

Rides For Ridgefield

Greetings,

Rides For Ridgefield is a transportation alliance in town. Our program puts you in touch with ride services that fit your needs by providing information and rides for Ridgefield seniors and residents with mobility disabilities.

Participating ride providers include:

- SweetHart bus
- Town Bus –Tuesday Medical Danbury
- Town Bus - Wednesday Loop (Ridgefield)
- Town Bus Special-Thursday (ShopRite, Walmart, Target; Trader's Joe, Danbury Mall, Xmas Tree Shop)

We are excited to tell you that the ***Rides For Ridgefield*** Ride Program is also an option when other ride services are not available. All Ridgefield seniors and residents who have mobility disabilities (unable to drive due to medical reasons) are eligible to ride in our program. You can get a ride to visit with friends, to an evening theater, weekend religious service or to wherever is important in your life. The ***Rides For Ridgefield's*** Ride Program gives priority to rides that are not available from other volunteer ride providers.

There are no fees for rides provided by the ***Rides For Ridgefield*** Ride Program. Our volunteers generously offer their time and services to their community neighbors. ***Rides For Ridgefield's*** volunteer drivers go through a rigorous application and training process, including safe driving, rider assistance, managing unforeseen events and vehicle maintenance, along with covid guidelines and checklist.

Our non-profit organization is supported by grants, donations and fundraising events. The Town of Ridgefield, in support of this service for the community, provides office space and utilities.

If you are interested in riding with us, please complete, sign and return the enclosed Rider Agreement. You do not need to return the Rider Guidelines pages, they are for your reference. The completed Rider Agreement must be returned, processed and on file with us before your first ride can be scheduled. The information provided helps us to schedule rides that will accommodate your needs.

Regards,

Rides For Ridgefield, Inc

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Rides For Ridgefield

RIDER AGREEMENT

Thank you for your interest in riding with *Rides For Ridgefield*. Ride services are provided at no cost to the rider for Ridgefield seniors and residents who have mobility disabilities (unable to drive for medical reasons).

Ride services are dependent on volunteer availability. While *Rides For Ridgefield* will make every effort to fill your ride request, there is no guarantee that we will be able to provide you with a ride. *Rides for Ridgefield* reserves the right to refuse ride services to any individual whose actions *Rides for Ridgefield* believes might adversely affect the safety, well-being or condition of other persons or property, or the general welfare of the public, including *Rides for Ridgefield*.

This agreement must be completed, signed and processed before the first ride is scheduled. The information provided will help ensure that your ride with us will accommodate your needs.

Please return the completed agreement form by mail to: *Rides For Ridgefield*, Town Hall, 400 Main Street, Ridgefield, CT 06877 or scan and e-mail to: RidesforRidgefield@RidgefieldCT.org. If you have any questions, please e-mail or call us, 203-894-RIDE (7433).

First Name: _____ **Last Name:** _____

Salutation: Mr _____ Mrs _____ Ms _____ Dr _____ Rev _____ Other _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip code:** _____

Phone: (home) _____ (cell) _____ (work) _____

E-mail: _____

Date of Birth: _____ **Gender:** M _____ F _____ **Live Alone:** Yes _____ No _____

Marital Status: Married _____ Domestic Partner _____ Divorced _____ Widowed _____ Single _____

Affiliations (this information helps us identify ride providers that may be available to you)

Cancer Patient: Yes _____ No _____

SPHERE member: Yes _____ No _____

Ridgefield Men's Club Member: Yes _____ No _____

Medicaid Eligible: Yes _____ No _____

Veteran: Yes _____ No _____

Religious Congregation Member: _____ (please specify)

>>>please complete and sign the next page>>>

Rides For Ridgefield

First Emergency Contact Name: _____ **Relationship** _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ email: _____

Primary Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

Second Emergency Contact Name: _____ **Relationship** _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ email: _____

Primary Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

Third Emergency Contact Name: _____ **Relationship** _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____ email: _____

Primary Phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

Please indicate any mobility aids, medical equipment or other assistance that you need:

Wheelchair _____ Walker _____ Cane _____ Crutches _____
Attendant _____ Service animal _____ Oxygen _____ NONE _____
Other (please describe): _____

I certify that I am a Ridgefield senior citizen (60 years or over) or a Ridgefield resident who has a mobility disability (unable to drive for medical reasons).

