

## Avoiding the Pinch at the Pump

With gasoline prices hovering around \$3 a gallon in the metropolitan Phoenix area, everyone is digging a little deeper into their wallets to fill up their vehicles. However, the following tips from AAA Arizona can help drivers save a few dollars and reduce the amount of gas they use:



- ◆ **Follow the speed limit** — Fast drivers may save time on the road, but they're paying for it at the pump. Driving 75 mph instead of 65 mph on the highways can lower fuel economy by 10 percent.
- ◆ **Keep your windows closed** — This might be a cheap form of air conditioning, but open windows cause air drag at highway speeds, which can cut fuel mileage by 10 percent.
- ◆ **Fill up during the coolest time of the day** — Gasoline is more dense at lower temperatures. Since gas pumps measure by volume, not density, refueling vehicles in the early morning and late evening is a good idea.
- ◆ **Find the cheapest gas** — Visit [www.aaa.com/fuelfinder](http://www.aaa.com/fuelfinder) to locate the station with the least expensive gas
- ◆ **Use an alternate form of transportation** — Now is a great time to ride the bus for free with the ASU U-Pass or share a ride by carpooling. By leaving their vehicle at home just one day a week, commuters can save as much as 20 percent in fuel consumption. Visit [www.asu.edu/commuteroptions](http://www.asu.edu/commuteroptions) to learn more about picking up a U-Pass, using the free ASU Rideshare Service to find a carpool partner and other ways to cut down on commuting expenses.



Taking a Valley Metro bus to campus with the free ASU U-Pass is a great way to avoid the high cost of fueling your vehicle.

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## ***Light-Rail Update***

As work on the Valley's light-rail system continues toward its opening date of December 2008, PTS News will feature a monthly report on the new transportation option that will help faculty, staff and students travel to and from the ASU campuses.

The first segment of the light-rail system will cover about 20 miles, starting from 19th Avenue south of Bethany Home Road in Phoenix and ending at Main Street east of Dobson Road in Mesa (visit

[www.valleymetro.org/METRO\\_light\\_rail](http://www.valleymetro.org/METRO_light_rail) for detailed maps). Light-rail

will directly connect the Tempe and Downtown Phoenix campuses, with one station south of the University Center building in Phoenix and two stations on the Tempe campus.

Major light-rail construction through the Tempe campus is complete, and crews are now focused on track installment along Apache Boulevard from Terrace Road to McClintock Drive. Road restrictions due to light-rail work can be an inconvenience for commuters, but PTS will continue to pass along any street closure information to help the ASU community better plan travels around campus.

## ***2007-08 Decal Sales Under Way***

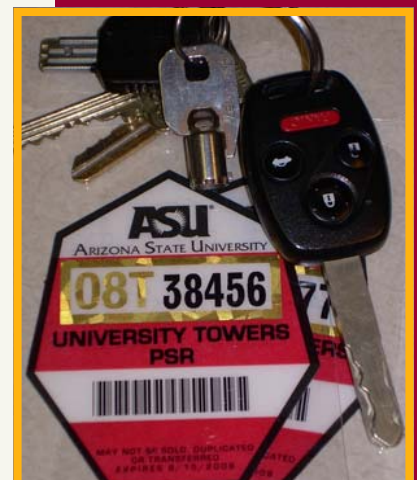
Parking decals for 2007-08 are now on sale online at <http://parking.asu.edu> or in person at PTS offices at each campus. Decals for all campuses are available via Online Parking Services, which is the easiest and quickest way to purchase a decal. ASU community members can check on lot availability and price online 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Decals ordered online may be picked up three business days after the order is placed. Upon request, decals will be mailed via U.S. Postal Service for a \$5 mailing fee. Decals purchased by faculty and staff will be sent via campus mail to their campus mail code.

Please note that residence hall decals cannot be purchased online. Only students living on campus may purchase residence hall decals. Tempe campus residence hall students will receive a packet in the mail in the next few weeks containing an application for residence hall decals. After Aug. 1, students living on campus can also purchase decals in person accompanied by a residence hall check-in sheet, residency verification form, lease agreement or Sun Card with a residence hall validation stamp.



The light-rail system's route through the Tempe campus has taken shape over the past several months.



