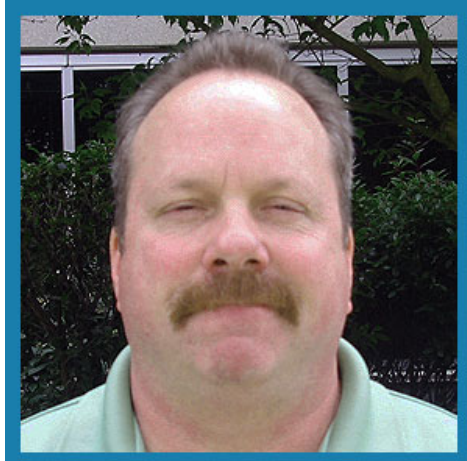


**Jim Bevan**  
**Microsoft**  
**Vanpooler**



Jim Bevan, Web Producer for Microsoft's Internal IT Website, has been vanpooling 4 days a week from Olympia since 2000. His dedication to getting the vanpool up and running and keeping it going has kept 5 to 8 cars off the road on the 135-mile round trip for 9 years.

Before working for Microsoft, Jim worked for the Washington State University Energy Extension Office in Olympia—a strong proponent of reducing commuting trips. When Jim started working at Microsoft in Redmond he had one of two choices: Uproot his family from Olympia, taking kids out of schools and distancing his wife from her elderly mother, or drive the daily 135-mile roundtrip from Olympia. He decided a vanpool from Olympia was the way to go. For the first five months he drove to Tacoma and vanpooled from there. At the same time, he was looking for enough riders to form a vanpool from Olympia. He soon had enough riders to fill a van, and he creatively worked to build ridership—picking up riders in Tacoma in late 2001. Today, the vanpool has 12 people riding from Olympia, and a waiting list.

Jim cites some of the many benefits of vanpooling: He hasn't had one penny of out-of-pocket expense for his long distance commute for the last year and a half; his 2008 Subaru Impreza has just 11,000 miles on it and minimal wear and tear; he saves 40-60 minutes each day by riding in the HOV lanes to and from work and he's helped remove thousands of pounds of carbon emissions from the environment.

Jim keeps the van serviced, washed, and gassed up and drives it most days. He's been the creative force that has kept this 12-person vanpool going for nearly a decade. Jim's dedication to his vanpool makes him an obvious 2009 Commute Champion!