



MICHIGAN'S PREMIER MOTORCOACH CONNECTION
BETWEEN EAST LANSING, ANN ARBOR
& DETROIT METRO AIRPORT



e-news

APRIL 2019



Travel Alerts

Book Early: Student Exodus Ahead

If you're planning to ride with Michigan Flyer-AirRide in early May, it's best to buy your tickets without delay. The end of term at the University of Michigan and Michigan State University means full motorcoaches for us as students depart their campuses. The last day of exams for U-M students is Thursday, May 2 (with commencements May 2-5); for MSU students, exams

end on Friday, May 3 (commencements May 3-5).

Some Runs Bypass BTC during Goddess 5K/1-Mile Run

Due to street closures in downtown Ann Arbor on Sunday, May 12, for this race event for women and girls, we will bypass the Blake Transit Center (BTC) and stop instead at the Kensington Hotel on the following scheduled runs: Eastbound 8004 through 8010; westbound 8001 through 8007.

Earth Day Every Day—How You Can Help

Did you know? The world is in the midst of the largest extinction of species in the last 60 million years. This includes all species—mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, insects, fish, corals, plants and so on. You can find a summary, along with supporting documentation, in this [Fact Sheet on Global Species Decline](#) produced by the [Earth Day Network](#), plus [more info here](#).



That's why Earth Day Network chose "Protect Our Species" as the focus of this year's Earth Day—Monday, April 22—which will be celebrated by an estimated one billion people in 192 countries.



Humankind has not been kind to Mother Earth. Most environmental scientists say the biggest problem is that people worldwide have been collectively releasing immense amounts of greenhouse gases (such as carbon dioxide and methane) into the atmosphere. That's largely from burning fossil fuels for energy, transportation, industrial production, agriculture, mining, and more. This air pollution not only results in respiratory illnesses and premature deaths, but traps heat next to our planet instead of letting it escape into space.

The result is [global warming](#). It's melting polar ice sheets and glaciers, raising sea levels and ocean temperatures, causing deadly heat waves, droughts and wild fires, intensifying hurricanes and spawning other extreme weather—as well as leading to the extinction of species on which humanity depends.

How bad is it? The situation is becoming dire, according to the United Nations' landmark [Global Environment Outlook report](#) released in March. The U.N. findings parallel those of the [National Climate Assessment](#) released last November by the U.S. government, the fourth version since 2000 and first under the Trump administration.

Serious, But Not Hopeless

"The good news is that the rate of extinctions can still be slowed, and many of our declining, threatened and endangered species can still recover, if we work together now to build a united global movement of consumers, voters, educators, faith leaders, and scientists to demand immediate action." So says Earth Day Network.

Indeed, National Geographic highlights much of the progress that has been made since 1970 in this article on ["49 Environmental Victories Since the First Earth Day."](#)



There are dozens of ways to make a difference by adopting a greener lifestyle. For examples, check out these [Earth Day Tips](#). Even small actions can help protect and preserve Mother Earth for future generations. Here are some especially meaningful steps you might take:

✍️ **Get 10 trees to plant for free** by donating \$10 for a six-month membership in the [Arbor Day Foundation](#). You'll be supporting its [Time for Trees initiative](#), a

commitment to plant 100 million trees worldwide by 2022—the 150th anniversary of Arbor Day, which is April 26 this year. Trees help balance our ecosystem by absorbing carbon from the atmosphere.

✍️ **Remove your name from junk mail lists.** Altogether, unsolicited credit card offers, catalogs, and other unwanted print materials amount to 4 million tons of junk mail per year, which destroys millions of trees and

takes massive amounts of energy to produce. To reduce prescreened offers of credit and insurance, call toll-free 1-888-567-8688 or visit www.optoutprescreen.com. To get off the lists for catalogs and other forms of junk mail, register at the Direct Marketing Association's consumer website www.DMAchoice.org and pay a \$2 processing fee. In addition, you might switch your monthly bills to paperless email and/or arrange to pay them electronically.



