



Clean Commute Chronicle

June 2009

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Businesses Help Employees Clean Commute

Businesses in the Greater Lansing Area are continuing to help their business and employees save their pocket books, while doing something good for the overall community. In the tough economic times that many in Michigan are facing, various businesses in Ingham, Eaton, and Clinton Counties have been turning to CATA's Clean Commute Options Program to help their employees reduce the costs of travel, parking, and vehicle maintenance; all while cutting down on the pollution caused from single-occupant vehicles.

The Christman Company is the latest employer to contact the Clean Commute Program to help reduce their carbon-footprint, as well as help alleviate their employees' concerns related to parking costs and congestion in the downtown area. Christman hopes to have their entire building on Capitol Ave. jump on board and leave their cars at home at least one day a week and choose the bus, carpooling, biking, or walking to work. By clean commuting, Christman may even be able to obtain their LEED-EB (Existing Building) certification.

Meanwhile, Jackson National Life ('JNL') continues to hold transportation fairs at their two office locations. They have been a business partner for over 2 years with employee participation continuing to increase with each Clean Commute visit.

"As a large employer in the Lansing area, we are always looking for ways to better meet our associates' needs. More sustainable and economical ways to commute to work is something our associates have recently been more interested in. CATA's Clean Commute Options provided us with an ideal way to offer a carpooling program that benefits both the associates and the company. At Jackson, we've had an outstanding response to the program and are very pleased to be working with CATA", states Mr. Hrapkiewicz.

Other participating business partners include Accident Fund, Auto Owners, Ingham Regional Medical Center, Ingham County Health Department, Consumers Energy, Lansing Community College, and Michigan State University. If your company's not participating or encouraging the use of Clean Commute Options, you may be missing out on incentive programs, tax reductions, and a cleaner, more sustainable region. Please call 393-7433 or email cleancommute@cata.org to have your business contribute to a cleaner commute and a cleaner community, because *it all adds up to cleaner air* and significant cost savings.



New Belle Tire Agreement for MichiVan



MichiVan would like to announce to all of their vanpool participants that Belle Tire has been added to the list of approved vendors for vehicle maintenance. For your convenience, Belle Tire has over 80 locations in Michigan for you to now take your vanpools for any maintenance or repair work that is needed on your MichiVan vehicle. For the location nearest you, please visit their website at www.belletire.com.

Belle Tire may be used for all items listed in your preventative maintenance coupon book including oil changes, tire rotations, new tires, alignments, and brakes. MichiVan vehicles may also be taken to Firestone, Jiffy Lube, PepBoys, Goodyear, Michelin, or Valvoline for any regular scheduled maintenance.

For work not listed in the MichiVan coupon books, please instruct vendors to contact VPSI's National Maintenance Department at 1-800-223-8774.

Featured Commuter of the Month

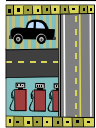
Originating from Europe, it was very natural for this month's Featured Commuter to use public transportation for a commuting mode. However, when Laurent received his job in downtown Lansing he knew he must find a different commute option to get from his home in Ann Arbor.

"I used my car for the first 2 weeks (it was in September 2008, and gas was about \$4.00/gallon!) and I quickly realized that I was going to spend \$100 per week on gas alone, plus enormous wear and tear on my car! But the most important thing may be that the driving was completely exhausting and I was not really able to enjoy my evenings with my wife as much as I wanted", Laurent reminisces.

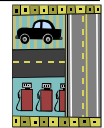
Now Laurent shares the hour long commute with six other commuters in their own personal van and he loves it! After sharing the ride for 9 months, he continues to enjoy sharing his commute with others. And with 3 out of the 6 riders being from other countries originally (France, Switzerland, and Cameroon), this group definitely has a cultural experience in their van almost every day!

"The people I am commuting with are all very friendly. Although most of the riders take a nap in the morning, we often have funny and interesting conversations during the afternoon rides. We have all benefitted culturally from our conversations and listening to music from these different countries." states Laurent.

Having the Emergency Ride Home (ERH) Program available was another bonus, and will especially come in helpful soon since Laurent and his wife are expecting a baby soon! Congrats to both of them!



Tell Your Friends & Co-Workers to Try Clean Commute Options!



Emergency Ride Home Program Reminder for All Commuters!

CATA Clean Commute Options would like to again remind all commuters that the Emergency Ride Home ('ERH') benefit is available to all commuters who share the ride at least 3 days per week! If you are commuting into the Greater Lansing Area from any city in Michigan, you may qualify! If you have been participating in a carpool or vanpool for years, months, weeks, or you are new to sharing the ride, please contact us for an application. In order to qualify for the program, you must follow the application process shown below:

- Share the ride at least 3 days per week.
- You must have registered and filled out an application for CATA Clean Commute Options. – This rule still applies even if you are already participating in a MichiVan vanpool, or if you've been carpooling. ERH use requires that you submit both applications. If you only send in an ERH application, you will NOT receive vouchers until the Clean Commute application is sent to our office.
- Submit an ERH application. Once our office receives this application and you have been approved, vouchers and instructions for use will be mailed to you. If you think you have applied, but have not received vouchers within a week, please contact our office to verify that we received your information.
- If you are in need of an ERH, you should first call the Enterprise number printed on your voucher at 800-736-8222. If you have questions about ERH use, forgot your vouchers, or are experiencing problems, you may call our office at 393-7433 between 8a.m.-5p.m. If it is after hours, please call the Enterprise airport location at 517-703-8060 which remains open until 11:30pm. Thank you to all of our commuters for adhering to these rules and regulations!

Summer Bicycling Events!

Pedal into summer with the Tri-County Bicycle Association's ('TCBA') summer rides! They have rides of various lengths, and even have rides that will fit the entire family!

