



Ride On Newsletter

April 2025

Ride On Buses Will Have Free Fares in Support of Earth Day on Tuesday, April 22



The Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) will offer free rides on County buses including Ride On, Ride On extRa, Ride On Flex and Ride On Flash on Tuesday, April 22 in support of Earth Day. Ride On buses will waive the \$1 fare to encourage use of public transportation. Regular fares will be required on Metrobus. Riders who want to try Ride On Flex can [download the Ride On Flex](#) app for free from the Apple or Google store or contact the call center at 240-301-3842. Ride On offers a free trip planning app, [Ride On Trip Planner](#), that provides transportation planning across multiple modes regionally, including Metro and Bikeshare, and gives estimated travel times and costs.

The international theme for Earth Month and Earth Day on April 22 is “[Our Power, Our Planet](#).” The theme invites everyone around the globe to unite behind renewable energy and to triple the global generation of clean electricity by 2030. There is no better time to try out environmentally friendly forms of transportation. While all bus service saves emissions over independent car travel, MCDOT is committed to a zero-emission bus fleet and has released a Zero Emission Bus

(ZEB) Transition Plan in collaboration with the County Department of General Services (DGS) to convert the County's transit fleet of nearly 400 Ride On buses by 2035. The department has 14 electric buses in operation currently and has a contract for the purchase of 100 additional electric vehicles.

The ZEB plan is purposely flexible to accommodate for emerging technology and relies heavily on State and Federal grants that MCDOT has so far been successful in receiving. The County has secured a contract to purchase additional battery electric buses, however, the range limitations of current battery electric vehicles present a challenge for current longer-range bus routes. Alternative technology is being sought to compensate for these longer-range needs. In October 2022, the County unveiled what at the time was the nation's largest solar-powered microgrid for charging of public buses at the Brookville bus depot in Silver Spring. The Brookville microgrid can charge up to 70 battery electric buses with solar power. In 2023, MCDOT secured a federal grant for its first 13 hydrogen buses and a clean hydrogen fueling station at the Gaithersburg bus depot. DGS is leading the implementation of the even larger microgrid that broke ground in June 2024 at the Gaithersburg bus depot to power the hydrogen bus project and provide additional charging infrastructure for electric buses.

The Gaithersburg depot Equipment Maintenance and Transit Operation Center (EMTOC) microgrid project will be the largest renewable energy-powered zero-emission bus depot in the nation, the first on the East Coast to produce green hydrogen on-site, and the sixth microgrid for the County. EMTOC will set a new standard for resilient, sustainable public transit, advancing the County's ambitious climate goal of reaching 100 percent reduction in carbon emissions by 2035. This 5.5-megawatt microgrid project, delivered for zero upfront costs via Energy as a Service (EaaS), will feature solar arrays, electric bus chargers and battery energy storage, enabling the depot to operate indefinitely in "island mode." It will also include a 1-megawatt hydrogen electrolyzer that will be powered by on site renewable energy. The EMTOC depot will eventually power 200 zero emissions buses. It is currently the County Department of Transportation's largest fuel user. For more information and to view the Zero Emissions Bus Transition Plan, visit the [website](#).

"What Drives You" March Madness Winning Entries Announced



Ride On's "What Drives You" contest celebrated the excitement of the March Madness season by selecting weekly winners throughout March. Each winner received a prize package including a \$50 Visa gift card, a "What Drives You" t-shirt, and assorted Ride On giveaways.

The first of our selected weekly winners was Leonard, who has been an avid Ride On rider since 1979, just four years after its inception.

"Believe it or not, my late father drove buses for Ride On in 1978, so I developed an interest in Ride On. He would bring home Ride On bus schedules, and I would read each one until I had memorized each of the routes operating from Wheaton to Silver Spring. Although I have never operated a motor vehicle, I have relied on my know-how of Ride On to get me where I have to go.

"I think Ride On is an excellent public transportation mode and I have developed a very good understanding of Ride On. Ride On is not only affordable, but I would encourage anyone to consider using Ride On as a mode of public transportation. They will be glad they did, and I am glad I ride this particular mode of public transportation. Ride On, you rock!"

