



March 10, 2011

RE: Transportation for Washington County Veterans

Washington County Disability, Aging and Veteran Services has recently teamed up with Ride Connection to address the unique transportation needs of veterans who live in Washington County and are seeking volunteer drivers who are veterans with a desire to serve their community.

This program is all about veterans serving veterans! This opportunity can mean the world to our veterans because it allows them the independence and freedom to get to crucial appointments. This volunteer transportation program helps buffer the loss of independence by providing a no-charge, personalized transportation service to veterans who can no longer drive or use public transportation.

How to get involved

Please support this effort by spreading the word about the opportunity to drive as a volunteer. The back of this sheet contains easy instructions on how to become a volunteer driver.

Volunteer drivers would use their own car or a Ride Connection vehicle to pick up a deserving veteran from their home and take them to essential appointments. The trips may include visits to their doctor or dentist or grocery shopping. In many cases, the only way our riders get out of their home is with the assistance of dedicated volunteer drivers!

If you or someone you know is interested, please call 503.528.1738 and identify yourself as wanting to be a veteran volunteer driver.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeffrey A. Hill".

Jeffrey A. Hill
DAVS Division Manager/AAA Director

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elaine Wells".

Elaine Wells
Ride Connection/Executive Director



Transportation for Washington County Veterans

Ride Connection teams up with Washington County Disability, Aging and Veterans Services to serve our veterans' transportation needs.

We need volunteer drivers!

We welcome your interest in becoming a volunteer driver to serve Veterans of Washington County! If you have any extra time and you are willing to drive, either in your own car or a Ride Connection vehicle please consider this opportunity.

Steps to take to become a Volunteer Driver:

- Contact Ride Connection for a volunteer driver application. Applications are available:
 - At the Ride Connection website www.rideconnection.org or
 - By simply calling 503-528-1738 to have one sent to you.
- Complete and return driver application.

Program Particulars

- As a volunteer driver, you must have no more than two moving violations or collisions within the last three years and be able to pass a Criminal Background Check. We will ask you to complete a release form that authorizes us to verify this information.
- A Ride representative in Washington County will call you to schedule an interview where you will learn the specifics about the volunteer opportunity.
- Attend the required training sessions within the first six months of being involved with your program which include:

Vehicle Orientation and Road Test - To orient you to basics of the vehicle you will be driving and provides information on wheelchair securement procedures. The training must be completed **prior** to transporting customers.

Safe at Any Age – A four hour course, which reviews basic defensive driving skills, encourages sharing the road, and updates drivers on current Oregon traffic laws. Drivers who are 55 years of age or older have the option of attending an additional two hours of training which addresses the physical and mental factors that may affect driving ability and how we can compensate for the normal effects of aging behind the wheel.

The Best Ride: A Passenger Care and Assistance Workshop - A four hour course designed to provide drivers with a basic understanding of some of the physical and psychological differences that may affect their customers and offer tips to assure a positive experience for all involved.