# ***PTS Campus Updates and Briefs***

## ***Tempe campus***

- ◆ Crews have been working hard to make great progress on the maintenance project in the parking structures. All of the work in the Apache Boulevard, Tyler Street, Rural Road and 10th Street structures is now completely finished, and decal holders should return to parking in their specified locations. The maintenance in the Stadium and University Towers structures will take a few more weeks to complete, but the project is on schedule to wrap up before its July 31 deadline. PTS would like to thank all decal holders for their patience and understanding during the restrictions and closures. The project is crucial to maintaining the structural integrity of the parking facilities.
- ◆ Eastbound Terrace Road directly west of Rural Road will be closed on Friday, June 15, and Monday, June 18 for traffic signal work; however, vehicles will be able to access the visitor portion of the Rural Road Parking Structure.
- ◆ Apache Boulevard is restricted to one lane in each direction between College and McAllister avenues through Tuesday, July 3, to allow for power line installation.
- ◆ Lemon Street has been reopened between McAllister Avenue and the Rural Road Parking Structure entrance/exit.
- ◆ The July Fourth Tempe Town Lake Festival will cause several street closures on July 4, including Mill Avenue between University Drive and Washington Street, and Rio Salado Parkway between Hardy and Packard drives. For a complete list of closures and bus detours, please visit [www.tempe.gov/streetclosures](http://www.tempe.gov/streetclosures).



The maintenance work in the Stadium Parking Structure will continue for the next several weeks.

## ***Downtown Phoenix campus***

- ◆ The Nursing and Healthcare Innovation (NHI) Garage is completely closed due to a City of Phoenix construction project on Taylor Street, which has restricted all access to the structure. During the closure, all NHI decal holders may park in the University Center (UC1) garage, located at 411 N. Central Ave. PTS is taking advantage of the closure forced by the road construction by conducting some needed maintenance work in the NHI garage. The ceilings and walls have been pressure-washed and the ceilings also have a fresh coat of paint.

## New Summer Shuttle Schedules

The updated schedules for the summer intercampus shuttle service are now in effect and are posted at [www.asu.edu/parking/shuttle/index.html](http://www.asu.edu/parking/shuttle/index.html).

The shuttles will operate on the revised summer schedule until Aug. 3. Shuttle service will then stop briefly, with limited service starting for the Downtown Phoenix campus shuttle on Aug. 13 and the Polytechnic campus shuttle on Aug. 16. The West campus shuttle will resume service Aug. 20, which is also the date the other two shuttles switch over to full service.

## ? ASK PTS ?

*Why do you still write tickets during the summer? The campus is mostly empty and there's more than enough room to park in the closer lots.*

PTS parking regulations are enforced all year long for several reasons. All ASU parking decals are valid from Aug. 1 from one calendar year to Aug. 15 of the following year, and decal holders are permitted to park in their designated area during that timeframe. If regulations were not enforced during the summer and anyone could park wherever they chose, it might prevent students and employees who purchased a decal from parking in their location.

While there are fewer students on campus during the summer than in the fall and spring, many students enroll in summer session classes, and a large portion of faculty and staff work year-round. Several parking locations on the Tempe campus, such as Apache Boulevard Parking Structure and Lot 3, still accommodate a large number of vehicles during the summer.

PTS also uses the summer months to conduct maintenance in order to limit disruption to parking on campus. Most of the Tempe campus parking structures have had restrictions and closures due to a major ongoing project, and several surface lots are scheduled for maintenance this summer. We would be unable to keep ASU's parking facilities in good condition without this work.

However, ASU students, faculty and staff have the opportunity to park in a different location during the hot, summer months. Summer placards can be purchased for select locations. Please check with the PTS office on each campus for availability and price of summer placards.

**Do you have a question regarding our services, regulations, shuttle routes or anything else pertaining to parking and transit at ASU? If so, send us your question via e-mail to [parksvcs@asu.edu](mailto:parksvcs@asu.edu) and type 'ASK PTS' in the subject line. Your question may be answered right here in the next issue. So go ahead ... Ask PTS!**



Many lots, such as Lot 3 next to Gammage Auditorium, still experience a heavy load of traffic during the summer.