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# Vanpoolin' Slugs

## New Aptos Vanpool on the Road!

John Nugent helped get the Aptos 4 vanpool on the road by volunteering as a vanpool driver. As well as being a great way to meet new people, the vanpool program saves you money, reduces stress and helps reduce greenhouse gases.



**“The vanpool is great or as someone in our group says: It's Vantastic. Good people and a bargain for commuting,” says John Nugent, Aptos 4 vanpool driver.**

This route picks up from Resurrection Church in Aptos, arrives on campus by 7:30 a.m., and leaves campus at 4:00 p.m.

The monthly rate is \$31 but you can try it out for a week “free” without obligation! Please help spread the word to co-workers and friends who may be interested!

## Vanpooling Saves Money & the Environment!

511 is a free service that provides Bay Area transportation information via phone and the Internet. Their website, <http://511.org>, estimates that each mile you commute alone in your car releases 15.7 pounds of carbon dioxide and 0.86 pounds of pollution into the atmosphere. Based on the daily commute mileage from each vanpool's meeting point, we've calculated that the UCSC vanpool program will prevent 149,453 pounds of carbon dioxide and 7,995 pounds of pollution from being released this year! Thanks to all our participants and volunteer drivers for helping us reduce our carbon footprint – we couldn't do it without you!

Not only are you helping the environment by vanpooling, you are saving money! Assuming the average car gets 21 miles per gallon and gas costs \$2.20 per gallon, we've listed how much it would cost you each month to drive to work alone. This table shows your monthly savings if you ride the vanpool seventeen days per month and only drive alone to work four times each month.

Meeting Point	Mileage	Cost to Drive	VP Fee	Savings
Eastside	14	\$37.53	\$31.00	\$6.53
Live Oak	16	\$42.89	\$31.00	\$11.89
Aptos	26	\$69.70	\$31.00	\$38.70
SV/Felton	20	\$53.62	\$34.00	\$19.62
Ben Lomond	24	\$64.34	\$34.00	\$30.34
Boulder Creek	34	\$91.15	\$34.00	\$57.15
Watsonville	40	\$107.24	\$34.00	\$73.24
Los Gatos	50	\$134.05	\$40.00	\$94.05
Monterey	84	\$225.20	\$54.00	\$171.20
Mountain View	80	\$214.47	\$70.00	\$144.47
Palo Alto	92	\$246.64	\$70.00	\$176.64

**Please note: we have not included parking permit fees in our calculations.**

In addition to Aptos 4, the following vanpools currently have openings:

**Eastside:**  
Meets near Dominican Hospital, serves a work schedule of 8 am to 5 pm and costs \$31 per month

**Aptos 3:**  
Meets at Resurrection Church in Aptos and near Nob Hill in Capitola, serves a work schedule of 7:30 am to 4:30 pm and costs \$31 per month

**Watsonville 8:**  
Serves a work schedule of 6 am to 2:30 pm and costs \$34 per month

For more information or to check on the availability of a vanpool route, contact

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# UC Santa Cruz Vanpool Program

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Visit us on  
the web!

[www2.ucsc.edu/taps/  
vanpoolprogram.html](http://www2.ucsc.edu/taps/vanpoolprogram.html)

May is  
Clean Air Month -  
you help reduce  
air pollution by  
riding the vanpool!

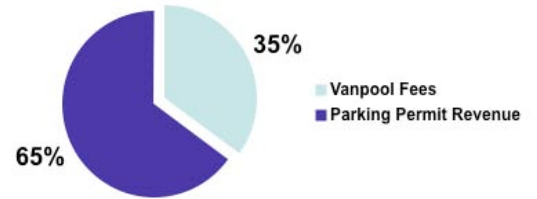


## Did You Know?

When TAPS launched the vanpool program in 1992, it was difficult to fill the initial two vehicles with riders. In order to encourage ridership, rates for vanpool participants were heavily subsidized with parking permit revenue. The vanpool program has grown in popularity since then, and there are waiting lists for many routes. However, vanpool participants only pay an average of 35% of actual vanpool costs. And because TAPS receives no state or campus funding for programs such as these, the cost of the program rises with each additional vanpool added.

At the same time, TAPS is facing a reduction in revenues. More people are using alternatives to a single-occupant vehicle, which is great for reducing carbon footprints and traffic levels across town. However, this has resulted in lowered revenue from parking permit sales, and those revenues are what subsidize the vanpool program.

How is the Vanpool Program Paid For?



The TAPS budget is reviewed by the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC), as well as the Campus Welfare Committee, before being approved by the Executive Vice Chancellor/Campus Provost. TAC is currently considering decreasing (but not eliminating) subsidies for a variety of services offered by TAPS, including vanpools, to keep TAPS from running a deficit.

While your efforts to keep costs down (e.g., promoting the vans when there are seats available, purchasing gas at Fleet Services, and reducing any extraneous miles on the road) are helpful – and appreciated! – it is likely that the cost to participate will soon rise. We'll keep you posted when we know more.

## Drive Smart Tips from 511

Here are some great ways you can increase fuel efficiency when you are driving your personal car:

**Slow down** –

Reduce speeds from 75 to 65 mph and increase your gas mileage by 15%.

**Smooth and steady** –

Accelerate and decelerate smoothly. Reduce aggressive driving to increase gas mileage by up to 33% (highway) and 5% (streets). Use cruise control to reduce speed changes.

**Tune it up** – Improve mileage by 4%.

**Lighten the load** –

Clean out the car and the trunk. For every 100 pounds you remove, fuel economy will increase by 2%.

**Drive your most fuel-efficient vehicle** to get the best fuel economy.

**Pump 'em up** –

Inflate tires to the recommended pressure and improve mileage by 2 - 3%. Don't know how? Watch "Pump Your Ride" at [www.wecansolveit.org](http://www.wecansolveit.org).

Check tire pressure monthly.

**Check your cap** –

A missing or broken gas cap reduces gas efficiency by 2%.

**Check the air filter** –

Replace a clogged air filter and increase gas mileage by 10%.

Courtesy of 511 at [http://511.org/links/spare\\_the\\_air.asp](http://511.org/links/spare_the_air.asp)

Spring 2009 Bike to Work & School Day is May 14th!

Join the fun by riding your bike to meet the vanpool!