June 13th: 100,000 Meter T-Shirt Ride - HELMETS REQUIRED!

Meet at Laingsburg High School for registration between 7:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m. with on the road support available between 7:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. There are 3 routes to choose from including the family-friendly 25K route, a 50K, and 100K loop. All routes start out together and then split up at different mile-age points. The routes use rural county roads and merge together for the last 5 miles. With all of the great exercise, comes great food! The TCBA has Laingsburg's finest serving lunch for all riders at the high school. Longer routes will include rest stops with volunteers serving assorted fruits, beverages, and fresh cookies.

July 18: Women on Wheels Ride - HELMETS REQUIRED!

Join over 500 women, men, and children on July 18th to travel the scenic country roads southeast of Lansing. Maps, rest stops with food and water, sag vehicles and lunch will be provided. There will be a 17 mile loop, 32 mile loop, and a 50 mile loop. Any combination of routes can be ridden. Meet at Ma-son High School between 7:00-10:00 a.m. for registration to begin the ride.

Sept 2-6: DALMAC Ride - HELMETS REQUIRED!

The 39th annual Dick Allen Lansing to Mackinaw ('DALMAC') Bicycle Tour is a nationally known bicycle camping tour that takes place over a series of days. On Sunday morning, riders are expected to cross the Mackinaw Bridge between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Helmets are required and breakfast is included each morning while on the ride, evening meals are provided except for Sunday, and the ride only takes place during the daylight hours. All riders must obey all state and local laws.

For more information about all rides, applications, and to pay bicycle ride fees, call (517) 882-3700 or you can email info@biketcba.org. Good luck and happy bicycling!



Check Out Clean Commute Options on Facebook!

CATA's Clean Commute Options Program is now on Facebook! You can sign up to become a fan and get the latest information on events, new businesses joining the program, open carpools/vanpools, bus route detours, bike routes that may be experiencing detours or problems, and up-to-date air quality levels. Feel free to post messages on the wall and view all of our events and materials! Just log in to www.facebook.com and Search for CATA Clean Commute Options.

River Trail Announcement from the City of Lansing

The Clean Michigan Initiative (CMI) Riverfront Redevelopment and the Lansing City Market reconstruction projects will require the Lansing River Trail, between East Shiawassee and the Lansing Center near East Michigan Avenue, to be temporarily closed. This closure will begin on Friday, June 12, 2009 and remain closed until the completion of the improvements in November 2009.

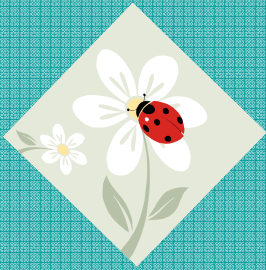
The River Trail traffic will be routed around these ongoing improvements. The detour route from the south will guide traffic onto the Lansing Center plaza adjacent to the trail, and to the sidewalk that continues adjacent to Museum Drive. The detour will continue along Museum Drive to Cedar Street. From here it will continue along Cedar Street to East Shiawassee Street. The detour will end by rejoining the River Trail where the trail is routed under the Shiawassee Bridge.

For additional information, please contact Dick Schaefer at the City of Lansing Parks Department at (517) 483-4277 or email dschafe@lansingmi.gov.

Contact Us

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Lansing, MI 48910

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Email: cleancommute@cata.org
Web: www.cata.org



Other Alternative Transportation Providers

CATA: 517-394-1000

MichiVan: 800-VAN-RIDE

EATRAN: 517-543-3040

Clinton Transit: 800-800-5938

TCBA: www.biketcba.org

MichiVan Contest for All Vanpoolers!

MichiVan is planning a Vanpool Awards Program this fall for all vanpools and vanpool participants. Whether you are a driver, rider, or primary contact, you can nominate your vanpool for the following award categories:

- Longest Commute
- Safe Driving
- Early Bird Vehicle
- Highest Efficiency
- Shiny, Happy Vanpool

If you have an idea for any additional categories, please feel free to send in your ideas! You may submit your responses now through the end of September to be entered into the drawing. To submit responses, please send to MichiVan representative Jennifer Schneider at jennifer.schneider@vpsiinc.com, or you can send them to Clean Commute Options and we would be happy to forward them on to MichiVan.

MichiVan will take entries until September 30, 2009. They will be awarding winners of each category to recognize their group. So send in your entries today for a chance to win fabulous prizes! Good Luck and Happy Commuting!

Carpools Looking for More Riders

- Ann Arbor-Lansing
- Ann Arbor-East Lansing/MSU
- Brighton-MSU
- Charlotte-Lansing
- Corunna/Bancroft-Lansing
- Durand/Corunna-Lansing
- Durand/Perry-MSU
- Jackson-Lansing
- Eaton Rapids-Lansing
- Eaton Rapids-East Lansing/MSU
- Jackson-East Lansing
- Kalamazoo/Battle Creek-Lansing
- Lowell/Ada-Lansing
- Novi-Lansing
- Owosso-East Lansing/MSU
- Owosso-Lansing
- Portland/Eagle-West Lansing
- Portland/Ionia/Eagle-MSU
- Spring Arbor/Jackson-Lansing

Vanpools Looking for More Riders

- Ann Arbor-Lansing
- Brighton-Lansing
- Canton-Lansing
- Grand Rapids-Lansing
- Highland/Novi/Brighton-Lansing
- Howell-Lansing
- Ionia/Saranac-Lansing
- Jackson-Lansing
- Lapeer-Flint
- Lennon/Flint-Lansing
- Milford/Southfield-Lansing
- Southfield-Lansing
- Swartz Creek/Durand-Lansing

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