

Naval Support Activity Bethesda Commuter News

Important Events

November 2011

November 10

-Transit Benefit Workshop

Building 1 Room 1643

1230

SmartBenefit Program

Starting, Tue, Nov 1, all transit benefits are now distributed monthly directly on to a SmarTrip card or the benefit will be routed to a non SmarTrip enabled provider such as VRE, MARC or MTA Commuter Buses.

In order for this to happen, all participants need to make a claim for their benefit at <https://mtbp.whs.mil/> between the first and fifteenth of every month for the following month. If this does not happen, you forfeit your benefit for the following month.

If you are enrolled in the transit benefit program and did not make a claim between

October 1-15, you will not receive transit benefits for November. Please contact Ryan Emery at ryan.emery@med.navy.mil for assistance in ensuring you are registered for the December benefit period.

Steps involved in registering for the Smart-Benefit program include registering a SmarTrip card at the www.wmata.com website and at the Washington Headquarter Services website. Additional steps are involved for those using the MARC, VRE or MTA Commuter buses and can be found at:

<http://www.whs.mil/DFD/Info/allocate.cfm>

Claim Schedule

Claim Period —> Benefit Period

October 1-15 —> November

November 1-15 —> December

December 1-15 —> January

January 1-15 —> February

February 1-15 —> March

March 1-15 —> April

Claim Period —> Benefit Period

April 1-15 —> May

May 1-15 —> June

June 1-15 —> July

July 1-15 —> August

August 1-15 —> September

September 1-15 —> October

Inside this issue:

In the Spotlight 2

Commuter News 2

Guaranteed Ride Home

Do you need a Guaranteed Ride Home for life emergencies that always seem to pop up when you least expect them to?

Do you sometimes have days when you have to work unscheduled overtime?

Commuter Connections runs a program that offers up to four FREE rides home per year for anyone who works in the National Capital Region. Eligible participants must commute up to two times per week by carpool, vanpool, bike, walk or mass transit. Participants can live in Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland and portions of Pennsylvania.

The program is designed to act as a lifeline to set the mind of commuters who use mass transit or carpools at ease, knowing there is a way to get home.

The program is available weekdays from 0600-2200.

To register for the program follow this link:

<http://www.mwcog.org/commuter2/commuter/grh/index.html>

Once you have come to this webpage you will create a Commuter Connections account in which you will enter your contact information, work schedule and your supervisor's contact information.

After you are enrolled you will receive a registration card in the mail with the phone number to call in case of an emergency and your participant ID number.



Commuter Train Options. . .

In the Spotlight MARC & VRE

Do you live close by to Manassas VA, Martinsburg WV or Baltimore MD?

Commuter Trains operate from these towns and provide a relaxing way to get to work. Drop off points vary from Rockville Metro station to Union station where you can pick up the Red Line for a quick commute to work.

MARC is a service operated by the Maryland Transportation Administration (MTA). The Brunswick line starts in Martinsburg WV and runs to Union Station. The Penn and Camden line start from Baltimore and end at Union Station.

VRE is a service operated by a joint partnership of NVTC and PRTC, transportation committees run by the state of Virginia.

VRE operates train lines from Manassas VA and Fredericksburg VA. Both end up at Union Station.

To pay for the train and the metro, you will need to obtain a Transit Link Card. This card provides you unlimited number of trips on the VRE or MARC and the Metro on a monthly

basis. This can be paid for with funds from the Transit Benefit Program

For detailed information on the transit link card costs please navigate to Commuter Direct by clicking on this link:

<https://www.commuterpage.com/>

To apply for the transit benefit please visit this website:

<http://www.whs.mil/DFD/Info/NCRTransitSubsidy.cfm>



Commuter News



- A traffic signal will be in operation at University Gate (Gate 5) in mid to late November. The signal will initially be on flash mode for several days until the full operation is established.
- Ceremonies will take place in mid November that will reduce the number of available parking spaces. Please be on the lookout for upcoming all hands messages.
- To stay up to the minute on news that affects your commute on Metrorail or Metrobus, please visit this page regularly: http://www.wmata.com/about_metro/news/

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