

# high tech tips FOR GREAT VACATIONS



## Savvy Vacationers Start Their Trips At The Computer

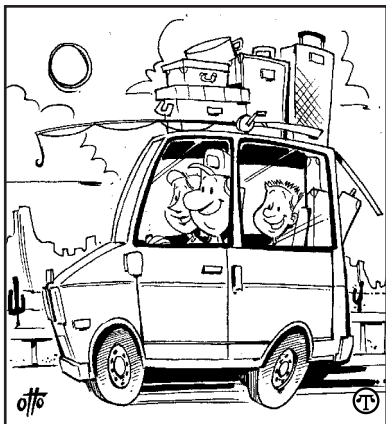
(NAPSA)—There are ways to take the work out of your next family vacation. That's a good thing, because getting everything done in time for the family trip—including gathering the kids, packing the luggage, routing planned destinations and packing the road-trip cooler—can become overwhelming.

Experts recommend preparing for trips early, covering all minor details, including map planning. Planning can make it easier to coordinate routes—from the amusement park, to grandma's to the world's largest ball of string—and save you time.

For example, Microsoft Streets & Trips 2002 lets people plan virtually every detail of their trips, from the cost of gas to where to stay overnight. The software covers more than 800,000 points of interest, such as hotels and restaurants—even shopping malls—making it easier to find nearby locations. In addition, it notifies users of road construction by accessing monthly road construction updates that are easily downloaded from the Internet.

Travelers can even use Microsoft Pocket PCs to access the software while they're on the road.

"We are looking forward to using Microsoft Streets & Trips this year, as our vacation last year



**Map-routing technology can help make the road to great family vacations a little smoother.**

turned out to be a mess," said Kelley Daly, mother of three. "We got lost four different times, so my husband and I vowed never to use online mapping services again. They were just too outdated and too hard to log onto each time we were lost."

Busy families planning vacations who use the software may feel more confident that they will have the tools and resources available to not only get them where they want to go with ease, but also to find new places to explore along the way.

For more information, visit [www.microsoft.com/streets](http://www.microsoft.com/streets).