 **Plant a garden of wildflowers** to provide honey bees, bumblebees, butterflies and other pollinators with a source of food. They are essential to the growth of more than 85 percent of the world's flowering plants, including the fruits, vegetables and seeds that make up much of the human food supply. The [Honeybee Conservancy](#) has an online guide for starting a "bee garden." The Michigan State University Extension offers free advice on "[Smart Plants to Support Pollinators](#)." And don't forget to help the monarch butterflies by planting milkweed according to guidance from the [National Wildlife Federation](#).

 **Travel by motorcoach when possible.** As the American Bus Association's "[Save a Penguin](#)" publication notes, "Motorcoaches emit the least carbon dioxide (CO₂) per passenger mile when compared to other vehicles, and are on average seven times more energy and fuel-efficient than single occupancy automobiles." That claim to being the greenest form of motorized transportation (over cars, trains, or airplanes) is backed up by the [Union of Concerned Scientists](#). So give yourself a pat on the back for choosing to ride with Michigan Flyer-AirRide—or our parent company, Indian Trails. You're helping to protect the Earth, our common home.

Each change for the better matters because all people, and most other organisms, are interconnected in one big ecosystem. We share the water we drink, the air we breathe, and the exchange of gases that makes life possible.



How to Protect Yourself from Hackers When Traveling

With increasing frequency, hackers have been successfully targeting the computer systems of travel-related companies. In fact, they've stolen the personal data of hundreds of millions of travelers over the past few years.

As the consumer tech website Digital Trends reports, cybercriminals breached the website of [Orbitz](#), the online travel agency owned by Expedia, and may have gained access to encrypted credit card data for

880,000 people in 2016. They hacked into [British Airways](#) in 2018 and stole personal and financial information on 380,000 customers. Just months later, hackers got extensive information on 9.4 million customers of [Cathay Pacific](#), a major Hong Kong-based airline that serves seven U.S. cities. And the personal data of some 380 million travelers was compromised in a years-long breach of [Marriott's](#) Starwood Preferred Guest database.

If that's not enough to convince you to take extra precautions with your data when traveling, it recently [came to light](#) that the e-ticketing systems of at least eight airlines—including Southwest, KLM, and Air France—had a

serious vulnerability: They could let hackers intercept the credentials of passengers who logged onto the airlines' sites to check in for flights.

What kind of data is being stolen? Depending on the specific breach, it can include passenger names, emails, phone numbers, billing addresses, birth dates, gender, passport or ID information, booking preferences, flight numbers and times, seat assignments, full boarding passes, and credit card details, among other things.

What can cybercriminals do with such data? Again, depending on the particular unauthorized access, it's possible they could cancel or change your airline reservations, steal your identity, open credit card accounts in your name, withdraw money from your bank accounts, go on shopping sprees, and ruin your credit.



How to Guard Against Data Theft

There are several easy ways to make it harder for identity thieves to rip you off:

- ✍ Change passwords frequently, use a different password for each account, and use password management software to keep track of them all.
- ✍ Set up two-factor authentication on any accounts that offer this protection (for example, in order to login, you must provide the answer to a secret question in addition to a password).
- ✍ Refrain from using unencrypted public WiFi and hotel networks to send important information.
- ✍ Consider printing your airline boarding pass at home instead of checking in with your mobile phone at the airport.
- ✍ Make it a point to monitor your credit card and bank statements for any suspicious activity.
- ✍ Beware of email phishing scams designed to trick you into divulging personal information to what appears to be—but is definitely not—a company you know (examine the sender's email address for starters).
- ✍ Get a free credit report every year at annualcreditreport.com and review it for any discrepancies.

Beyond those steps, you can temporarily “freeze” your credit reports by contacting the major credit bureaus. This prevents identity thieves from applying for credit in your name. How to do it—and know the difference between a free “freeze” and a costly “credit lock”—is explained in this [excellent article by Krebs on Security](#). It also explains more about how to opt out of prescreened offers of credit or insurance sent by postal mail, which identity thieves like to intercept.

