

MARCH FOR LIFE BUS TRIP 2025

Please read as soon as possible, to help with advance planning.

Thank you for joining this year's March for Life Bus Trip! We're very glad you can join us.

- Please note that this information is subject to revision. Revisions will be posted on our Bus Trip web page: peopleforlife.org/january2025/marchpreliminary2025.pdf
- Our buses will depart for Washington at 11 p.m. on Thursday evening, January 19. If you are not already aware of the departure location, please call (814) 882-1333 for the details.
- If you are boarding in Erie, you should arrive at the departure point no later than 10:45 p.m.
- If you are leaving a vehicle, you will be directed to park it in a particular part of the parking lot.
- If there will be more than one bus you will be advised of your bus number in advance. If you are not given your bus number in advance, someone from People for Life will advise you when you arrive at the departure point. (You will be assigned a specific bus, but not a specific seat.)
- All group members are assigned to the same bus. But please tell us if you are part of a group and give the name of the group well in advance of the day of departure, before we finalize the passenger lists.
- When the buses arrive, you should **remain inside your vehicle** until the bus doors are open and you get signaled to board your bus.
- We *might* stop for passengers at the Edinboro Exit of I-79. If you are using the Edinboro stop, you should be at the pickup point by 11:40 p.m. Please call (814) 882-1333 if you have not already been instructed or are unclear about exactly where to meet the bus.
- Remember to come prepared for all possible weather conditions, including rain, snow, and slippery streets and sidewalks.
- Unless you have made other arrangements, you will need to purchase your Metro Smartrip card from one of the vending machines at the West Falls Church Metro station, when we leave the buses. The vending machines accept \$1, \$5, \$10 bills, and \$20 bills. However, the machines will return no more than \$10 in change: If you use a \$20 bill, the machine will keep \$10, even if you get less than \$10 loaded on your card. Exact amounts to purchase will be provided on the Bus Trip Itinerary that you will receive at the start of the trip. Be aware that all day passes are available for \$15.50 (\$13.50 for the pass and \$2 for the rechargeable SmarTrip card). If you already have a SmarTrip card, bring it with you and re-load it. You can also order or reload a SmarTrip card online or pay using the WMATA mobile phone app if it is linked to Apple or Google Wallet. Unfortunately, day passes cannot be loaded directly onto the mobile phone app, although day passes can be transferred from a SmarTrip card to Apple Wallet or Google Wallet.
- After the March for Life, it is crucial that you return to the buses **NO LATER THAN 5:30 P.M.** If you think you might be late due to an unavoidable problem, call and/or text (814) 882-1333. Please call as soon as possible.
- **If you do not return to the buses by departure time, you will be responsible for providing your own transportation back to Erie. Each bus contains up to 55 other passengers, and we have a responsibility to get them back to Erie in a timely manner. Also, the bus drivers will be on a strict schedule and legally required to be home by a certain time.**
- Bring plenty of snacks, for the bus ride and while you are in DC. There will be two planned rest stops, one on the way to DC and one on the way back to Erie, where food and drinks will be available. However, the stops *might* be brief, and the food selection *might* be limited.
- We plan to make a stop for dinner at Hagerstown, MD, where there are four fast food restaurants and a Sheetz convenience store.
- We expect to arrive home by 1:30 a.m., but this always depends on traffic and weather conditions.
- If someone is going to meet you upon your return, the best thing is to have that person wait for a call from you, and make the call when we are in the Saegertown-Edinboro area on I-79.
- For updated news and information about the Bus Trip, please refer to: facebook.com/MarchforLifeBusTrip and peopleforlife.life/january2025
- Please be aware that payments are not refundable after December 31, 2025. This is because People for Life must pay the bus company for your seat whether or not you use it. If you find that you are unable to make the trip after December 31, please try to find someone who can take your place and perhaps reimburse you for all or part of the cost.

PEOPLE FOR LIFE

(814) 882-1333 ★ office@peopleforlife.org ★ facebook.com/peopleforlife

www.PeopleforLife.org