



CARAVAN LEADER GUIDELINES DAY TRIP

(Revised 9-14-2021)

Every CSC Caravan needs a leader. The leader is responsible for various items involved in having a successful and safe caravan. The guidelines mentioned on this page can apply to simple day trips, and longer multi-day road trips. A well planned and organized Corvette caravan is a pretty sight on the road!

Below are some of the areas of responsibility that need to be addressed and monitored by the leader:

A starting/departure point must be established prior to the event. This information should be on the event flyer along with the date, time, location, and final destination.

Begin with a "drivers meeting" 10-15minutes before departure. At this time, the route, stops and destination should be explained.

A method of communicating between caravan members needs to be established. CB radios have proven to be a particularly good and reliable method for communicating, however, the trend is moving toward the hand-held "FRS" type walkie-talkies. Select a beginning channel, with the possibility of changing to another channel if the primary one becomes too busy. For members who do not have a CB or walkie-talkie provide them with your cell phone number so they can communicate with the caravan leader.

One Corvette driver should be selected to be the caravan's designated last car or "back door. That person is responsible for assisting the leader by keeping him informed on how well the group is staying together or if someone is having car problems. The back door must have good communications with the leader, as that is how the caravan will stay together by adjusting speed and/or allowing for heavy traffic. The goal is to keep the caravan speed close to the general flow of traffic.

If possible, maps and/or detailed directions should be provided and handed out to each driver. No variations to the route should be made once on the road, as it can be confusing to caravan members further back in the group. Changes could be made, but ONLY if there is good communication between ALL cars in the caravan. Those who are unable to communicate (e.g., no CB, walk-talkie, or cellphone) create extra work and pressure for the leader, and the back door, who are trying to keep the caravan together.

Any planned fuel, rest, or food stops should be communicated before departure. Any unplanned stops will be worked out by the leader and back door, and hopefully can be arranged far enough ahead that all cars without communications will be able to stay with the group.

At the planned stop, the leader should determine if anyone in the caravan has medical or mechanical issues. Also, ask if anyone will be leaving the group during the caravan so there will not be any missing cars that aren't accounted for.

Once on the road, the leader must do everything possible to ensure that the caravan stays together. Try to maintain an even speed to allow all to keep the caravan in sight, even in heavy traffic. If you see or are notified by your back door that the caravan has become split up, if possible, pull over at the first safe place to do so, and wait for the rest to catch up. If stopping is not an option (on the freeway), move over to the slow lane, slow down to the speed limit and wait for the group to catch up. The back door will let you know when the group is together. Do not "run off" and leave the group behind — this is your caravan, so take ownership of it, and arrive at your destination as an organized and orderly group. The caravan members expect it of you, and not everyone has the same level of experience or comfort traveling as a group. It is your job to ensure that all have a good time and will want to do it again!