



Building a  
Sustainable  
Community

## WINNERS ANNOUNCED for Coupeville's Community Trip Reduction Incentives!

In September and October there were three winners announced for our Community Trip Reduction Program. All winners received \$100 gift certificates to a Town of Coupeville Merchant of choice. To be eligible to win you must log over 10 alternative trips to [www.ride.shareonline.com](http://www.ride.shareonline.com) including bus, bike, walk or carpool trips.

**September winners** were: **Laurie King** from Sno-Isle Coupeville library, **Melissa Parker** from Whidbey General Hospital and **Kyle Easter** from Island County.

**October winners** were: **Melisa Doss** from Island County, **Staci Jordan** from Island Transit, and **Mark Noste** from Coupeville School District.

### Background

Back in August of 2010, Coupeville launched a Community Trip Reduction Program to help residents and commuters understand the costs and impacts of driving alone in a personal vehicle and find ways to increase the use of alternative transportation. The goal of this program is to reduce carbon emissions by increasing biking, walking, public transit ridership, carpooling, and vanpooling as an alternative to driving alone in a personal vehicle.

Key partners in our program are Island Transit, Island County, Whidbey General Hospital, Careage of Whidbey, and the Washington State Department of Transportation.

### Program Results as of December 1, 2010

Since the launch of our program, we have 95 new [www.ride.shareonline.com](http://www.ride.shareonline.com) users who have logged 397 bike trips, 162 walk trips, 1624 bus trips, and 628 carpool trips. This resulted in carbon emissions reduction of **27,865 lbs**, saved **1683** gallons of gasoline and saved **\$22,771.30!**

There is still more opportunity to win \$100 Coupeville Merchant gift certificates for choosing an alternative to driving alone in your personal vehicle. The Town of Coupeville will be giving away 3 gift certificates in the month of November and 3 in the month of December to users living or working in Coupeville who log 10 alternative trips or more including biking, walking, carpooling, or transit for commuting, personal, and/or work related.

There are great benefits to not driving alone in a personal vehicle including saving money in gas, saving wear and tear on your vehicle, reducing air pollution and carbon emissions, improving your overall health through walking and biking, reducing congestion, and if you are driving on the mainland, reducing stress and saving time! I've summarized a couple of personal examples and compared the cost and time to driving alone versus taking transit in the following chart.

<b>DRIVE ALONE</b> to downtown Seattle	<b>TAKE PUBLIC TRANSIT</b> from Coupeville Park and Ride to downtown Seattle (#1 Island Transit, Ferry, Community Transit 417)
<b>Total Cost = \$85</b> 114 miles round trip @ 50¢/mi = \$57 Parking \$14 Ferry \$14 <b>Time: 2.5 hours</b> (longer if accidents)	<b>Total Cost = \$11.10</b> Bus = \$7 Ferry = \$4.10 <b>Time: 2.5 hours</b> and very relaxing!
<b>DRIVE ALONE</b> to Mt. Vernon	<b>TAKE PUBLIC TRANSIT</b> from Coupeville (#6 Island transit to Oak Harbor, 411W from Oak Harbor to Mt. Vernon Transit Station)
<b>Total Cost = \$40</b> 80 miles @ 50¢/mile <b>Time: 1 hour</b>	<b>Total Cost = \$0.00 or ZERO Dollars!</b> <b>Time: 1 hour and 30 min</b>



### "GIVE YOUR CAR A REST" STORY

#### Julie Grove, DMD, Coupeville Dental Clinic

Julie rides her electric bike to Work under leg power for most of the trip but uses a "power boost" to get her up the big hills. Julie's electric bike can go 20 mph for 20 miles and can go anywhere a bike can go.

Julie sees many benefits from this mode of transportation including reducing pollution and wear and tear on her car, maintaining her health through exercise, and setting a good example in the community especially with the young people.

## Basic Tips for Riding Transit

If you don't ride public transportation very often it can be intimidating. Below are a few key tips to help make the experience more enjoyable.