The second winner in our March Madness promotion was Johmar, who recently moved to the United States with his family from South America.

"My family moved to Montgomery County three weeks ago from South America, and Ride On is helping us to get around our new home. The buses are always clean and user-friendly, which is a nice change compared to the buses in our home country. We use the app to plan our trips and soon we're going to get my children Youth Cruiser SmarTrip cards so that they can travel for free. We really enjoy riding

on your buses! You have great bus drivers that makes our days better with their good mood and positive vibes."

The winner of week three was Susana, who uses Ride On as a vital link to life in Montgomery County.

"I'm an immigrant woman with limited resources—no personal transportation and little money. Before Ride On, getting to work or even essential appointments was a daily struggle. Ride On didn't just provide me a ride, it gave me hope, improved my access to opportunities, and restored my sense of independence. Their support has made a real, lasting difference in my life."

Our last winner was Kellie, a school health tech with MCPS who uses the Ride On Real Time app to plan trips to schools in dense neighborhoods.

"I have been an employee of Montgomery County School Health Services, DHHS for 20 years. Through the years I have relied on the Ride On bus service to take me to my many school destinations. I have always loved the that Ride On can get you into the many cavernous neighborhoods of Montgomery County where the regular buses cannot go.

"These are the places where many of my school assignments have been located. As a School Health Tech, being on time to my school health rooms has been of the utmost importance. Planning my travel strategies with the Ride On "Real Time" app has been a tool that I can depend upon for efficient management of arrivals and departures. Ride On is among one of the greatest resources that Montgomery County has to offer!"

In our 50 years of service, Ride On has touched the lives of millions of riders. Our monthly contest is still running, and we'd love to hear the story of how Ride On has impacted your life for the better!

Share your story with us in one of the three ways listed below to win a prize package including gift cards and Ride On giveaways.

1. Share your story on our website submission page by clicking [here](#).
2. Post your story on Instagram, X (Twitter), or Facebook and tag the @RideOnMCT account.
3. Email your experience to rideon.customerservice@montgomerycountymd.gov for a chance to win.

Eligible entries may be used to further publicize the contest. Contest will run indefinitely, with a winner chosen each month. Winners will be announced via email, Facebook, Instagram, X, and Bluesky within a week of the end of a month.

New Ride On User Guide Now Available in English, Spanish, and More Languages

Ride On Flex is the first on-demand public transit service operating in select zones in Glenmont/Hawthorne and Rockville. The service allows riders to request a pickup using the Ride On Flex app and be dropped off within the Flex zone, connecting passengers to transit hubs, commercial centers, public services and their homes. Ride On Flex has no fixed stops or fixed schedules - it comes when you book a same-day ride during regular service hours, offering a flexible alternative to traditional bus routes while maintaining the 15-minute Ride On fare. Flex buses feature wheelchair accessibility and free Wi-Fi. Download the Ride On Flex mobile app or ride in the Glenmont/Hawthorne and Rockville zones, or book a ride by calling 202.301.3882, Monday to Friday from 8 am to 7 pm.

Ride On Flash is the county's Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) service designed to provide faster and more frequent travel along the Route 29 corridor between Silver Spring and Burtonsville. Flash buses feature unique boarding with multiple entry points and level boarding for ease of access, as well as off-board fare payment, where passengers pay at the Flash station before boarding using a SmartTrip card, the SmartTrip app, or by purchasing a ticket. With dedicated bus lanes, transit signal priority (TSP) and bike racks, the Ride On Flash is designed for speed and efficiency. Additional BRT service is planned for other major corridors in the future.

