

Commuter Challenge 2012 Winners



Rita Remington – Delta Airlines
Grand Prize Winner: \$500 Visa Gift Card

By commuting to work on bicycle, it helps me arrive awake and energized. I notice a huge difference when I don't ride, I feel sluggish.



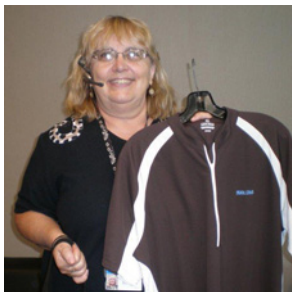
Bernadette Jambor – Supervalu
Kindle Fire

Ridesharing whenever possible is the way to go. You save money on gas, wear and tear on your car, you have someone to talk to and I think it prevents Road Rage. Besides, it's better for the environment.



David Hancock – Ceridian
Kindle Fire

Taking the bus can be a really great time to listen to a book on tape or read a magazine. It also cuts down on driving stress and gas!



Edee Erickson – Thermo King
Bike Gift Basket

My husband and I enjoy biking to and from work. You feel a lot better after biking. Unfortunately, we don't get to do it as often as we would like but we are working on that. Biking is a great way to get and stay healthy.



Jayne Maday-Hulke - Cargill
Kindle Fire

Carpooling in the winter reduces my stress level. Allowing me to arrive at work relaxed and ready to go.



Jeffry Otolski – Lifetouch
Bike Gift Basket

I like biking to work for many reasons. It allows me to build exercise into my day. I have the opportunity to see lots of wildlife in the mornings. Usually they are common animals, but I occasionally see turkey, pheasant or fox. But perhaps the best part of biking to work is that it gives me a sense of accomplishment to start the day and I feel I am mentally sharper to tackle my work. Of course, it is also nice to save a little gas by not using the car.



**Julie Larson – Western National Mutual Insurance Co.
Telework Prize**

Teleworking one day a week saves me about 50 miles (1.5 gallons of gas) and 1 to 1.5 hours drive time a week. Teleworking also allows me the flexibility to schedule and work around appointments and events for myself and my family, and to stay off the freeways when weather conditions are unsafe for driving to work.



**Kari Hanson – BI Worldwide
Kindle Fire**

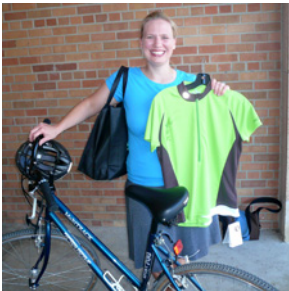
Two main reasons why I enjoy carpooling include:

1. Spending more time with my husband 45-50 minutes each way (so 1 ½ hours to be able to talk and just be together) and my son Zach joined us this summer because he has an internship in Eden Prairie so bonus time with him as well!
2. Saves lots of money! Need one less car, and saves lots of gas!



**Anna Willms – The Toro Company
Bike Gift Basket**

I loved taking the Commuter Challenge! My co-workers and I set a team goal to complete the challenge by the end of June and we all succeeded! It was a great motivator. The first time is the hardest, but it gets easier each time.



**Jessica Madsen – Fairview Southdale Hospital
Bike Gift Basket**

Biking to work allows you to see your neighborhood with new eyes. I notice so many things I never saw before – wildlife, beautiful old houses and gardens. I also feel good about doing something good for my health. When I get home from work, I don't have to worry about going to the gym later!



**Kari Carlson – City of Bloomington
Bike Gift Basket**

It was a wonderful way to enjoy a beautiful, summer day by walking to work. I even walked my two daughters to their day camp program on the way, which they loved.



**Susan Buckland – The Nerdery
Kindle Fire**

I love to carpool so on days that I'm tired I can sleep and it is a lot less stressful when you don't have to drive!



**Tim Peterson – Health Partners
Bike Gift Basket**

Bus & Light Rail is convenient, affordable, and saves wear and tear on my car by leaving it in the garage.



**Jim Oliver – MicroEdge
Kindle Fire**

Avoiding the frustration and boredom of a freeway commute really makes me happier and more engaged when I arrive at work, especially when I can get some exercise and fresh air on the bike.



**Bryan Strotbeck – Medica
Kindle Fire**
(pictured with carpool partner Emily Joyce)

We carpool to have someone to talk to and save gas and most importantly be environmentally friendly.



**Jennifer Brands – Express Scripts
Kindle Fire**

Working from home is a wonderful option that saves money and best of all gives me an extra hour in my busy day.



**Steven Schneider – AT&T
Kindle Fire**

I love carpooling. It allows me time to wake up, socialize and save on gas money. Plus I get to use the carpool lane and avoid morning frustrations due to traffic!



**Stan Nelson – CBRE
Kindle Fire**

Carpooling is great. You save money, help the environment and most importantly you get to take a nap on the way home on days when you are not the driver. 😊



**Melanie Luinstra – Towers Watson
Kindle Fire**

I started working from home once a week in June. I feel that I am less stressed on those days due to not having to endure the traffic and the road construction. It's a nice option to have and saving on gas is great too!



**Laurie Cole – UnitedHealth Group
Telework Prize**

UnitedHealth Group supports their employees who work from home. It is a win-win for the company and me as an employee.



**Lai Ying – Jostens
Kindle Fire**

Awesome quote! Maybe for a brochure.

Be green, walk/bike/carpool to all destinations possible. Lessen your carbon footprint. Make the planet a healthier one for future generations.



**Kenny Blumenfeld - ORC International
Kindle Fire**

Bike commuting for me is not a fad, or something cool to try or anything like that. It's part of how I live, and it's incredibly rewarding. It gets me outside regularly, it gets me some exercise, it allows me to save some money on transportation, it exerts a low impact on the environment— relative to driving—it keeps my spirits high, and it helps form a bond with other people making similar choices. It feels great and I hope to do it until I'm very, very old."



**Leah Fonda – Mall of America
Kindle Fire**

I enjoyed the Commuter Challenge. It was a lot of fun to plan out how I was going to and from my destination every day. To get to work I walk to the light rail station and take the train. To get home I either take the train or carpool. To get around town I walk, bike, bus or carpool.

I was amazed at how simple it is to do. I use the Metro Transit website to plan out my trips. My commutes are always good. Bus drivers were always friendly and willing to help me when I had questions. The buses were always on time too, which helped when I was in a hurry. Using the Go-To Card was a fast and easy way to pay too.



**Patrick Dembly - BMS
Netbook**



**Patty Bennington - Starkey
Netbook**