

## Tips for Rainy Weather Driving

Nothing clogs the Southland commute like rain. According to SmartMotorist.com, the #1 thing you can do to drive more safely in the rain is *slow down* since it takes longer to stop or adjust in wet weather. Other tips:

- Stay toward the middle lane; water tends to pool in the outside lanes.
- Leave plenty of room between your car and the one in front of you.
- Avoid using your brakes—if possible, take your foot off the accelerator to slow down.
- Be extra careful when it first starts raining. Water mixes with oil spots to create an extra slippery mixture, and it takes a while before the worst of it is washed off the road.
- Consider skipping the drive altogether and taking the bus or rail.



## Commuters Pick a Day... Then Pick a Lunch Buddy



Several Southland commuters recently won lunch with their favorite on-air traffic reporters as part of the "Pick a Day" Rideshare Week sweepstakes. Winner Denise Henderson with the AAA in Costa Mesa (shown here, right) was thrilled to invite Irma Blanco, who she listens to regularly on K-BIG while carpooling with four other co-workers from the Inland Empire.



## New Year's News



■ **To encourage people to ring in the New Year safely**, rides on Metro Rail and buses will be free Dec. 31 from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. For details, call 1.800.COMMUTE or go to metro.net

■ **Heading to the Rose Bowl?**

MetroLink offers a shuttle; schedules and fares are available at 1.800.371.LINK or metrolinktrains.com. The Metro Gold Line also stops near the Rose Bowl, with shuttles that take you close to the action; go to metro.net or call 1.800.COMMUTE. Santa Monica's Big Blue Bus also runs a special shuttle; go to bigbluebus.com



■ **Ride free on your birthday.**

Omnitrans lets riders board at no cost on their birthdays. For your free ride coupon, register at omnitrans.org