



Valley Fire Ride Assistance Program

The devastating fires that tore through Lake County this year have seriously disrupted the lives of hundreds of people. In particular, the Valley Fire has forced a large number of people to find housing in different areas, often separating them from their support system... the network of family and friends they rely on for transportation to doctor's offices, grocery stores and pharmacies, the post office and bank, friends' homes and church.

Thanks to emergency funding from the Federal Transportation Administration, LAKE TRANSIT has developed the Valley Fire Ride Assistance Program to help meet peoples' transportation needs during this challenging time. This program will help both the people in need of rides and the volunteers willing to provide rides to others.

The program is quite simple. Qualified riders will identify someone who is willing and able to provide rides to places they need to go. Riders and drivers will keep a record of their trips, and submit them monthly to Lake Transit. The drivers will then be reimbursed for their mileage on a per-mile basis. The goal of this system is to help people get the transportation assistance they need, and to help their helpers by removing (or at least reducing) the financial barriers that might interfere with their ability to assist.

Am I Qualified?

To qualify, you must be a Lake County resident who has been impacted by the Rocky, Jerusalem, or Valley Fires and need assistance with transportation. The driver reimbursement program is for people who:

- Lost a vehicle in the fire, or do not have one.
- Have a vehicle, but are unable to drive.
- Are unable to utilize regular Lake Transit services.
- Have been forced to relocate and now live some distance from family members and friends who used to provide transportation.
- Have a friend or family member who is willing to drive, but cannot afford the cost of gas, etc. involved in making longer trips.

How Do I Get Service?

If you are a Lake County resident affected by the Rocky, Jerusalem, or Valley Fires this year and qualify, please call **995-3330, 263-3330**. Or email: vf.ride.assist@gmail.com