can save money on a great beverage as well!

Monday, Sept 15: BIGGBY COFFEE, 750 N. Cedar St. in Lansing (5-7pm)

Tuesday, Sept 16: BIGGBY COFFEE, 914 Charlevoix Dr in Grand Ledge (5-7pm)

Wednesday, Sept. 17: BIGGBY COFFEE, 3520 Okemos Rd. in Okemos (5-7pm)

Thursday, Sept. 18: BIGGBY COFFEE, 120 W. Ottawa St. in downtown Lansing (5-6pm)

Friday, Sept 19: BIGGBY COFFEE, 13181 Schavey Rd. in DeWitt (5-7pm)



**BIGGBY
COFFEE**



Notes From the Featured Commuter Carpool of the Month

Dear Clean Commute Program,

One day in May, when gas was approaching \$4 per gallon, I was talking with some coworkers, who already had been car pooling for some time and asked them how they got their “pool” started. Although many of them had different answers, one of them mentioned the “Clean Commute Program.” Not knowing anyone from my area, I thought Clean Commute was the best solution for me. Going to the CATA website and filling out the application, I was amazed that this very simple and user friendly tool would give me results in less than 10 minutes! I already had one person that wanted to share with me and found two more in less than two days. We all quickly agreed to car pool together.

A date was set to get together for lunch to meet each other and discuss schedules. Before that date ever arrived, we had a fifth person ask if she could join our group. Our first thought was, how would we fit five adults in some of our smaller vehicles? Nonetheless, all five of us met for lunch. We talked and laughed as we figured out the first two weeks of our schedule. It was then when we realized we all lived within six miles of each other.

Two of our poolers are great with websites and calendars and they set up a Google group calendar that we all access and update when we are riding and driving. We refer to that to make sure nobody gets left behind. This too is a great tool to help with our busy schedules when we can’t find time to drop an email or give a call to everyone.

We have faithfully carpooled each week for three months and are glad we are not only being green, but saving money too! We all get along great and really enjoy our rides together. We have some of our best laughs at that time. Oh, and by the way, five people in a car pool works GREAT!

Shortly after our pool started, I received an email from Clean Commute with four more contacts interested in car pooling. Although our pool is full, those four have enough to start their own pool. I wonder how many other people are out there that don’t know there are people wanting to car pool too, and they live right around the corner. www.cata.org is a great way to bring these people together. It’s a wonderful feeling to be driving down the expressway with five people in the vehicle, knowing you are doing a good thing!

Sincerely,
ACCKR Riders

Go Green! Take the Campus Challenge!

Colleges across Michigan are taking the Campus Challenge, and competing to log the most “clean commutes”.

Students, faculty, and staff can visit www.cata.org to log their clean commutes such as riding the bus, car-pooling, vanpooling, riding their bikes, and even walking! If people belong to a participating student Organization, they can log in their commutes for their student organization to win points, as well as to help their college. In addition, college groups in the Greater Lansing Area can win free food from Q’doba Mexican Grill.

Participating colleges include:

- Cooley Law School
- Grand Valley State University
- Henry Ford Community College
- Lansing Community College
- Michigan State University
- Oakland University
- University of Michigan-Dearborn
- Wayne State University



Contact Us

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Other Alternative Transportation Providers

MichiVan: 800-VAN-RIDE

EATRAN: 517-543-3040

Clinton Transit: 800-800-5938

TCBA: www.biketcba.org

MichiVan 2009 Pricing

MichiVan's vanpool program continues to enjoy success as a result of the popularity of vanpools. On an annual basis MDOT reviews the pricing structure and subsidy levels in order to maintain the programs viability for commuters statewide.

Effective October 1, 2008, new seat prices shown below will take effect. Because MichiVan charges fares in advance, the new rates will be reflected on amounts due September 15, 2008, for checking customers and September 20, 2008, for credit card customers.

Pricing involves many factors. MDOT remains committed to rates that encourage ridesharing, while also promoting the use of larger passenger vehicles requiring less subsidy dollars and removing more vehicles from Michigan roads.

Listed below are the new monthly seat prices effective for October 2009. Prices are shown without applicable sales tax. Gas and parking are also not included.

Proposed FY 2009 MichiVan Monthly Per Seat Pricing-Commuter Vanpools (Volunteer Drivers)

One-way Miles	7 Passenger	8 Passenger	10 Passenger	12 Passenger	15 Passenger
0-30	\$76	\$73	\$69	\$63	\$55
31-60	\$124	\$108	\$90	\$82	\$76
61-90	\$214	\$160	\$150	\$131	\$118

Anti-idling at Schools!



CATA Clean Commute Options, Greater Lansing Clean Cities, and the mayor's *Go Green, Go Lansing!* initiative are teaming up to begin anti-idling campaigns with local schools. School buses and parents are encouraged to turn off their engines while waiting for children to be picked up after school. Letters were sent out to every school asking them to get involved, especially on September 26th, as part of the Clean Commute Challenge.

A press conference will be held on September 26th at WoodCreek Elementary, with students creating posters to help build awareness about the anti-idling message. By reducing idling, schools and individuals can not only make the air in your community healthier to breathe, but you can also help save money as well! Idling = 0 miles/gallon!

Carpools Looking for More Riders:

- Ann Arbor/Brighton-East Lansing
- Ann Arbor-Lansing (4 10-hour days)
- Charlotte-Lansing
- Corunna/Bancroft-Lansing
- Eaton Rapids-East Lansing
- Novi-Lansing
- Owosso- East Lansing
- Perry/Bancroft/Durand-MSU

Contact Clean Commute Options by calling (517) 393-7433 or email cleancommute@cata.org for more information on how to join these carpools.