- Map out your route at least 1 day in advance; including times, locations for pick up and drop off, and cost. Google maps is helpful to map out your transit route but in some cases you won't find the transit agency on google maps (i.e. Community Transit in Everett) so you must go directly to the transit website for route information and in some cases you must call customer service. Island transit customer service can be very helpful and is a good place to start!
- If you don't know exactly where a bus will pick you up contact the transit agency to ask. They are more than happy to assist you!
- If you are picking up a bus in the dark hours bring a small light to flash at the driver so you can be seen.
- Have the exact change with you for buses when you get off island (remember Island Transit is fare-free but off-island transit is not).
- Bring a reading lamp if you are riding in the dark.
- Sit back and relax and enjoy the ride and/or your neighbors. It really is much more relaxing than driving your own vehicle for miles in traffic.
- Log your alternative trip onto [www.rideshareonline.com](http://www.rideshareonline.com)!



### "GIVE YOUR CAR A REST" STORY

**Bill Oakes**  
Public Works Director,  
Parks Director and  
County Engineer for  
Island County

Bill rides his bike to work 3-5 days/week all year. This helps Bill stay in better shape and good health, reduce gasoline consumption, and wear and tear on his car, and be a good example to the county employees and community.

## PSE Making Power-Use Monitors Available for Check-Out to Sno-Isle Library Customers

Whidbey Island library customers will be able to check-out electricity monitors for one week at a time at the Coupeville and Freeland Sno-Isle branches. PSE is providing devices on loan as part of a year-long energy-efficiency pilot program.

The Coupeville and Freeland libraries will each have 2 PowerCost Monitors and one Kill-A-Watt EZ monitor. The monitors work in slightly different ways. With the PowerCost Monitor, you will be able to see your home's total energy usage in real time. With the flip of a toggle, you can see usage in Killowatt-hours or in dollars. By turning on and off different household appliances you can see how much power is being used and can be saved.

With the Kill-A-Watt monitor, you can view the energy usage of a single household appliance at a time. You simply plug the meter into your 110volt outlet and your appliance into the Kill-A-Watt meter. Over time you will be able to see how much energy is used in KWH.

For more information on the monitors or to learn about PSE's rebates and residential energy efficiency programs, call a PSE Energy advisor at 1-800-562-1482.

### Island Holiday Shopping Shuttle

Every Sunday from Thanksgiving to Christmas Day the Whidbey Seatac Shuttle will be operating a FREE Island Shuttle for the Holiday Season in support of Whidbey Island Merchants and residents. Every Holiday Shopping Shuttle is FREE of charge. However, a "donation" box will be placed in each shuttle to encourage riders to make a donation. 100% of EVERY donation will go to the Help House and Good Cheer Food Banks. (Help us help Whidbey Island Residents in need)

#### SOUTHBOUND

Oak Harbor (Key Bank/Ace Hardware)	9:00 am	10:30 am	12:30 pm	2:00 pm
Coupeville (Christopher's on Coveland)	9:15 am	10:45 am	12:45 am	2:15 pm
Greenbank (Greenbank Farm)	9:30 am	11:00 am	1:00 pm	2:30 pm
Freeland (Freeland Visitor's Center)	9:45 am	11:15 am	1:15 am	2:45 pm
Langley (Langley Visitor's Center)	10:00 am	11:30 am	1:30 pm	3:00 pm
Clinton Ferry (Terminal Building)	10:15 am	11:45 am	1:45 pm	3:15 pm

#### NORTHBOUND

ClintonFerry	10:30 am	12:00 pm	2:00 pm	3:30 pm
Langley	10:45 pm	12:15 pm	2:15 pm	3:45 pm
Freeland	11:00 am	12:30 pm	2:30 pm	4:00 pm
Greenbank	11:15 am	12:45 pm	2:45 pm	4:15 pm
Coupeville	11:30 am	1:00 pm	3:00 pm	4:30 pm



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