Ride With Us Today!!
RideOnBus.com

Fares

Description	Fare
Regular Fare, Ticket, or SmartTrip®	\$1.00
Ride On Bus to Metrobus Transfer with SmartTrip®	\$1.25
Metrobus to Ride On Bus Transfer	\$1.00
Ride On Monthly Pass	\$22.00
Seniors age 65 years or older ride free on all Routes with the Senior SmartTrip card, valid Metro Senior ID Card or with valid Medicare Card and Photo ID	FREE
Persons with disability with a Metro Disabled Identification Card ride free on all Routes	FREE
Metropolitan Council Customer with ID	FREE
Metropolitan Council Customer with ID	FREE
Ride On Free on all Routes with Youth Greater SmartTrip Card	FREE
MTA & MARC Weekly and Monthly Bus and Not Passes & Transit Link Cards (TLQ)	FREE
Children under age 5	FREE
Ride On to Ride On Bus Transfer with SmartTrip®	FREE
Metrobus to Ride On Bus Transfer	FREE
VerGo Shuttle - Route 29 - Downtown Silver Spring	FREE
Beltsville Connector	FREE

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Ride On User Guide

Connect with us

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Send Alerts: MontgomeryCountyMD.gov/alerts
Text Alerts: Text MONTGOMERY FLEXION to 488311

MCDOT **Ride On**

Ride On is Montgomery County's primary public bus service offering convenient, safe, and affordable public transportation across the county including weekends and holidays. The Division of Transit Services plans, schedules and manages the County's Ride On bus system consisting of over 300 routes. Ride On serves key destinations such as Metro stations, shopping centers, schools, businesses, healthcare, and more. Ride On also offers a bus fare of just \$1 and an easy-to-use, real-time tracking mobile app, the Ride On Trip Planner app, available in the Google Play and Apple app stores, and on our website.

Ride On extra is our popular limited-stop service providing faster travel along the routes it serves. The service operates with fewer stops than regular Ride On service, cutting down travel time during peak hours. Ride On extra buses offer free Wi-Fi and USB charging ports on board for an added convenience. Ride On extra Route 107 offers 15-minute service along MD 305 from Lakeforest Transit Center to the Medical Center Metro Station. Route 107 runs every 20 minutes during peak periods, Monday through Friday. In addition, new Line and Pink Routes, which launched in September 2021 as part of the Great Service Transit Network, will between the Grady-Govine Metro Station, the Great Seneca Life Sciences Center and the University of Maryland. The Line and Pink routes overlap with Ride On Routes 43, 45, and 46, cutting travel time 15 minutes during weekday peak hours and every 20 minutes on the weekends. Look for extra routes and other major corridors in the future.

CHECK OUT THE NEW RIDE ON USER GUIDE

Ride On Montgomery County Transit **MCDOT**

RideOnBus.com

Montgomery County is known for its vibrant and diverse population with over 180 languages spoken in the area. Ensuring Ride On's services are accessible to everyone is crucial. In an effort to better serve Montgomery County's diverse community, Ride On is pleased to announce an update to our [User Guide](#), now available on our website in multiple languages! The updated User Guide is designed to make it easier for riders to learn how to successfully navigate the Ride On system and all of its services.

Ride On's new multilingual user guide reflects our dedication to making public transit easier and more accessible for Montgomery County residents. Whether you are a new or long-time rider, the updated User Guide is an essential tool. The User guide is packed with important information including fares, transfers, how to ride the bus, trip planning tools like the [Ride On Trip Planner App](#), SmarTrip instructions, locating the [Ride On system map](#), accessibility compliance, [routes and schedules information](#), as well as a breakdown of Ride On services - [Ride On Flex](#), [Ride On extRa](#), and [Ride On Flash](#).

Available in 8 languages - English, Spanish, French, Korean, Mandarin, Vietnamese, Hindi, and Amharic, the new Ride On User Guide allows even more riders to travel with confidence, knowledge, and ease. The User Guide is currently online only and will soon be available in print. Please view the updated User Guide on the [Ride On User Guide](#) webpage.

Celebrate Sustainability and Community on Two Wheels: Bike to Work Day 2025 Is Coming!



