

Things to consider when planning a one day drive out (DESTINATION)

1. Pick your restaurant / destination.
2. Plan the route.
3. Check with the social director for available dates.

As soon as you have your drive out planned let the social director know so they can check dates to get it on the club calendar. Drive the route and make sure you identify any problem intersections or blind spots when making turns. Provide a basic turn handout by email for each member to print out or bring copies with you to hand out at the drivers meeting. These handouts help prevent anyone from getting lost if they get separated from the group. Be sure to identify the destination spot.

Have a drivers meeting 15 minutes before you are scheduled to leave. Our default location for leaving from the QCA is Southpark parking lot near Denny's. If you decide to leave from another location you need to make that clear to the club so everyone knows you are making this change. Introduce your destination at a club meeting the month before your drive out, send out an email to all members through the vice president and as an option you can create a PDF to send to the webmaster to post on the club calendar.

At drivers meeting:

provide handout (option) of the basic turns

let group know of any special situations or areas of concern

BLIND SPOTS, RAIL ROAD TRACKS, RED LIGHT & SPEED CAMERAS (report these as they show up on the drive)

If spirited driving is going to happen then have those who want to go a bit slower move to the back of the group when you first leave after the drivers meeting. Be sure you tell everyone that if the group gets separated during spirited driving that there is a spot where the group can regroup. Have this figured out in advance of the day of the drive out. If no spirited driving is PLANNED then no need to mention about moving to back of the group.

A pit stop in the morning should be about 60 minutes from when you first leave our starting point. If there is a need for second stop before destination then it should be about 90 minutes from the first pit stop.

Make sure the pit stop has ADEQUATE bathrooms (woman's should have A MINIMUM of two STALLS) and there needs to be adequate parking, if not choose another location, if possible

Eat at the place you want to take the club at least once, check the menu, seating and parking. Talk to the restaurant **MANAGER** only. You may need to limit the menu to several items so the restaurant can properly prepare for our visit. You need someone with authority to make sure they can provide the staff needed to service our club (very important). Make sure they can schedule enough help the day of our visit. Determine ahead of time how payment will need to be made. Options we have seen are debit, credit, check or cash. No PayPal yet. Most important make sure they will allow us to pay as individuals or couples and not as a group. If a group payment is required you will need to organize collecting the money ahead of time and that is a lot of extra work.

In general figure 20 cars. As our club has grown that number can approach 25-30 cars. That is a lot of people to feed at one time. In a way, it is like a bus arriving at the restaurant and often the places we want to go cannot handle a group of this size so carefully qualify the restaurant and their ability to service a group of this size. Sometimes you may need to find several restaurants in the town so everyone can feed their food in a timely manner.

Re- drive the route as close to the date of the drive out as possible to check road conditions for possible construction problems. Avoid roads in poor condition and NO gravel. Even if you know the roads well it is good to do some spot checking and maybe use the DOT services online to check for new road construction.

IF YOU HAVE NEVER PLANNED A DRIVE OUT BEFORE ASK THE SOCIAL DIRECTOR FOR A MENTOR TO HELP WITH THE PLANNING. There are several who are glad to assist. It is fun to put a drive out together and following some of these ideas will help make the planning process easier for you.

Things to consider on a 2 or more day drive out (EVENT)

consider all of the ideas for a one day drive out plus add these

1. Choose event (EXAMPLES: SPRING DRIVE OUT/CLEAR LAKE/FALL DRIVE)
- 2 . check with social director for dates available
3. PLAN TRIP, use a committee if needed, and be sure to start the process months in advance.

Check out hotel and block the rooms for the club--if possible stay at the hotel since you are planning the trip anyway. Generally we use the block name **Mid-West Corvettes** (club name for group block).

If the hotel requires a contract the president of the club must approve and sign the contract. You should NEVER sign for the club unless authorized to do so by the president.

If you are planning an organized meal eat at the place where you plan to have lunch or dinner for the group and make reservations for our group, if it is needed, and generally it is needed. If a reservation is not needed it is generally a buffet. Buffets are always a safe way to feed a large group quickly. Lunches on the road need to be done in a timely manner, dinner not so much.

If there is an event involved as the reason for the drive out be sure to check with the local event contact for recommendations in the area and do this before you start planning the drive out. When the event has money involved from each of our members have a signup sheet to track who is attending and who has paid as you will sometimes need to collect in advance. Always ask that checks be used by our members for payment as it is easier to track payments. If you can stay out of the money transactions it is always best.

Provide a daily itinerary for the group (outline only) and do not feel like you have to plan every part of the drive out. Allow time for folks to do things on their own at night Make sure you can make recommendations for places to eat in the area if you have not planned a group dinner. Be sure to check the restaurants out by getting recommendations from the locals and stop by ,if possible, to see what they offer. Better yet, eat there.

consider making recommendations for local activities (option)

USE A MENTOR OR ASK QUESTIONS.