

# Vanpool Basics

# RideSolutions Vanpool Program

Save money, reduce congestion, and help the environment;  
share the ride by joining a vanpool.

## What is a vanpool?

A RideSolutions vanpool is a group of 7 to 15 commuters who commute to work on a regular basis in a commuter van. One person volunteers to be the primary driver of the van. Riders share a fee that covers the cost of operating the van. The vanpool group determines their daily route; riders meet at a designated pickup location, such as a shopping center or park & ride.

## Why choose a RideSolutions vanpool?

The RideSolutions Vanpool Program offers a complete package, which includes use of a commuter van, insurance, bumper-to-bumper maintenance, 24-hour roadside assistance, and a fuel purchasing program. The turnkey package is offered on a 30-day basis with no long-term commitment.

## What if I can't ride the van home?

You won't be stranded at work if you vanpool and have an emergency, when you register for the RideSolutions Guaranteed Ride Home (GRH) Program. Registration is free, and you are entitled to 90 percent reimbursement of a cab ride home up to four times in a calendar year.



Vans for the RideSolutions Vanpool Program  
are provided by the following vendors:



**Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission**

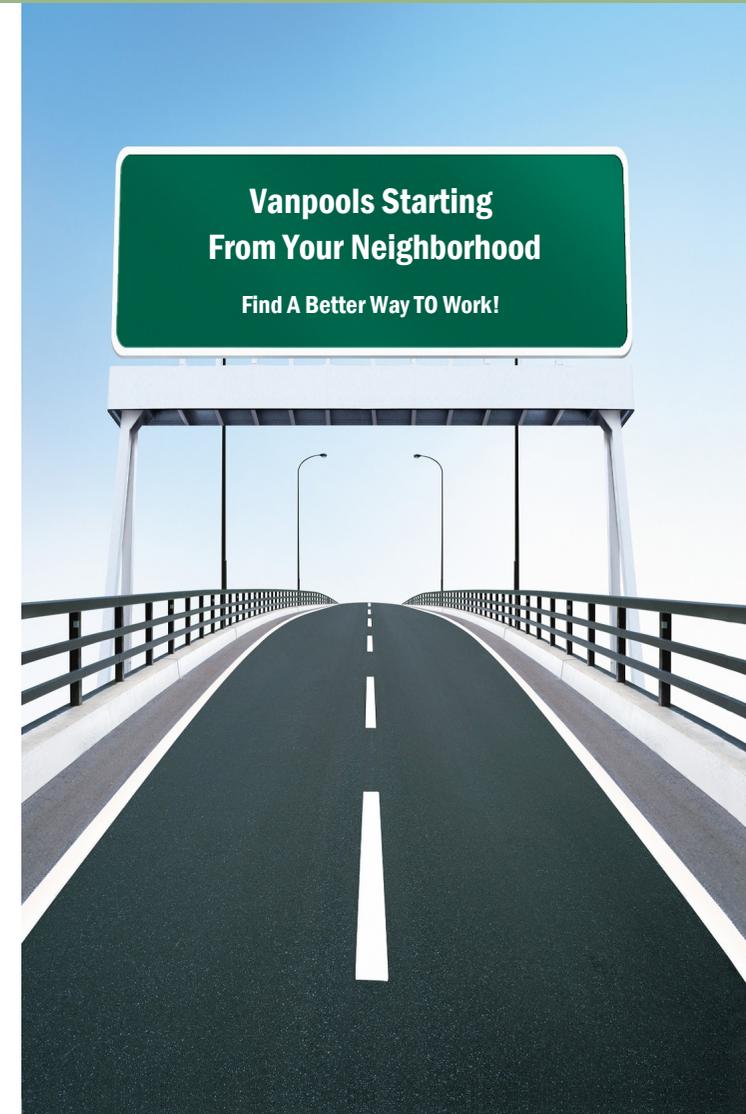
111 Liberty Street

Columbus, OH 43215

Tel: 1.888.742.RIDE (7433) or 614.233.4133

[www.morpc.org/ridesolutions](http://www.morpc.org/ridesolutions)

RideSolutions is a program of the  
Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission





**RideSolutions** guides you through five easy steps to form a new vanpool. After your vanpool is formed, we will help fill any vanpool seats that might come available to help keep your vanpool full.

### 1. Determine your basic route

Riders usually meet at a designated staging area like a park & ride or a shopping center where permission has been granted to park.

### 2. Advertise the route and recruit riders

RideSolutions specializes in helping find riders for your vanpool. Finding people interested in saving money, sharing the ride, and avoiding the hassles of traffic congestion can be easier than you think.

We assist you in finding riders by:

- Advertising your new route on our website
- Providing the group with flyers and helpful information
- Conducting transportation events and lunch and learn sessions at your worksite
- Providing your employer with advertising materials

### 3. Identify primary and alternate drivers

It is important to have a sufficient number of volunteer drivers to ensure the vanpool can operate as needed. RideSolutions can assist you with the process to become an approved driver. The driver approval process is simple and usually takes just 48 hours to complete.

### 4. Hold a formation meeting

RideSolutions will be glad to arrange a formation meeting for your new vanpool group. It's an important time to decide on the group's details such as:

- The staging area locations
- Type and size of the van
- Estimated pricing
- Confirming vanpool members
- Initiation of discussion on the "rules of the road" for making the vanpool a success

### 5. Select your start date

The van delivery is a great experience. Our van provider will go over the features of the van and paperwork in detail. They will turn the keys over and you'll be ready to GET INTO THE VAN AND GO!

## Who vanpools?

- Commuters who have at least 30 minutes to drive or travel more than 15 miles one way to work
- Commuters who maintain a consistent work schedule
- Commuters who live and work along the same route as 7 to 15 other people who also want to vanpool to work

## Advantages of vanpooling:

- Save hundreds of dollars on your commuting costs
- Reduce wear and tear on your personal vehicle
- Reliable, safe & comfortable transportation
- Escape the daily grind and stress of traffic congestion
- Turn commuting time into productive time to read, catch up on work, or sleep
- Make new friends with fellow van riders
- Contribute to improving our environment

# Save Money!

It's Easy to Join  
a Vanpool

Call RideSolutions at 614.233.4133  
or email [polmsted@morpc.org](mailto:polmsted@morpc.org)