On Thursday, May 15, the streets and trails of our region will come alive with the energy of cyclists from all backgrounds as we celebrate Bike to Work Day 2025. This regional event is more than just a ride, it's a movement. Hosted by the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments' Commuter Connections program and the Washington Area Bicyclist Association (WABA), Bike to Work Day is an annual tradition that promotes healthier commuting, supports clean transportation, and builds a stronger sense of community across the DMV.

Whether you're a seasoned cyclist or just considering biking to work for the first time, Bike to Work Day is the perfect opportunity to give it a try. Thousands of participants are expected to hit the trails and roads this year, enjoying the fresh air, exercise, and camaraderie that comes with riding alongside others who are passionate about creating a more sustainable future.

As part of this celebration, more than 100 pit stops will be set up across the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia. These pit stops are fun, welcoming places where riders can take a break, grab some refreshments, and connect with local organizations that support cycling and sustainable transportation. Registered riders can also receive a free commemorative Bike to Work Day t-shirt (available to the first 18,000 registrants), along with giveaways and entries into regional raffles, including a chance to win a brand-new bicycle and other exciting prizes.

Ride On is Rolling Out the Welcome Mat

In Montgomery County, Ride On is proud to be a part of this regional event and will be hosting eight official pit stops throughout the county. Whether you're riding through Bethesda, Silver Spring, Germantown, or Wheaton, there's a welcoming spot nearby where you can stop in, meet fellow commuters, and learn more about how Ride On supports biking infrastructure and multimodal travel.

The Ride On team will be on-site at these pit stops to cheer you on and share resources about how public transit and cycling go hand in hand. It's a great opportunity to talk with transportation professionals, pick up some free Ride On swag, and learn about ongoing projects aimed at improving bike safety and access throughout Montgomery County.

You can visit Ride On at any of these Montgomery County pit stops:

- **Bethesda – Woodmont & Bethesda:** Corner of Woodmont & Bethesda Avenues near the Capital Crescent Trail, 6:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
- **Friendship Heights:** The Shops at Wisconsin Place (corner of Wisconsin & Western Ave, adjacent to Metro station), 6:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
- **North Bethesda at Pike & Rose:** West of 935 Prose Street & Parking Lot (behind Pinstripes, next to Bark Social), 6:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
- **Rockville Falls Grove – Thomas Farm Community Center:** 700 Falls Grove Drive (Located in Falls Grove Stream Valley Park), 6:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
- **Wheaton – Marian Fryer Plaza:** 2425 Reddie Drive, Wheaton, 7:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
- **Germantown – BlackRock Center for the Arts:** 12901 Town Commons Drive, 7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.
- **Rockville Town Center – Rockville Town Square:** 36 Maryland Avenue, 6:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
- **Silver Spring – Veterans Plaza:** 8525 Fenton Street, Silver Spring, 6:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

These pit stops are more than just a snack break, they're a chance to celebrate the progress our community has made in building bike-friendly environments and to envision what an even more sustainable future could look like.

Register Today

If you've never participated in Bike to Work Day before, this is the year to start. If you're a returning rider, we can't wait to see you again. Registration is completely

free and now open at www.biketoworkmetrodc.org. Once you register, be sure to choose your preferred pit stop and plan your route in advance.

Together, let's make this year's Bike to Work Day the biggest and most inspiring yet. We hope to see you out on the trails, at the pit stops, and joining us in shaping a healthier, more connected Montgomery County one pedal at a time.

Celebrating the Heartbeat of Our Communities: National Transportation Week 2025



The week of May 11 to May 17, Ride On recognizes something that touches every corner of our lives: transportation. Whether you hop on a Ride On bus, bike to work, take the Metro, or simply walk to the store, you're part of a vast, connected network that keeps our communities thriving. From May 11 to May 17, we celebrate National Transportation Week, a time to spotlight the essential systems and the remarkable people who keep us all moving.

