

HELPFUL TIPS FOR CRUSING

- ❖ Drive at speeds that are appropriate for the road and traffic conditions
- ❖ Always be prepared to stop!
- ❖ Beware of the rubber band effect.
 - As a group of cars accelerate driver reaction times cause the spacing between the cars to increase.
 - As the leader decelerates driver reaction times cause the spacing between the cars to decrease.
 - The further back in the string of cars you are the more pronounced is the effect. As a result when cars at the beginning of the pack slow, the cars toward the end of the pack may find they need to brake hard to stop.

Remember - We are all driving Corvettes, so you do not have your normal braking advantage

- ❖ When driving on highways, keep to the right, or center lanes, except to pass.
- ❖ Allow other vehicles into the lane. They may need to enter, exit, or pass.
- ❖ Keep sufficient room between cars, but do not leave too much room as this encourages other cars to "join" the caravan.
- ❖ Call the Club hot line if you are concerned about the status of a cruise. The hot line number is (908) 617-1332



TIPS FOR CRUISE LEADERS & PARTICIPANTS



TIPS FOR THE CRUISE

LEADER

Pick a departure location that is centrally located. It's a very good idea to pick one with bathrooms.

Plan the route taking traffic, traffic lights and road construction in consideration.

- Avoid dirt and gravel roads
- Avoid road construction
- Minimize traffic lights
- It's not a good idea to plan a cruise to the Jersey Shore during beach season
- It's not a good idea to plan route through Readington during the Balloon Festival
- Traffic can be challenging if you are planning a Summer beach, or Fall foliage cruise.

On long cruises pre plan rest stops and gas stops. Check availability and condition of parking at the destination(s).

- Avoid dirt and gravel parking lots and fields

Prepare fact sheets for review at the pre-cruise drivers meeting. Remember to include:

- The cell phone number of the cruise leader
- Name, address and phone number of the destination(s)
- Overview map and directions to the destination
- Background information about the destination is helpful

Stopping on highway shoulders is dangerous and unlawful. Plan to stop and regroup at rest areas, or after exiting the highway.

Prior to departure make arrangements with another member to take up the tail of the caravan.

Make sure the member at the tail has a FRS radio with a fresh set of batteries.

Before you depart do a radio check to make sure you can communicate with the driver at the tail.

If there are a large number of cars, having a mid-caravan radio operator is helpful, or divide the caravan into two caravans, each with a leader and a tail, with a radios.

It is the job of the driver at the tail of the caravan to:

- Inform the lead driver when the caravan has passed through traffic lights and busy intersections. Note that four way stop signs and left turns onto busy roads can take more time for the caravan to negotiate than traffic lights.
- Inform the lead driver when it is necessary to regroup

The leader should observe all traffic regulations and drive at speeds that are appropriate for road and traffic conditions

The leader should be aware of the status of the caravan behind him.

The leader should when necessary pull of the road in a safe location and allow the caravan to regroup.

The leader should insure that everyone in the caravan is aware of upcoming turns. He/she should slow down, or pull over, to allow all of the cars to regroup, especially before turning off the current road.

CRUISE PARTICIPANT CHECKLIST

- Always begin a cruise with a full tank and an empty bladder
- It is helpful for all cruise participants to use a FRS radio during the cruise, even if just to listen in.
- We communicate using FRS radios tuned to channel 10-10. A set of batteries lasts 3-4 hours, (one cruise). So carry spare batteries. A 12V adapter and a headphone/microphone are good investments. The instructions for operating FRS radios vary by make and model so read your directions. Preset your radio to 10-10 in the comfort of your home. It's a good idea to put a copy of your radio's operating instructions in your glove box.
- It's no fun to be left behind at the cash lane of a toll plaza. An E-ZPass account allows up to four E-ZPass tags, at no additional cost, so get an E-ZPass for your Corvette! Make sure to inform the leader if you don't have E-ZPass.
- Cell phones help when you get out of FRS radio range (practical distance is less than 1 mile)
- It goes without saying that your car should be in a good repair and suited to the event.
- Owners of older cars should consider using their drivers when warranted by cruise distance, speed, or weather. Members are always welcome to use their drivers at Club events, but are asked remain at the rear of the caravan.
- Be prepared to have a good time!