



A project of the Eden Mills Millpond Conservation Association Inc.

Newsletter # 44 October 5, 2010

**Do you sometimes feel like you live in your car?
Are there ways for Eden Millers to save money, CO₂ and stress?**

Workshop on Local Transportation Saturday, October 16 Eden Mills Community Hall

Our surveys have shown that we invest about 30% of our carbon emissions in local transportation.

There is no public transportation in Eden Mills.



What is the carbon price (to say nothing of the financial cost) of :

- **our comings and goings?**
- **our milk and school runs?**
- **our grocery shopping and our social life?**
- **our second cars?**

Some of us were talking about this the other day.

Tom Bowes asked: "I have a rapidly depreciating asset sitting in my driveway that I use fractionally and that I pay for fully. Is there anyone else in Eden Mills interested in sharing a car and the cost to make it useful and more efficient?"

Someone else followed up: "How many trips to Guelph do we take every day for chores and picking/dropping off our kids? If there was an easy way to carpool, wouldn't that all save us time and money?"

And then wondered: "There must be a least one person in Eden Mills who works in the same vicinity I do. Could I find someone in town to share the cost of commuting?"

Brian Skerrett joined in the conversation and confessed: "I feel guilty and embarrassed when Mary and I have taken 2 or 3 trips into Guelph that were really unnecessary if we had coordinated our plans more effectively!"

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Before we knew it, there were a million good questions. Someone else piped up: "I don't own a pickup truck or a van, but occasionally I need to buy materials for home renovations that won't fit in my car. Is there a less expensive way than renting?"

And then, another obvious need was expressed: "I'm elderly and could really use help occasionally to take me to my appointments. Is there a simple way for me to find a lift?"



"Surely," everyone agreed, "There must be practical ways for us as a community to address this issue? Let's work together to come up with some ways of saving time/trips/money and carbon emissions!!"

So, on Saturday, October 16, from 1 – 3 pm, let's get together to talk about:

- all aspects of this issue – from car pooling to public transportation, from zip cars to flying carpets.
- hard information we'll bring on some of the innovative ways other communities are making transportation more efficient.

And then let's start talking together, inventing new, practical and appealing ways to make our own Eden Mills changes!

For more information, please contact Jack Darmon 519-856-0588 or mailit2me@rogers.com.



This workshop is presented with the support of the Ontario Ministry of the Environment.

2010 Eden Mills Writers' Festival local book launches:

***So, You Want to Go Carbon Neutral? It Takes a Village!*
*Janet Wilson's Our Earth: How Kids are Saving the Planet.***

Please contact Janet to purchase a copy of her inspiring book (janet@janetwilson.ca).

You can read *So, You Want to Go Carbon Neutral?*, even turn the pages, on our website under Education. Thanks to everyone who cheered us on and made Festival visitors take notice at the Festival.