

**Evanna Sweeney**  
**Aerojet**  
**Vanpooler**



Evanna has been participating in an Aerojet vanpool since 2005, but she's used a vanpool in past positions as well. She says the van allows her to continue working on the eastside.

After Evanna joined Aerojet, she found herself staying later and later to avoid the terrible evening commutes on 520. She would arrive at 7am and leave at 7pm or later. She was living in Seattle, but rarely in Seattle. She knew the vanpool would help her keep more regular hours. Since the vanpool runs 4 days a week, that leaves 1 day a week for Evanna to put in additional hours when needed.

One of the unique benefits of Evanna's vanpool is the rapport that's developed in her vanpool. While there's a diversity of personalities in the van, there are two common bonds: everyone works at Aerojet and everyone lives in Seattle. Everyone gets along so well there are frequent social gatherings scheduled for vanpool riders: for example, everyone stops at the Rose Hill Starbucks on the way to work on Thursdays.

Evanna was nominated by a fellow employee who told us that Evanna had convinced her that an alternative to driving alone was not only a lot less stressful, but that she'd also value the friendships she'd make if she carpooled or vanpooled. It sometimes takes a lot to persuade people to try something new, and Evanna's ability to sell the benefits of leaving your car at home is the reason why she's one of this year's Commute Champions.