

2011 Program Overview

The SPC CommuteInfo[®] program goal is for commuters living, working or attending school within the 10-county SPC region (including Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Fayette, Greene, Indiana, Lawrence, Washington and Westmoreland counties) to choose ridesharing at least twice a week.

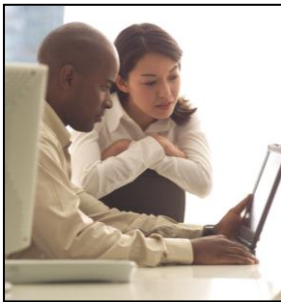
CommuteInfo operates the region's carpool and vanpool program. Over 1,000 commuters a day ride in a CommuteInfo carpool or vanpool.

The CommuteInfo program provides commuters, employers, and students with information about transportation alternatives to get to jobs or school. CommuteInfo's transportation services allow commuters flexible travel options which do not require a large infrastructure investment.

The CommuteInfo program also provides resources and information to assist individuals travelling to work or school and helps regional employers learn more about commuting options.

Throughout 2011, the CommuteInfo program also provided vanpool, carpool, and bikepool rider matching services; assistance for forming "pooler" groups; an Emergency Ride Home (ERH) service; consultations with employers; information about transit, biking, and walking options; and information about park-n-ride facilities.

The CommuteInfo's ERH service was extended to regional transit riders, who ride on systems outside of Allegheny County. All 9 of the eligible transit operators have joined with CommuteInfo to offer this service to their riders (eligibility is set by each operator).



CommuteInfo hosted 3 webinars in 2011. The featured topics were: Vanpooling 360, Regional Transit – Make the Connection, and Bike Commuting 101. Each webinar was broadcast live, archived on the program's website, and will serve as an educational tool about the highlighted commuting options.

2011 By the Numbers

- ↑ **539** participants in the regional vanpool program (**45** vanpool groups). The number of vanpool groups grew in 2011 from 43 in January to 45 in December.
- ↑ **528** participants in the regional carpool program (**244** carpool groups). The number of carpool groups grew in 2011 from 229 in January to 244 in December.
- ↑ Added **1,138** new commuters into the ridematching database. This is an increase of 33% over the 854 new commuters added in 2010.
- ↑ Responded to **973** calls from commuters, providing information on transit, vanpools, carpools, bikepools and park-n-ride facility locations. This is an increase of 20% over the 812 calls received in 2010.



The CommuteInfo brochure was updated in 2011, integrating information from 4 separate CommuteInfo print pieces. The updated format also allows it to be used as a poster showing all program services. The brochure contains information for commuters, job seekers, employers, the media, and others interested in learning more about commuting alternatives.

A large employee group approached CommuteInfo for support in identifying commuting alternatives to their worksite in the Cranberry area. A series of meetings were held at the employer location. There was a strong interest in getting vanpool groups started. Employees registered with the CommuteInfo program. Commute options reports were sent. And with the on-going technical assistance of CommuteInfo staff, a total of 8 new vanpool groups were formed by the end of 2011. These new groups will join the other 45 existing vanpool groups on the road in 2012.