



E-BULLETIN FROM OTSEGO COUNTY CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION
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OCCA encourages carpooling through ride-share website

The Otsego County Conservation Association has posted eRideShare.com on its website to encourage greater sharing of transportation between county residents and, ultimately, to conserve energy and help reduce the carbon footprint of individual residents.

“With the high price of gas these days, OCCA hopes county residents will do what they can to reduce their personal contribution to pollution and increase their contribution to energy conservation by participating in eRideShare,” said OCCA president Martha Clarvoe.

Since its inception in 1999, eRideShare has served more than 1,000,000 visitors. According to Clarvoe, the website allows residents to make contact with others in their community who wish to share rides.

Clarvoe assures county residents that eRideShare is user-friendly.

“All you have to do is visit the OCCA website at www.occainfo.org and look under “Energy Issues” on our homepage, click on “Looking for a car pool?,” then click on eRideShare and enter your information,” she said.

The eRideShare program advocates sharing rides not only due to higher gasoline costs, but for other reasons as well, such as the wear and tear of driving on automobiles, which costs more than gas in the long run. In addition, while driving can be stressful, socializing through ride sharing can be a stress-reducer. On a broader scale, oil imports to meet national demands increase the U.S. trade deficit, so shared rides help the national economy.

The Otsego County Conservation Association is a non-profit environmental organization serving the county since 1968. OCCA promotes the enjoyment and sustainable use of Otsego County’s natural resources through education, advocacy, resource management, research and planning.