

Safe Carpooling Tips

Carpooling not only reduces traffic congestion and reduces vehicle emissions, but regular carpooling will help you save money.

Make the most of your carpooling trip by following these guidelines:

- 1. Communication:** Ensure everyone has a copy of home, work or cell numbers in case of illness or a change in plans. Don't forget to give notice of vacation, personal or overtime plans.
- 2. Route and schedule:** Establish the morning pickup point(s) and designate a place to meet for the trip home.
- 3. Waiting times:** Decide as a group how long you'll wait for a passenger. The usual waiting time is two to three minutes.
- 4. Cost-sharing:** If your carpoolers don't share the driving equally, decide how the costs will be shared and agree on payment dates. The "My Trips" web page on www.carpoolzone.ca includes cost estimates to help you.
- 5. Driving schedule:** If all members of your carpool alternate driving, decide among yourselves if you want to alternate on a daily, weekly or monthly basis.
- 6. Ground rules:** Discuss what can be done in the car, like smoking, eating or drinking. Some passengers may be sensitive to strong perfumes or colognes, so check if these are okay to wear.
- 7. Insurance:** Check your policy if you will be a driver in the carpool. Your insurance rates may rise or fall if you carpool on a regular basis.
- 8. Driving:** Keep the car clean, in good repair, filled with enough gas for each trip and drive carefully and responsibly.

Find your ride match today at www.carpoolzone.ca.