Customer Comments

“Staff efficient and professional. Ride quiet and comfortable. Pickups and drop-offs at the ticketing level, so convenient. The only transportation system I’ve used that runs on time. A pleasure to not be driving my car on I-275 or I-96 in rush hour.”

—J.D., East Lansing, Mich.



Top Coming Events—We Can Get You There

East Lansing



 [Hamilton](#), May 14-June 2, times vary. It's the Broadway hit about America's Founding Father Alexander Hamilton, an immigrant from the West Indies who became George Washington's right-hand man during the Revolutionary War. The musical score blends hip-hop, jazz, blues, rap, and R&B. It's at the Wharton Center for Performing Arts, 750 E. Shaw Lane, on the MSU Campus, East Lansing. Lower-price tickets sold out, but some are still available at \$135 or \$395 each.



 [East Lansing Art Festival](#), downtown on Saturday, May 18, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sunday, May 19, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. This major community event, now in its 56th year, is a free, outdoor celebration of arts, music, and culture featuring more than 200 artists, live music, an international food court, and activities for the whole family. Michigan Flyer can get out-of-towners right to the heart of it all. For festivalgoers driving their own cars, Capital Area Transportation Authority offers low-

cost shuttle service during festival hours with free parking in the outlying MSU lot at Service Rd. & Hagadorn Rd.

 [MSU Spring Arts and Crafts Show](#), also on May 18 & 19, this free event is held on the grounds around Michigan State University's Union Building, across the street from the Art Festival. Each year, it brings some 300 artists from across the nation to display and sell handmade items including candles, furniture, jewelry, clothing, toys, paintings, photographs, pottery, sculpture and more.

Find more local coming events with the Greater Lansing Convention & Visitors Bureau calendar:

<http://www.lansing.org/events>

Ann Arbor

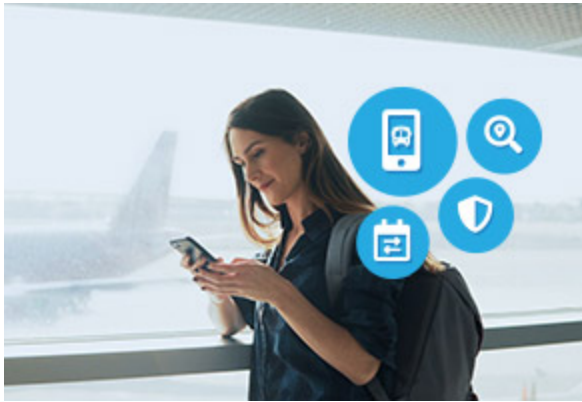


 [**Martha Graham Dance Company**](#)—the oldest and most celebrated modern dance company in America—presents “Two Different Programs” featuring Graham classics as well as new works created by contemporary choreographers. It’s at 8 p.m. on Friday April 26 and Saturday April 27, at U-M’s Power Center, 121 Fletcher St., Ann Arbor. Tickets \$47-\$76.

 [**Cinetopia Film Festival**](#), May 10-19, at various times and [venues](#) in Ann Arbor and metro and downtown Detroit. The festival [schedule](#) includes more

than 50 of the best feature-length dramas, comedies, and documentaries from the world’s best film festivals (Sundance, Cannes, Venice, Toronto, Berlin, SXSW, Tribeca, and more). [Single-event tickets and multi-event passes](#) are available for purchase online.

Check the Ann Arbor Area Convention & Visitors Bureau calendar for more local events:
<https://www.visitannarbor.org/splash/events>



Four Tips for Smoother Trips

 [Know How to Find us at DTW’s McNamara Terminal.](#)

 [Download Our Free Smartphone App to Track Your Bus in Real Time.](#)

 [Change Your Own Reservations Online, Sometimes.](#)

 [Buy an Affordable Travel Insurance Policy.](#)

Help Others by Reviewing Us Online

Please use the review sites below to let others know about your Michigan Flyer-AirRide experience and help them to understand how our service might improve their travels.





Why Drive?

Booking is easy, [click here](#) to view schedules on



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