



Manayunk Travel Awareness Campaign

Keeping a Travel Diary is Easy to Do!

www.cleanair.org

FactSheet # 5

As part of the Manayunk Travel Awareness Campaign, Clean Air Council is asking the residents of Manayunk to record all of the trips they make by car, bus, train, as well as biking and walking trips. This would include trips of all distances - from very short trips to the corner store to trips across the country. The detailed information that is provided in these diaries will help us build a snapshot of how, when, where, and why the people of Manayunk travel in their daily lives.

What is this Program About?

The Manayunk Travel Awareness Campaign is a program where the Clean Air Council is working with the residents and business owners of Manayunk to voluntarily reduce auto use by encouraging the use of other means of completing work and personal trips. Through the use of a personal trip diary, we hope that people in Manayunk will become more aware of the amount of car driving they do and the alternatives that exist. By cutting down on car usage, there will be many benefits, such as reduced air pollution, decreased congestion, and safer roadways for cyclists and walkers.

Why should I participate?

In order for this trip diary to create any results, we need a mix of people who can help us understand all the issues faced by people traveling in the Manayunk area. This includes frequent travelers who travel several miles each day, as well as those who rarely leave their home.

How Does It Work?

- Use this diary on your assigned travel day, shown on the front.
- The travel day starts at 4:00 a.m. and ends at 4:00 a.m. the next day.
- A trip is whenever you travel from one address to another. Record each trip on a separate line.

Trip Diary Guidelines

1. Record all trips that you make, regardless of mode of transportation. The idea is to identify all of the ways that you travel and apply the non-car options to your usual car trips.
2. Record return trips, such as returning from work or school.
3. Record walks, jogs, bike rides, and short drives. If you started and ended in the same place list the farthest point you reached and record a return trip.
4. Explore all options of alternative travel that may have been available to you at the time of your trip.
5. Record valid reasons that non-car travel was not suitable for a particular trip.
6. If you make more than ten trips a day as part of your job (examples: cab driver, police officer, delivery person), do not record these trips in your diary. Record only those trips that got you to and from work and those that were non-work related.

This is why we need to look again at the way we travel and look at ways of reducing the impact of our travel. This means reducing car-use (particularly driving alone) and seeking more sustainable alternatives such as walking, cycling, rail or bus. We need to look at when we use our cars, and in particular look at how we make regular journeys at busy times, notably the journey to work.

Even a small shift in commuting journeys away from the car would have a considerable impact on traffic congestion at peak times. Here are some questions to ask yourself when deciding if taking your car is the best option:

- Can I do this trip later when I have other things to do, and combine several trips into one ?
- Can I walk/ride a bike instead of driving ?
- Can I catch public transport?
- Can I do this trip by telephone instead ?
- Can I carpool with colleagues ?



Above: New racks on buses make bike riding easier in Philadelphia.

Riding a bike is a healthy, cheap and environmentally friendly alternative to the private vehicle. Cities around the world promote bikes as an alternate to driving a car. For example, Brisbane City Council recognizes the benefits of recreational and commuter cycling. As well as building more than 400km of bikeways and 3400km of footpaths across the City it has launched the [TravelRight](#) and [Clear Air](#) campaigns.



Above: Morning traffic in Manayunk clogs up Green Lane.

Cars are the greatest source of air pollution in Philadelphia, pumping out 60% of the city's smog-forming gases. Every time you cycle instead of driving you eliminate vehicle emissions. So whether you're going to work or to the local shops, think about getting on your bike - you'll be helping your city look forward to a cleaner future and improving your health.

Clean Air Council is a membership-supported non-profit environmental organization dedicated to protecting everyone's right to breathe clean air. The Council works through public education, community advocacy, and oversight of the government to ensure enforcement of environmental laws.

Clean Air Council
135 S. 19th St.
Ste. 300
Philadelphia
PA 19103

PH: 215-567-4004
FX: 215-567-5791
www.cleanair.org

