



EConnections - A Greener Way To *Comm*unicate

New Commuter Programs and Assistance

Gas prices are rising, and once again employees are feeling the pinch at the pump. Who knows how high gas prices will go this spring, this summer...and if gas prices will remain high after Labor day? While we can't reduce the cost at the pump-we can help reduce the cost of commuting. The TMA offers assistance with commute option programs including: carpool/vanpool matching and assistance and transit trip planning.

Now, we offer even more for commuters.

Recently, Greater Mercer TMA created a new rewards program for employees that work in Mercer and Ocean county, Princeton Forrestal area and Montgomery Township that carpool, vanpool, ride transit or bike to work. **Green Commuter Rewards** provides "green commuters" an extra incentive to keep their green commuting option going and encourage others to try commute alternatives. It's as simple as registering and logging their commute miles online. "Green" commuters can earn up to 30% cash back shopping online for electronics, books, computers, toys, clothes, sports equipment, movie tickets and much, much more!!

Here's how it works:

- The employee signs-up on our website,
- They log their "green" miles (24 times in 60 days),
- After they log all their miles, they will receive a code that allows them to go to a website that provides them access to 1000's of national retailers!

What's old – is new again

We're all familiar with computer carpool matching programs, but sometimes the old fashioned sign works best. The TMA is helping commuters at their work place find carpool partner(s) by providing a Car Cling Sticker, "Care to Carpool", to affix to the rear passenger window to advertise their carpool. Fellow employees, neighbors... that see the sticker, call our office with the carpool's ID # and we'll provide the contact information.



You can help – by spreading the word about the Green Commuter Rewards program.

- Copy this [link](#), logo and add it to your intranet site or an email message.
- The TMA also has printed cards for distribution or posting.

We would be happy to design an outreach program specifically for you. [Let's discuss.](#)



We're working on taking the work out of commuting to work .

New Freedom Grant Survey Underway

Greater Mercer TMA, with assistance from the Mercer County Coalition for Coordinated Transportation, is spearheading the distribution and collection of survey data as part of the ongoing effort to provide a more detailed picture of the local transportation landscape to find options for Mercer County residents.

Once the survey phase is complete, it will better identify service gaps, underused resources, and system inefficiencies. As these issues are properly identified, the TMA can go about creating more specific project frameworks to address them. To date, the TMA has surveyed many of the local senior centers, independent living communities, social service organizations, and attended relevant public events.

The support, interest and willingness to assist in the survey process has been outstanding. To learn more about this project, contact [Nick Cecconi](#).

Planning For Spring

Spring is here. Now, is the perfect time to think about Commuter Fairs, Earth Day and Community events. We'd be happy to help you plan and participate in your next event, give us call or sent us an email.

(609) 452-1491 x237 Or, [email](#)

NJTRANSIT Train Schedule ...changes go in to effect April 1st.

If you have to drive, drive "greener..."

The US Department of Energy has a new tool on line that uses basic information about your driving habits to calculate total cost of ownership and emissions for makes and models of most vehicles, including alternative fuel and advanced technology vehicles. [Check it out](#)

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