

# PRESS RELEASE

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Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission • 420 Southridge Parkway, Suite 106 •  
Culpeper, VA 22701  
Phone: 540-829-7450 • Fax: 540-829-7452

## For Immediate Release

**Date:** December 1, 2008  
**Contact:** Sue Hromyak  
**Phone:** 540-829-7450  
**Fax:** 540-829-7452

## ARE YOU READY FOR A LUXURY COMMUTE?



CULPEPER, VA

Beginning January 5, 2009, bus service from the Warrenton Park and Ride lot will now be an option for commuters traveling to Northern Virginia and Washington D.C. Through a demonstration grant awarded by DRPT to subsidize the bus start-up, RRRC Commuter Services is partnering with Scenic America, Inc. in Bealeton, VA to provide bus transportation. This appears to be one of the first such program in Virginia, so we are breaking new ground in solutions to managing traffic congestion in our area. Many commuters in our region have expressed an interest in this service and we are excited about implementing this pilot program.

Ticket prices will be \$290 for a monthly reservation, \$190 for a 20 ticket punch book (advance sale, unreserved) one-way tickets with a 3 month expiration, \$22.00 for a one day unreserved roundtrip ticket (sold in advance, if space is available) and \$17.00 for a one-way unreserved ticket (sold in advance if space is available).

Please visit our website: [www.rcommute.org](http://www.rcommute.org) for a link to Scenic America's site. You can then get information on the schedule, fares, on-line ticket purchase and how to redeem Smartbenefits.

When considering the cost of driving, most people think only about how much they pay for gas. Drivers also pay to buy and maintain a car, including tune-ups, oil and tires, as well as for insurance, registration, and possibly parking. Indirect costs of driving, such as road construction and maintenance, add to drivers' financial burden through taxes and fees. In addition, there are quality of life costs that drivers and non-drivers alike pay to

support automobile transportation. Though challenging to quantify, these added impacts include air pollution, traffic congestion, and health care.

- Commute time becomes YOUR time – read, relax, sleep or work
- No driving hassles
- Quiet, smooth, luxury coach-style vehicle
- Protect the environment – a full loaded motor coach takes over 50 cars off the road and is 475% more efficient than a hybrid vehicle in the amount of fuel used per passenger
- The true cost of driving your car can be up to 88 cents a mile\* and that's a cost of \$70.40 a day to travel from Warrenton to D.C. and back (80 miles).

**While adjustments are being made to the route, Scenic America will offer free service from December 22, 2008 to January 2, 2009. Please call them at (540) 439-3300 to secure your space.**

A new commuter matching system is available to the public through our ridematching provider, Commuter Connections. With this enhanced program, the public has the ability to sign up, complete the application and generate a match list 24 hours a day. We continue to work closely with commuters to assist them with this program and to identify and individualize the best solution for each person. The RRRC Commuter Services team has begun working with local employers to provide information on how they can assist their employees with carpool and vanpool program implementation.

Guaranteed Ride Home (otherwise known as GRH) provides commuters who regularly vanpool, carpool, bike, walk or take transit to work with a reliable ride home when one of life's unexpected emergencies arises. Commuters can use GRH for unexpected personal emergencies and unscheduled overtime up to four times per year. Best of all, the ride home by cab, rental car, bus or train is **free** (excluding gratuity, fuel, taxes and insurance charges)! You will receive a commuter ID card with a personal registration number. Use the card whenever you need GRH services. When an emergency arises, call **1-800-745-7433** Monday through Friday (except holidays) from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Commuter Connections has created a network of providers who offer several transportation options to get commuters home quickly and safely.

Please visit the RRRC Commuter Services website at: [www.rcommute.org](http://www.rcommute.org) to apply or call (540) 829-7451 and find out how you can save money, reduce traffic and help the environment.

**Commuter Services, is a free service provided by the  
*Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission,*  
and can provide commuters with information regarding carpools, vanpools, and  
connections to commuter buses, Virginia Rail Express, and Metro.**

[www.rrregion.org](http://www.rrregion.org)