Further, I certify that I am self-sufficient, have limited need for assistance, or will be accompanied by an aide or companion who will assist me.

Further, I agree to abide by the Rider Guidelines established by *Rides For Ridgefield* (see following pages).

Further, I understand that *Rides For Ridgefield* may periodically update this Rider Agreement and Rider Guidelines and I may be asked to sign the updated Agreement.

Further, I authorize *Rides For Ridgefield* to contact my emergency contacts in the event of a non-response to a scheduled ride or an emergency.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Print Name: _____

(Office Use Only)

Rider Information recorded by: _____ Date: _____

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RIDER GUIDELINES

- *Rides For Ridgefield* provides services for Ridgefield seniors and residents who have mobility disabilities (unable to drive for medical reasons). Minors must be accompanied by a responsible adult.
- **By signing the Rider Agreement, riders with *Rides for Ridgefield* certify that they are self-sufficient or will be accompanied by an adult who will provide assistance. *Rides* volunteer drivers are not able to provide assistance to riders beyond assistance into and out of the vehicle. Please notify the *Rides* office as soon as possible if there are any changes in your ability to be self sufficient.**
- To request a ride, please call the *Rides For Ridgefield* Call Center, 203-894-RIDE (7433), **at least 2 business days prior** to the date the ride is needed. The Call Center is open Monday through Friday from 10 am to 2 pm. Please provide the following information:
 - **Day, date and appointment time** that the ride is needed
 - Purpose of the ride
 - Where the ride will begin
 - **Ride destination and address**
 - **Return time** and destination
 - Any special accommodation needed for this ride
 - If this is a one-time ride or a ride that is needed on a regular basis
- Your contact information and ride request detail will be provided to the *Rides* volunteer driver who accepts the requested ride.
- The *Rides* volunteer driver will contact you to confirm the scheduled ride, and ask covid screening questions.
- In inclement weather (e.g., snow, storms or icy road conditions), please contact your destination location to be sure that they are open and available to you. The notes below provide additional information regarding inclement weather situations.
- Please be sure that the path from the car to your home is accessible and not blocked by snow or other items.
- Should you need to change or cancel a *Rides For Ridgefield* scheduled ride, please notify the Call Center as soon as possible.

Notes:

Callers will be offered information about all available ride providers for the ride needed. The *Rides For Ridgefield's* Ride Program gives priority to rides that are not available from other volunteer providers.

Rides For Ridgefield services are dependent on volunteer availability. While *Rides For Ridgefield* will make every effort to fill your ride request, there is no guarantee that we will be able to provide you with a ride. *Rides for Ridgefield* reserves the right to refuse ride services to any individual whose actions *Rides for Ridgefield* believes might adversely affect the safety, well-being or condition of other persons or property, or the general welfare of the public, including *Rides for Ridgefield*.

Rides For Ridgefield

During inclement weather (e.g., snow, storms or icy road conditions), riders will be encouraged to reschedule. Requests for life-sustaining medical trips (e.g., dialysis) should not be provided in private cars in inclement weather. Appropriate referrals will be made to other modes including ambulances (at the rider's expense).

Drivers monitor weather and road conditions on days when they are scheduled to drive and use their best judgment in deciding if a ride is safe and feasible given current and anticipated conditions. **Drivers will always suspend rides whenever drivers are asked to stay off the roads by state or local authorities.**

You will be notified if a scheduled ride cannot be fulfilled due to inclement weather or other unpredictable event.

Town Hall may close for inclement weather. The Call Center is closed when Town Hall is closed. Manager oversight of the Call Center continues whenever the Call Center is closed. The covering manager monitors voice mails periodically and responds as appropriate.

Should severe weather arise while a ride is in progress, the volunteer driver will seek a safe location for the volunteer and rider(s) to shelter.

Remember that rides must be scheduled through the Call Center. Please do not ask the driver for additional rides or other favors.

Rides For Ridgefield is a non-profit organization. Therefore staff and volunteers may not accept gifts in any form from users of their services. Donations to the organization are tax-deductible and may be made to *Rides For Ridgefield*, 400 Main Street, Ridgefield CT 06877.