Transportation doesn't just happen. It's powered by people. At Ride On, we're proud to salute the unsung heroes who make your daily commutes, errands, and adventures possible. From our skilled bus operators, who navigate our roads with care, to our dispatchers, who coordinate routes behind the scenes, to our maintenance crews, who keep our fleet safe and running, each role is vital, and each person brings dedication to the job every single day. These individuals aren't just employees. They are community stewards. They are the early risers who start their shifts before dawn. The problem solvers who manage complex logistics. The friendly faces who greet you with a smile, rain or shine. Their commitment is what transforms a simple ride into a reliable, meaningful service.

National Transportation Week also challenges us to look ahead toward innovation, sustainability, and resilience. As our environment faces increasing pressures, Ride On is proud to be steering toward a cleaner future. Our mission? A 100% electric fleet by 2035. We're already on the road to reaching that goal, investing in electric buses and reimagining how transit can support cleaner air and healthier neighborhoods. By adopting eco-conscious practices, reducing emissions, and exploring smarter technologies, we're not just preparing for the future, we're shaping it.

Transportation is more than just getting from Point A to Point B; it's about access. It's about connection. It's about giving people the freedom to get to work, visit family, attend school, reach healthcare, and explore their world. This week, we invite you to take a moment to appreciate the systems that make our lives easier and the people who make them work. Try a new route, learn more about how your local bus system operates, or simply thank a driver who helps your day run smoother.

At Ride On, we believe in the power of mobility, and we believe in you, our community. Together, let's keep Montgomery County moving forward with purpose, sustainability, and heart.

Ride On Senior Corner: Senior SmarTrip Card



Seniors (65+) ride free within Montgomery County on all Ride On buses and most Metrobuses. In the region, seniors receive a 50% discount on fares for Metrorail, Metrobus and regional buses that accept SmarTrip. A government issued photo ID with proof of age is required to obtain the SmarTrip card.

Below are some frequently asked questions about the Senior SmarTrip card:

1. Where can I add stored value and passes to my Senior SmarTrip card?

Metrorail fare vending machine, online using your SmarTrip account or the SmarTrip Mobile App, or by visiting a sales location at select retail stores, like CVS Pharmacy, Giant Food and Commuter Stores.

2. Can I get a virtual Senior SmarTrip card on my mobile phone?

Yes. After you obtain a plastic Senior SmarTrip card, you can transfer it to your mobile phone's Apple Wallet or Google Pay by following the Mobile Pay instructions.

3. How do I replace a lost or damaged Senior SmarTrip card?

If you need a replacement card immediately, then you can get one at any of the in person locations.

4. I obtained a Senior SmarTrip card prior to the \$2.00 card fee waiver that started on January 16, 2024. Will my \$2.00 card fee be reimbursed?

No.

5. Can I get another Senior SmarTrip card if I already have one?

No. Each eligible customers (65 and older) can only have one active Senior SmarTrip card at a time.

Senior SmarTrip cards are available at all County libraries, TRiPS stores, and the County Treasury office in Rockville. Please bring a proof of age. Get yours and ride free on all Ride On buses and most Metrobuses in the County.

Help Fight Hunger During Ride On's Annual Food Drive – May 25–31, 2025



Montgomery County Ride On is proud to announce its annual Give and Ride Food Drive, taking place this year from Sunday, May 25 through Saturday, May 31, 2025. This community-focused event offers a simple and impactful way to give back while riding with us.

What Is the Give and Ride Food Drive?

During the food drive week, Ride On will be collecting non-perishable food donations on all Ride On buses throughout the county. Riders who donate **non-perishable food items** when boarding will be able to **ride for free** that day. It's a small gesture that makes a big difference in the lives of our neighbors in need.

How to Participate

- Bring a **non-perishable food item** with you when you board any Ride On bus between May 25 and May 31.
- Drop your donation in the marked collection bag near the front of the bus.
- Enjoy your ride—**fare-free**—as our thanks for helping support local families.

All donations will go to the **Manna Food Center**, Montgomery County's largest food bank, which distributes nutritious food to those experiencing food insecurity.

