

Bike to Work Week Registration is Open!

Registration is now open for Bike to Work Week, May 15 -19, and Bike to Work Day, May 19! The first 150 registrants will receive a Bike to Work Week t-shirt. Registrants that log their miles at the end of the week will be entered into a drawing for great prizes.



This year, we've made a few changes to the Bike to Work Week Page, made registration easier, and have updated the employer team challenge.

Employer Teams consist of up to 5 members. Employers with more than 5 participants, can form more teams and compete against each other. At the end of Bike to Work Week, team members have to log their miles and the number of days. The winners will be chosen based on the highest team trip average. If there is a tie between teams, the winner will be the team with the highest mile average. The winning team will be awarded a Golden Wheels Award and each team member will receive a \$25.00 gift card.

For more information on Bike to Work Week and to check out the changes go to gmtma.org.

If you are interested in being a sponsor for the event, please [contact us](#).

Quick Links

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Ocean Ride Celebrates 40th Anniversary

The Ocean County transportation service was founded on April 17, 1977 to address the transportation needs of seniors by the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders who offered guidance, support, and funding. The demand response service was known as Ocean County Handicapped and Elderly Transportation Service (OCHETS).



New bus



Old bus

The fixed route service, that is open to the general public to ride, started in 1980 was named Ocean County Area Transportation (OCAT). In 2000 both services were renamed Ocean Ride.

The OCHETS service started with 2 Vans and 4 drivers, and it was funded through a grant made possible by the federal Older Americans Act. The population served was area patients who needed to go to the hospital for kidney dialysis, cancer cobalt, and chemotherapy treatments.

Today the service has 72 vehicles and 82 drivers and provides a variety of trip purposes, from medical to employment, shopping and education Ocean Ride has provided more than 8 million passenger trips. In 2016 alone, Ocean Ride traveled **1,436,761 miles**.

Congratulations to Ocean Ride on forty years of service to the residents of Ocean County! For more information about the service, [click here](#).

Environmental Education



Kindergartners at Riverside School in Princeton learned about air quality with a fun, science-filled presentation by GMTMA. The presentation introduced air, air particle relative size, air weight and introduced the concept of air pollution with a fun food dye experiment. Then children learned how idling is contributing to air pollution by playing a game.

The second round of play introduced students to traffic jams and how taking the bus can help reduce congestion and improve air quality. At the end of the presentation students were able to see the connection between their transportation choices, air pollution, breathing difficulties, and asthma.

Travel Training at Lawrence Senior Center and Newgrange School

This March, Greater Mercer TMA was at the Lawrence Senior Center where approximately 50 seniors attended a Transit 101 presentation, learning how to use transit and the transit and Travel Options available in Mercer County.

GMTMA and NJTIP@Rutgers teamed up for a two-part travel training program at the Newgrange School. The first part of the program was a classroom presentation on how to use transit and during the second part the students were able to take what they learned in the classroom and use it with a trip on NJ TRANSIT's 609 bus to Quakerbridge Mall where they enjoyed lunch at the food court.



If you are interested in organizing a travel training program at your location, please [contact us](#).

NJ Transit Useful Information

Lost & Found - NJ Transit encourages commuters to sign their weekly or monthly pass and leave a business card or a tag with contact information attached to personal items to make it easier for NJ Transit personnel to reach the owners of the lost items. To retrieve a lost item, commuters can go to njtransit.com, "Contact Us", and click on "Lost&Found" and enter the lost item in the database. You can also report a lost item at one of the NJ Transit Customer Service Offices or by phone at (973)275-5555.

Access Link - The NJ Transit paratransit service has a separate new homepage. <https://accesslink.njtransit.com/hiwire?.a=pViewTrips> Eligible customers can now log in and check the status of their ride, cancel a ride, get information about upcoming rides, update personal information, and check on the estimated arrival time. NJ Transit is in the course of planning even more upgrades to the new page.

April is National Distracted Driving Awareness Month

April 3, 2017 law enforcement began crack down on motorists who text while driving. In New Jersey, police departments will ticket anyone using a mobile phone improperly. Fines range from \$200 for a first offense to \$800, motor vehicle points and possible license suspension for a third offense. More information available at state.nj.us and distraction.gov. Drive safe, be safe!

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