

Who can ride?

This shared ride service is for residents of the James Steam Mill, located at 1 Charles St., and Heritage House, located at 32 Low St., as well as Plum Island residents who live along the original Route 51 bus route.

Any restrictions once on board?

For safety sake, all riders must wear seatbelts. Refusing to buckle up means the driver cannot give you a ride. To help keep the van tidy, please refrain from smoking, eating and drinking during your ride.

Unsafe behavior means you will be expelled immediately from the vehicle. Loud music and smoking are forbidden. A kind word is the only tip van drivers are allowed to accept.

What is the MVRTA?

Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority (MVRTA) is a public transportation agency established under the Massachusetts General Law Chapter 161B. Member MVRTA communities are: Amesbury, Andover, Boxford, Georgetown, Groveland, Haverhill, Lawrence, Merrimac, Methuen, Newbury, Newburyport, North Andover, Rowley, Salisbury, and West Newbury. The MVRTA provides fixed route bus service, senior and disabled transportation service and commuter van service.

Who provides Ring & Ride?

MVRTA provides this service through its operating company using wheelchair lift-equipped MVRTA vehicles.

Sit back, relax and enjoy the ride!

This shared ride service is designed to give you a ride when you need it to where you need to go. If you have any questions, suggestions or concerns, contact:

***Office of Special Services
85 Railroad Avenue
Haverhill, MA 01835***

***(978) 469-6878
option 3***

specialservices@mvrta.com

***Schedule & Route Information:
(978) 469-6878
www.mvrta.com***

 ***Point***  ***Click***  ***Ride***

MVRTA
MERRIMACK VALLEY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY



Route 51 Ring & Ride

Share the ride service

What is Ring & Ride?

Ring & Ride is a curb-to-curb, share the ride service for Newburyport residents of James Steam Mill, Heritage House, Marlboro Street or Plum Island. The Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority and the City of Newburyport share the expense.

Effective July 1, 2007

MVRTA
MERRIMACK VALLEY REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Ring & Ride: An easier way to get around town

You can use this service in a variety of ways. Whether you are commuting to and from work, going shopping, visiting friends, going to a medical appointment, Ring & Ride is there for you.

Where can I go with Ring & Ride?

Route 51 Ring & Ride takes you along the same route originally served by the Route 51 fixed route bus.

This service allows you to travel to and from the James Steam Mill, The Heritage House, Marlboro Street and Plum Island and also allows you to connect to fixed route buses. Destinations along the route include: Downtown, High School, Library, Anna Jaques Hospital, Commuter Rail, Court House, Custom House, Market Basket, Port Plaza. After **reserving** your ride, any resident of Newburyport can travel to and from Plum Island by meeting the Route 51 Ring & Ride vehicle along the Route 51 bus route. Residents that live in other cities or towns can schedule their Route 51 Ring & Ride trip to and from Plum Island with a pick up and drop off location at Market Basket Plaza in Newburyport.

What is the schedule?

Ring & Ride runs from:

5 a.m. - 7 p.m. Monday through Friday

9 a.m. - 6 p.m. on Saturdays.

Just like the regular bus, there are no rides on Sundays and holidays, including New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Day, President's Day, Patriot's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

When and how do I reserve a seat?

For weekday reservations, please call (978) 469-6878 option 3 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at least 24 hours prior to service.

When you call, be prepared to provide the following information:

- **Your name.**
- **Your home, work or cell phone number.**
- **Your exact street address and requested pick up time.**
- **Your exact drop off location and drop off time.**

How do I cancel?

You must call at least one hour in advance on Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Saturday reservations must be cancelled by Friday at 4:30 p.m. Please call (978) 469-6878 option 3. You may also cancel your trip for Monday trip anytime during the preceding Saturday or Sunday by leaving a message on voicemail at (978) 469-6878 option 3.

Is there a wait at the curb?

Ring & Ride is a shared ride service intended to accommodate as many customers per trip as safely and effectively as possible. Please be ready to board the MVRTA vehicle at least 15 minutes prior to and up to 15 minutes after your scheduled trip (referred to as the 30 minute window). Severe weather or traffic conditions and changing schedules may result in the vehicle arriving 15 minutes earlier or later than expected. Upon arriving at your stop, the driver is permitted to wait no longer than five (5) minutes for you to board the vehicle.

What else do I need to know about the service?

There are no special identification cards needed to use Ring & Ride. While rules may seem unnecessary for responsible adults, it is possible that a Ring & Ride customer may occasionally fail to observe a rule of etiquette. To make this shared ride service convenient for all customers, there are rules governing No Shows, Late Cancellations and Incorrect Addresses:

No Show: When the MVRTA vehicle arrives at the requested address within the thirty-minute window and the passenger is not ready or does not take the scheduled trip.

Late Cancellation: When a passenger fails to call the MVRTA Office of Special Services at least sixty minutes before the scheduled pick-up time.

Incorrect Address: When a passenger provides MVRTA Office of Special Services the incorrect pick-up or drop-off address, or fails to provide an address change.

What is the cost?

The fare is \$1.00 each way. You pay \$1.00 cash when boarding the MVRTA van.

A 10-Ride Ticket Book for \$10.00 may be purchased from the MVRTA Office of Special Services.

