STATE EMPLOYEES URGED TO USE RIDESHARE PROGRAM

Charleston, W.Va. – With gasoline prices remaining high in West Virginia, state officials want to make sure public workers are aware of the Division of Energy’s RideShare program. The online directory makes it easy for people who are interested in starting a carpool to find other state workers who live in their area.

On February 28, the AAA Fuel Gauge listed the average cost for a gallon of unleaded gasoline in West Virginia at $3.50.

“People can save a significant amount of money by sharing the costs of driving to work with a group, or even with just one other person,” said Director of Energy Jeff Herholdt. “All it takes is a quick search of the database and you may find several people in your area who are making the same drive you are at the same time.”

The directory lists more than 30 areas of the state from which commuters travel to work in Charleston. When registering for the directory, state workers can list their days/hours and smoking preferences. The directory also features a “cost of commuting” calculator for potential carpoolers to see just how much the RideShare program could save them. There is also a list of guidelines for carpoolers to make sure it’s a smooth ride for everyone.

To register for the program or find a RideShare partner, go online to <http://www.wvcommerce.org/directory/rideshare.aspx>.

For more information about energy-efficient vehicles, click <http://www.wvcommerce.org/energy/energy_efficiency/vehicle/default.aspx>.

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