What to Donate

Preferred donation items include:

- Canned vegetables, fruits, and soups
- Peanut butter and jelly
- Pasta, rice, and cereal
- Shelf-stable milk and juice
- Baby food and formula

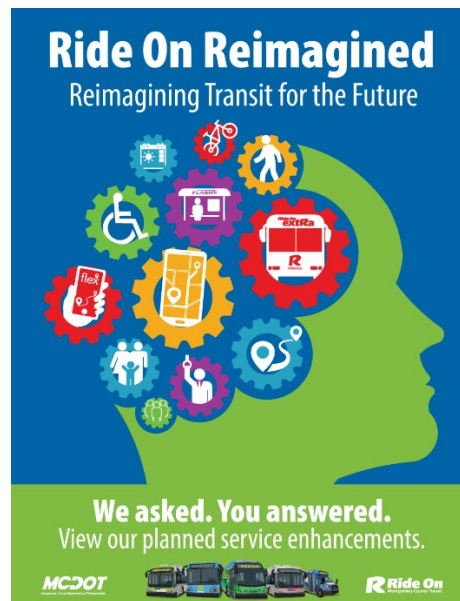
Please avoid donating items in glass containers or those that are expired or opened.

Why It Matters

Each year, the Ride On food drive collects thousands of pounds of food to support Montgomery County residents. With food insecurity continuing to affect many families, your contribution—no matter how small—can make a big difference.

Join Ride On and your fellow community members as we ride together for a cause. Let's fill the buses with generosity and help put food on every table in Montgomery County!

Building a Better Ride On: Ride On Reimagined Study Year 1 Implementation Begins June 29th



The Ride On Reimagined Service and Implementation Plan is set to transform public transportation in Montgomery County by making it more efficient, accessible, and aligned with the needs of the community. The implementation of the Ride On Reimagined Service and Implementation Plan will take place in phases beginning with the launch of the Year 1 Network on June 29, 2025, which will introduce route enhancements and service adjustments. The Year 1 network allows for immediate changes already allocated for in the county's budget and doesn't require any additional funding. These improvements will be achieved by optimizing existing routes, better integration with Metrobus, and allocating resources to high demand areas.

The Year 1 Network consists of several key elements including:

- **Route 10:** This route will be discontinued and replaced by new Metrobus routes M12, M42, M44, and M60 as part of WMATA's Better Bus network redesign.
- **Route 34:** This route will continue to provide service between Bethesda, Medical Center, and Wheaton Metro Stations. The current routing between Wheaton and Bethesda will remain the same. Ride On 41 will provide service between Aspen Hill and Wheaton. Metrobus D96 will service between Bethesda and Friendship Heights Metro Stations. Route 34 will also be streamlined to remain on Connecticut Avenue between Veirs Mill Road and University Boulevard as a replacement for the Metrobus Route L8 along this corridor.

- **Route 40:** In anticipation of the Veirs Mill Road BRT, Ride On will introduce the new Route 40, previously referred to as the M10 in WMATA's Bus Network Redesign materials. Route 40 will replace WMATA's discontinued Q2, Q4, and Q6 routes, operating between Wheaton and Montgomery College Rockville.
- **Route 41:** Ride On Route 41 will be extended south to Wheaton to replace Route 34 and L8 service on parts of Connecticut Avenue. Service will be provided between Glenmont and Wheaton Station via Weller Road, Connecticut Avenue, Plyers Mill Road, and Georgia Avenue.
- **Route 42:** This route will run between North Bethesda Station and Montgomery Mall Transit Center; service to Boiling Brook Parkway & Bolger Center will be discontinued. Ride On 38 will provide service on Boiling Brook Pkwy. Metrobus M42 & M44 will stop at Parklawn Drive and Parklawn Drive and end at North Bethesda Station. The existing Metrobus Route T2 will be replaced with the Metrobus Route M82 in WMATA's Year 1 network.

As Ride On celebrates 50 years of service, Ride On Reimagined reflects a renewed commitment to serving Montgomery County. This is the first step of the Ride On Reimagined Service and Implementation Plan and will deliver tangible benefits for the thousands of Montgomery County riders who rely on Ride On, such as more reliable service, shorter wait times, stronger connections with Metrobus, and providing more value without increasing costs for our riders. Montgomery County residents are encouraged to review the final report to understand the upcoming improvements and how they can benefit from the redesigned network. To learn more about the plan and how it will shape the future of public transportation in Montgomery County, read the [Ride On Reimagined Final Report](#).

Take Ride On to Local Farmers Markets



The weather is warming up and the flowers are blooming; it's the perfect time to pick up some fresh food at a local farmers market in Montgomery County! Whether you're looking for a farmers market Up County or closer to the District line, Ride On provides a reliable way to get there. See the list below for some farmers markets that are accessible by Ride On bus.

Remember, Ride On riders with disabilities, age 65+, or under age 19 ride for free 24/7, 365. For more information on discounted fares for these audiences, visit [here](#).

- [City of Rockville Farmer's Market](#): Saturdays, May 17 - November 22 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Jury Parking Lot on the corner of Route 28 and Monroe Street. Take Ride On Routes 44, 47, or 56 to reach this market.
- [Kensington Farmers Market](#): Open Saturdays year-round from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at 3701 Howard Avenue in Kensington. Take Ride On Routes 4 or 33 to get to Kensington Farmer's Market.
- [Bethesda Central Farm Market](#): Open Sundays year-round from 9 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at Bethesda Elementary School (7600 Arlington Road). Take Ride On Routes 29 or 32 to visit this market.
- [Derwood Farmer's Market](#): Open Saturdays May 3 - October 11 from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. at 16501 Redland Road in Rockville. Take Ride On Routes 53 or 57 to get to this market.
- [Olney Farmers & Artists Market](#): Open Saturdays year-round from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Olney-Sandy Spring Rd (Rt 108) at Prince Philip Drive on the Medstar Montgomery Hospital Thrift Shop grounds. Take Ride On Route 52 to get to this Olney market.

Metro Lift Program Offers Options For Low Income Riders



Metro offers reduced fares to assist low-income customers. The income-qualified reduced fare program, 'Metro Lift', launched in 2023. Customers who qualify for the

US Department of Agriculture's Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program (SNAP) are eligible to enroll.

Approved by Metro's Board of Directors in the fiscal year 2024 budget, the program advances transit equity and affordability in a region considered one of the most expensive in the nation and where low-income households face the greatest economic disparities. Customers enrolled in Metro Lift receive a 50 percent discount for any travel on Metrorail and Metrobus.

It is free to enroll in Metro Lift. Customers who qualify for Metro Lift must show that they are current recipients of SNAP benefits. The fare discount will be valid for one year after enrollment and will be available up to 48 hours after online enrollment, and immediately for those that enroll in person.

Enrollment Information

What you need

- SmarTrip® card for you and each member of your household being enrolled
- Active SNAP EBT (Electronic Benefits Transfer) card
- Copy of your SNAP proof of benefits (if you are applying for your household)
- Current photo identification (ID) card issued by the U.S., DC, Maryland, or Virginia
- Phone number

How to Enroll

Online

- Go to wmata.com/MetroLift.
- Complete the enrollment form for you and/or members of your SNAP household.
- Discount will be loaded to SmarTrip card up to 48 hours after enrollment.
- Use your SmarTrip card and go.

In-person

- Schedule an appointment to visit in-person enrollment centers.
 - Online at wmata.com/MetroLift; or
 - By Phone at 1-888-SmarTrip (888-762-7874).
- In-person enrollment will be available at the following locations:

- [L'Enfant Metro Transit Accessibility Center](#) 655 Virginia Ave SW, Washington, DC 20024
- [TRiPs - Commuter Store at Silver Spring Station](#) 8404 Colesville Rd, Silver Spring, MD 20910
- [Commuter Store at Rosslyn](#) 1810 N. Moore St, Arlington, VA 22209
- Bring required materials for you and/or your SNAP household members.
- Use your SmarTrip card and go.

Montgomery County's Participation

As the result of a detailed fare study, Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) began offering reduced fares to assist low-income customers (and all customers) on August 1, 2022, by reducing fares from \$2 to \$1.

Of Note

Ride On Offering Free Fares for Earth Day on April 22

The Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) is celebrating the 55th anniversary of Earth Day, **Tuesday, April 22** and will offer free rides on County buses including Ride On, Ride On extRa, Ride On Flex and Flash Bus Rapid Transit.

50th Anniversary Art Contest - Winners Coming Soon

Ride On's 50th Anniversary Art Contest came to a close on April 15. We received many beautiful and creative submissions, and judges are now in the process of reviewing those submissions. Don't worry, you won't have to wait long to find out which pieces have been chosen as winners; winning pieces will be announced on May 2! Stay connected on [X](#), [Facebook](#), [Bluesky](#), and [Instagram](#) to be the first to hear if you've won!

Transit Advisory Group is Recruiting!

The Transit Advisory Group is actively recruiting new members! If you or someone you know is interested, especially those who are disabled, high school students or bilingual, please visit our TAG webpage [here](#) to apply to be a member. Your membership is free, and you will have a chance to make a difference within Montgomery County. Let your voice be heard!!

Ride On and Metro Service Changes Coming in June

The Montgomery County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) is adjusting six Ride On bus routes on Sunday, June 29, to implement Year 1 of the Ride On Reimagined Study and ensure uninterrupted service amidst Metro's Better Bus Network changes. Routes 10, 29, 34, 41, 42, and 43 will be impacted, and a new Route 40 will be added. Stay tuned to RideOnBus.com or subscribe to our email alerts by visiting www.montgomerycountymd.gov/govdelivery. Text MONTGOMERY RIDEON to 468311 to receive text alerts.

Plan Your Next Trip with the Ride On Trip Planner

Have you downloaded the Ride On Trip Planner App yet? This new, innovative app allows riders to plan their next trip and to tell how crowded a Ride On bus is – before it arrives – with the crowdedness indicator on the app. Riders can choose if they want to get on the arriving bus, wait for the next bus depending on how many people are on the bus, or choose another travel option, such as other local transit services, bikeshare, and scooter. It gives riders more control over their transportation experience. The Ride On Trip Planner app is easy to use and can be downloaded from the [Google Play](#) or [Apple](#) app store, or accessed with our [desktop version](#).

Sign Up for Email and Text Alerts

Ride On communicates with customers directly through our email and text subscription service. Subscribing to these alerts means you'll get the latest Ride On service and program information sent straight to your inbox and/or cellphone. To subscribe, visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/govdelivery, or text MONTGOMERY RIDEON to 468311 to receive text alerts.

Transit Trivia!

Test your familiarity with Ride On's routes, services, and more with our transit trivia! The answer will be in next month's edition of our newsletter so make sure you tune in next month to see if you answered correctly!

Question:

What year does Ride On plan to have fully transitioned to an all-electric bus fleet?

1. 2026
2. 2029
3. 2030
4. 2035

Last month's question:

What day is National Transit Employee Appreciation Day?

1. March 7
2. March 18
3. March 19
4. March 31

Answer: (2.) March 18

For the most up-to-date service information, riders should follow @RideOnMCT on [X](#), [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), [Bluesky](#), and [Instagram](#). In addition, information is available at RideOnBus.com, by subscribing to receive email alerts at www.montgomerycountymd.gov/govdelivery, or texting MONTGOMERY RIDEON to 468311 to receive text alerts.

For information on MCDOT programs and services visit montgomerycountymd.gov/mcdot, follow @MCDOTNow on [X](#), [Facebook](#), [Bluesky](#) and [Instagram](#) and [subscribe](#) to MCDOT's "Go Montgomery!" newsletter.

If you need an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) reasonable accommodation to access Ride On bus service, contact MC311 by voice at 240-777-0311, by email RideOn.CustomerService@montgomerycountymd.gov or TTY 711.

Title VI: Montgomery County assures that no person shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin, as provided by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Civil Rights Act of 1987, be excluded from the participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity.